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Honoring Sprinkler Advocacy at its Best

By MSFA Committee
Chair Barry Johnson

NFPA's Fire Sprinkler Initiative and the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC) awarded the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA) the 2016 Bringing Safety Home Award, presented at the Fire Sprinkler Coalition Chair Summit in Quincy, Massachusetts.

The award recognizes fire service members and other safety advocates who use HFSC's home fire sprinkler educational materials and Fire Sprinkler Initiative resources to ensure that decision-makers have accurate information as new or updated home fire sprinkler codes are considered.

Accepting the award on behalf of the association was Stephan Cox, chair of the association's legislative committee, and Vice Chair Richard Smith. Both were influential in helping defeat a legislative bill that would have weakened the state's sprinkler requirement.

Under Cox's leadership, Smith brought the Maryland fire service and interested parties together to defeat this legislation. Additional efforts were made to convene numerous panels at the bill's hearing.

Their willingness to work both sides of the legislative aisle while educating legislators on the importance of home fire sprinklers is a les-



Stephan Cox (left) and Richard Smith with the Maryland State Firemen's Association accept the 2016 Bringing Safety Home Award from Lorraine Carli, NFPA vice president of Outreach and Advocacy and president of the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition.

son in effective sprinkler advocacy. For more information please visit the Initiatives' website: <http://www.firesprinklerinitiative.org/>.

Their willingness to work both sides of the legislative aisle while educating legislators on the importance of home fire sprinklers is a lesson in effective sprinkler advocacy.

— NFPA

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The President’s Corner

by Johnie F. Roth, Jr.

As we begin to celebrate this years Annual Convention and the 124th year of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the 85th year for the Ladies Auxiliary to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the Officers and Members of these two great organizations for allowing us the privilege and honor of serving you as your Presidents throughout the year in this Great State of Maryland.

This has been a very busy and hectic year for both of us and has provided many challenging situations for both the ladies’ and the men’s organizations. Both organizations have worked in total harmony this entire year with the goal of making us a stronger MSFA/LAMSFA now and in the future.

We feel that we have listened to the membership’s comments over the years and have made the appropriate changes or enhancements for the good of our organizations. Like everything, changes are good if they’re going to improve the future and we hope that you will agree that those have been made for the betterment of the MSFA and the LAMSFA.

Finally, we would like to thank all the county associations that have welcomed us into your meetings, fundraisers, parades, and banquets and have made us feel at home. We have made many new lifetime friends along the way and look forward to working with you. We would especially like to thank our home associations of Montgomery County and South-



ern Maryland for your love, support and confidence as we have given you our best.

We wish much success to the incoming officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association as we begin celebration this year of 125 years for the men and 85 years for the ladies at this year’s convention and we pledge our continued support now and in the future.

Johnie Roth, Jr.
MSFA President 2015-2016

Darby Byrd
LAMSFA
President
2015-2016

See related article — President Roth’s term in photos. — pages 14 & 15

Protecting Us

By Brian S. Geraci, State Fire Marshal



In looking at the data reported into the Maryland Fire Incident Reporting System for 2015, one data set that stood out above the others was the number of civilian and firefighter injuries that were reported. In 2015, 193 civilians and 290 firefighters were injured as the direct result of fire incidents. These numbers represent an increase of 13.5% and 10.2% respectfully from 2014.

The way to protect us and the folks in your communities is by preventing fires and continuing to educate the public about the dangers associated with fire. Fire prevention is the number one way of preventing firefighter injuries and/or deaths. I would ask that all members of the Maryland fire service embrace all of the "16 Life Safety Initiatives" that were developed years ago. Please review them at: <http://www.everyonegoeshome.com/16-initiatives>. We must place more emphasis on Public Education, Code Enforcement and life-saving Residential Fire Sprinklers.

We need to continue to get the message out into our communities each and every day. When you return home from the convention, please develop a plan to continually get the fire prevention message out into your communities. Take advantage of the two weekends set aside each year for Community Risk Reduction to get out and address fire and life safety concerns with the members of your community. I hope that many of you and your departments were out May 14 & 15 and will be out for the next CRR weekend scheduled for October 22 & 23. Seek all opportunities to interact with the public, not just during Fire Preven-

tion Week in October. When you do have a fire related 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 where appropriate, escape plans, and to get out and stay out. If requested, install smoke alarms within the homes in your community and conduct fire safety reviews.

Focus on our senior and youth populations. Go to schools, day care facilities, parks, sporting events, senior centers and other locations where members of your community will be located. Do not wait for them to call you, reach out and ask to 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. Make fire prevention and fire ground safety your top priorities within your departments and reinforce that message often with your personnel. All members of the Office of the State Fire Marshal are committed and dedicated to making Maryland safer from fires and explosions. We are doing our part by enforcing the State Fire Prevention Code and arresting individuals who use fire and explosives as weapons against you and your community. Deputy State Fire Marshals are now equipped with the 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms. Do not leave a house unprotected that can still be occupied after an incident.

Winfield VFD & ARC Partner to Save Lives

By Debbie Gartrell, MSFA Fire Prevention Comm./Winfield Member
Photo by Tyrone Lipscome-Bey

On Sunday, May 15, 2016, the Winfield Volunteer Fire Department and the American Red Cross (ARC) part-



nered to participate in the Community Risk Reduction Weekend. We went door to door in two of our older neighborhoods offering to check smoke alarms, replace batteries and install 10 year lithium battery smoke alarms provided by ARC. Sixty-four smoke alarms were installed in a three hour period. The ARC provided tools, equipment, and smoke alarms and Winfield provided lunch. This was a great partnership which will ultimately help residents safely escape in the event of a fire.

Thank you for all of your continued efforts in making fire prevention the most important service you can provide to your community, so that you and your brothers and sisters can be safer and go home to your families. Stay safe and take care of one another.

Level Hosts Successful Recruitment Day

By Mike Dixon, editor

The Level Volunteer Fire Company joined departments around the State, opening the doors to the public



Col. Joel Essinger, USMC Ret. welcomed guests at the door.

as part of a recruitment day on April 10.

The Volunteer Trumpet stopped by as this successful event kicked off and about that time units were dispatched to a call. But that didn't affect the outreach program as plenty of personnel remained on hand to talk to people about volunteer opportunities.

People were greeted at the door by a retired army officer, Joel, and shortly thereafter they were introduced to President Sandi Gallion. When we arrived President Gallion was talking about the company's history with Harford County Executive Barry Glassman. In the engine room Josh Deckard, a cadet, showed guests some of the firefighting equipment, while EMTs Loren Kelley and Christine Deckard demonstrated resuscitation techniques. County Executive Glassman, a member of the company, and Councilman Pat Vincenti gave it a try under the watchful eye of the EMTs.

The community was thoroughly engaged as they heard about the many volunteer opportunities that were available. Based on what we saw, prospective recruits learning about fire service opportunities, the Company is going to be welcoming some new members to the ranks soon.

Continues on page 7

MSFA Safety Committee Annual Report

By Michael LeCompte
Chairman-Safety Committee

The Safety Committee of the MSFA has been active this year with numerous meetings. After evaluation of the current national causes of firefighter deaths; we have focused our research on the top three causes for firefighter education and prevention. Heart Attacks are still the first national cause of firefighter deaths. We are presently offering, through our county health departments, the new "Lifestyle Balance - Fit for Duty" program for better health and weight reduction and improving fitness. The Lifestyle Balance Program is offered in all counties of Maryland. Also, currently offered to any fire department in Maryland, is reimbursement through FEMA-SAFER, entry-level full Occupational Medical Examinations that meets the NFPA-1582.

The second cause of firefighter deaths, is Motor Vehicle Accidents involving being struck by a vehicle. We implemented the new national Traffic Incident Management (TIM) 4-hour training with certification. TIM is offered to every Maryland first responder. The committee is attempting to have EVERY Maryland Firefighter/EMT trained in this new safety program, by January of 2018. The national TIM safety train the trainer program is also offered to all regions for departmental implementation.

The third cause of firefighter death is falling through or from an elevation. The Safety Committee has researched and developed a new firefighter fall protection program for this convention and can also be used in any department, to enhance the

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awareness and prevention of falling deaths.

Your MSFA Safety Committee will be offering safety awareness and training at our convention and to every department in Maryland, as requested, to address the three main causes of Maryland Firefighter Fatalities.

RESPECT LIFE and BE SAFE !

The Volunteer Trumpet

This periodical is issued six times a year by the Maryland State Firemen's Association. It's purpose is to publish interesting and informative articles for the volunteer fire, rescue and EMS personnel of Maryland

Mike Dixon, Editor
Heidi M. Coleman, Copy Editor

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“Every time the Berlin Fire Company would come through the parade Ralph would always announce Berlin “...comes over the bridge to help Ocean City on the big ones”. In his honor, each year I still make that same introduction. And yes, Ocean City has had some “big ones”.

Chip’s Firehouse Logbook: Past, Present and Future

Our Gracious Host

by Chief Clarence “Chip” Jewell, III

Every year since 1967, the Town of Ocean City and the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company has been the gracious host to the annual convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. The hospitality and willingness to assist the visiting fire and EMS personnel that descend upon their community is phenomenal.

Some of my first memories of the parade was hearing the bellowing Ralph Small serving as the parade announcer.

Every time the Berlin Fire Company would come through the parade Ralph would always announce Berlin “...comes over the bridge to help Ocean City on the big ones”. In his honor, each year I still make that same introduction. And yes, Ocean City has had some “big ones”.

Ocean City has a great tradition of service. Water is sometimes a friend or foe. Fighting fires during hurricanes and nor’easters takes a completely different tactic. Waves smashing against engines, sand blowing as if being blasted,

and apparatus placement on the Boardwalk are challenges that only a fire department in an ocean resort community has to face.

The humble beginnings of the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company began in 1905 with two hand pulled hose reels. The fledgling fire company proved adequate fire protection until The Great Fire of 1925. A massive fire consumed a large section of downtown Ocean

City, including the Atlantic Hotel, Seaside Hotel and pier building.

According to “Bunk” Mann’s book, *Vanishing Ocean City*, the

fire started in the early morning hours of December 29, 1925 in the Ocean City Power Plant located at Baltimore Avenue and Somerset Street. The Seaside Hotel and Casino Theatre were destroyed and never rebuilt. But Dolle’s Candy and Atlantic Hotel were rebuilt. The Fishing Pier and Pier Building were rebuilt to begin the modern boardwalk era.

Over the years, many great hotels of Ocean City have succumb to the ravages of fire. In 1962, the Plimhimmon Hotel fire destroyed the landmark

resort that was a summer favorite for generations. In 1970, the Roosevelt Hotel fire destroyed the massive structure as well as nearly the entire Boardwalk between North Division and 1st Sts. The 1970’s was also the era of the “Firebug Arson Fires” that destroyed several other historic hotels.

Some favorite watering holes of the many firefighters that have gathered in Ocean City each year were not immune to fire. One of my early haunts was the Irish House on the Boardwalk. Though more famous for “Sing-A-Longs”, during firemen’s convention Bluegrass music was the order of the day. My spoon playing partner “Honey Bee” from the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department and I would play spoons with the Dukes of Bluegrass or Bird Dog and the Road King. Bee and I never had to buy a beer! The Irish House burned to the ground on April 18, 1978.

Another fireman favorite destroyed was Crab Alley. On September 22, 1994, high winds devastated the annual

(Continued on page 12)



“The humble beginnings of the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company began in 1905 with two hand pulled hose reels.”

Congressional Fire Services Institute hosts 28th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner at Washington Hilton

On May 5, 2016, the Congressional Fire Services Institute hosted the 28th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington DC. This dinner



Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack addresses the Congressional Fire Service Institute dinner.

is the culmination of two days of seminars, legislative visits, and chances to connect with colleagues in the fire service from all over the US and from several other countries; to discuss many of the challenges facing the fire and EMS leaders of today. The program's theme this year was "Making a Difference at the National Level". The seminars included nationally known speakers and panel discussions about how the CFSI works and ways that the local departments can use the information that is available from the federal government to deal with the things that impact the health and safety of our firefighters and rescuers and the people they protect. The event brings in over 2000 attendees over the two-day event. One of the highlights for many attendees is the reception hosted by the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association and Provident Insurance. This well-attended function is held prior to the evening dinner and has been regarded as one of the best networking locations to meet with some of the leaders of the

The Keynote speaker this year was Secretary Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture; who spoke of the connection his agency has with the natural cover firefighting that has been very serious in the past several years and caused 10 deaths among the wildland firefighters in the past year. Two of the major awards presented at the dinner are the Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award, sponsored by the Motorola Solutions Company and the CFSI and the Senator Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award. The Mason Lankford Award was presented to Assistant Fire Chief (ret) Carl Holmes, of the Oklahoma City Fire Department, founder of the Carl Holmes Executive Develop-

fire service. The dinner co-insides with the CFSI National Awards Program, where several prestigious awards are presented.

ment Institute. The Sarbanes Award was presented to Fire Department Safety Officers Association. This event is a golden opportunity to meet with and speak to those who represent us at the national level. They do not generally have a good idea of the things that needed to operate a fire department, other than fire engines and ambulances. Your State Associations make the effort to see their representatives. The local departments need to talk to their State Association officers about their concerns in a timely manner so they can prepare to pass these needs on to the elected officials. Next year, the CFSI dinner will be held on April 5 and 6, 2017. Make plans to take advantage of this event held in our own back yard.



John and Nancy Høglund were among the attendees of the reception before the main dinner.

Level VFC Recruitment Day Photo Album



Top: Loren Kelly EMT; bottom left: Pat Vincenti, Harford County Councilman, Sandi Gallion, Level Fire Co. President, & Barry Glassman, Harford County Executive; Bottom Right: Josh Deckard, Bradley Rigdon, and Alyssa Johnson. Photos by Dixon



Level Volunteer Fire Co. Recruitment Day.



Top: (right side) Denise Caudill, Maggie Stine, Karen Lopes, Diana Caudill, (Left side of picture) a new member of the Ladies Aux; Bottom Left: Barry Glassman, County Executive & Loren Kelly, EMT; and Bottom Right—Karen Lopes, Ladies Auxiliary President. Photos by Dixon



Maryland Fire Chiefs Association Elects New Officers for 2016-17

The Maryland Fire Chiefs Association elected their new officers for the 2016 – 2017 term at their annual meeting held in Mt Airy recently. The new officers are as follows:

- President – Hugh Owens
- 1st Vice President – Calvin Stack
- 2nd Vice President – Harve Woods
- Secretary – Terry Thompson, P.P.
- Treasurer – Rick Hemphill
- Asst. Treasurer – William Hildebrand
- Membership Secretary – Katie Owens
- Asst. Membership Secretary – Rick Blair P.P.
- Chaplain – John Hoglund P.P.
- Asst. Chaplain – Rev. Richard Bowers



New Officers for the MFC are, from left to right, Asst. Membership Secretary Rick Blair, PP; Chaplain John Hoglund, PP; Membership Secretary Katie Owens, Treasurer Rick Hemphill, President Hugh Owens, 2nd VP Harve Woods, 1st VP Calvin Stack, Secretary Terry Thompson, PP; and Asst. Treasurer William Hildebrand. Not present – Asst Chaplain Richard Bowers

The new officers were sworn in by Steve Cox, MSFA Past President. Also at this meeting, the Leslie B.

Thompson Memorial Trophy was awarded. This is the highest award given by the MFC. It was presented by Damascus chief Darron Long and Chestertown members Jeff Thompson, PP, and William Hildebrand. The award is sponsored by these two companies in honor of Past President Leslie Thompson. It was awarded to Rick Blair, PP.



From left to right, Jeff Thompson, PP; Asst Treasurer William Hildebrand; award winner Rick Blair, PP, Chief Darron Long; and MSFA Miss Fire Prevention Susan Hilton.

FREDERICK COUNTY VFRA HOLDS ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM

By Linda Canale - Photo By Ron Watkins

On Monday, April 18, 2016, the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (FCVFRA) held their Annual Volunteer Fire and Rescue Recognition Program. The well attended event, which took place at the Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company, provided an opportunity to recognize the many contributions volunteer personnel make in providing fire and rescue service to the citizens of Frederick County. The Program featured the presentation of thirteen awards and the induction of ten individuals into the Hall of Fame.

Prior to the presentation of the awards, Eric Smothers, President of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association awarded two Presidential Citations for exceptional professionalism at two incidents in 2015. He presented one for the Lake Linganore Rescue and one for the Deli/Sub Fire in Emmitsburg.

The Jefferson Volunteer Fire Company was awarded the Clint Hughes Departmental Fire Prevention Award for their year-round efforts in promoting fire prevention and safety to the residents of Frederick County, mainly those in their first due area. The company provides programs for elementary schools, day care centers, 4H groups and scouts. They also provide fire prevention materials at community functions.

The Everett W. Gaver Service Award was given to Pat Hansen of the Middletown Volunteer Fire Company and Auxiliary in recognition for her service to the fire company and

auxiliary, her church and her community. Pat is chaplain for the Auxiliary and participates in the majority of the fundraisers for the company. She is very involved in the outreach activities of the Zion Lutheran Church in Middletown. She works with the Boy Scouts even though her sons are grown. She crochets baby hats for the nursery at Frederick Memorial Hospital and lap robes for the Veterans Home in Illinois.

The Robert L. Renner Departmental Service Award was presented to Bertha Abrecht of Junior Fire Company in recognition for her non-response activities that benefit her depart-

ment. Bertha serves as Assistant Treasurer and Fundraising Chairperson. She writes grants, works with the Finance Committee raising funds for unfunded budget items, and is involved in the fire department business on almost a daily basis. She is often asked to follow up and coordinate other activities because she is a reliable and valuable resource.

The Mumma Outstanding Service Award was awarded to Barbara Zimmerman of New Market District Volunteer Fire Company for her outstanding leadership, positive attitude and accomplishments that directly benefitted her company and the county. She participates in all fundraisers and mentors the young members of the company. She educates the members on the history of the



Pictured are the ten new members of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire-Rescue Association's Hall of Fame, inducted at the FCVFRA Awards Presentation on April 18 at the Walkersville VFD. Front row, L to R – Kathy Knipple, Larry Eyer, Marguerite Damuth, Beverly Grove, and Bernard Remsburg. Back row, L to R – Dave Bowman, Jerry Shanks, Steve Stull, Alan Brauer Sr., D. Michael Morris

ment. Bertha serves as Assistant Treasurer and Fundraising Chairperson. She writes grants, works with the Finance Committee raising funds

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Community Fire Co. of Perryville Holds 92nd Annual Banquet

By Eileen Edelin

The Community Fire Company of Perryville was organized on Sept. 13, 1923 and their membership celebrated its 92nd annual banquet on January 9, 2016. This banquet was dedicated to the 90 years of service of the Perryville Ladies Auxiliary.

The Perryville Ladies Auxiliary was established on March 16, 1926. The auxiliary has the distinct honor of being the first and oldest active auxiliary in Cecil County. Officers for the year 2016: President: Gerry Perry; Vice-President: Beulah "Bootsie" Sample; Treasurer: Ruth Gonce; Secretary: Betty Fayer; Chaplain: Nora Ryan; Historian: Shirley Cox. Congratulations to the Ladies Auxiliary!

Summary of Awards: President's Award: Daniel "Skip" Mahan; Chief's Award: Brad Willis; Firefighter of the Year:

Alan Jones; David R. Barr Memorial Award: Sue Hornbarger; EMS Captain Award: Brittney Spies; EMS Provider of the Year, Libby Albanese; and Hall of Fame, Cecil Co. Ladies Auxiliary, Nadine Thomas;

Life Saving Award for Cardiac Arrest Rescue: Engine 16, John Barr, Shawn Buchanan, Grant Demond, Paul Frazier, Brad Willis, PVPD, Richie Huffstutler, Anthony Lenzi; POV, Charles Gardner, Ambulance 691, Spencer Tolliver, Michael Helensky And Ambulance 692, G.E. Ryan, Sue Hornbarger

Installation of Officers by John Denver, Past President MSFA
Installation of Ladies Auxiliary Officers by Robyn Sheldon Hahn, Past President LAMSFA

In Memory of: David Barclay ~ Firefighter; Marshall Biddle ~ Firefighter, Life Member; James T. Fayer ~ Life member, Captain-Fire Police, Past Vice President, Board of Director, Harford-Cecil Hall of Fame recipient

See photo page 13

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Chip's Firehouse Logbook

(Continued from page 5)

"Sunfest" ripping booths and tents in the inlet parking area. A fire erupted at 9th & Boardwalk ultimately destroying the entire corner of the Alaska Stand, Sunsatons, Candy Kitchen, Auction Gallery and spread to Crab Alley on 9th Street. Many firefighters, especially the Vigilant Hose Company of Emmitsburg, enjoyed the hospitality of Crab Alley for many years and followed "Jimbo" across the bridge to his new West Ocean City location. In recent years, Hooper's Crab House, Waterman's and the Lazy Lizard have also been destroyed by fire.

Fighting fire is a difficult task made nearly impossible during a hurricane with gale force winds and ocean water rushing into the city. The firefighters in Ocean City are not only faced with assisting in evacuations and water rescues, but also often fighting major fires while surf pounds against the engines. During Hurricane Gloria in 1985, firefighters fought the Coronet Apartments fire wearing life jackets while ocean waves pounded the Boardwalk. The wind driven sand nearly buried the engines

Tragedy struck the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company on July 16, 1983 with 24 year old firefighter Jeffery Dieter died in the line of duty fighting a fire at the Sauté Café on 123rd St. He was the third ocean City firefighter to be remembered on the Firefighter's Memorial on the Boardwalk at North Division St. Firefighters Ralph Dennis and Leroy Cropper are also eulogized.

Ocean City has been the gracious host of the annual convention of the Maryland State Firemen's Association for the past 49 years. The

Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company is now a part of the Ocean City Fire Department serving, what is for several months of summer, the second largest city in the state. We appreciate the hospitality and service provided to the MSFA attendees each year.

We must also respect the service they provide by not "squirreling" or interfering at their incidents, and maintaining a professional demeanor during the convention week stay.

We are very appreciative for the extra effort Ocean City puts forth to make all fire and rescue personnel feel welcome. Thank you, Town of Ocean City, Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company and Ocean City Fire Department for making our week safe and enjoyable. And special thanks to "Bunk" Mann for allowing references from his book *Vanishing Ocean City*, a must read for anyone that has spent summers here.

Welcome to the 124th Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen's Association!

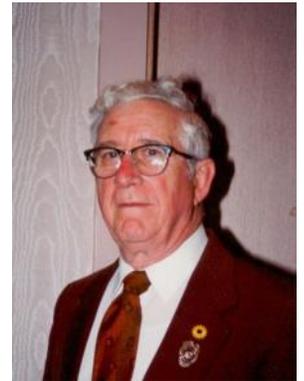
BE SAFE
CHIP

Past President Clarence Carpenter, Jr. Dies at 91 years old

Article and photo by Ron Watkins
MSFA Public Relations Committee

MSFA Past President Clarence Carpenter Jr, of the Potomac Heights Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, passed away on May 10, 2016 at the Hospice House of Charles County with his family by his side. He was born on November 29, 1924 in Indian Head,

MD. His father was Clarence D. Carpenter Sr., and his mother was Etta Adams Carpenter. He was pre-



deceased by his wife, Lucille Baker Carpenter, who he married on July 16, 1943. He had three children – daughters Lucy (Clements), Nancy (Taylor) and son C. Dan Carpenter III; and several grandchildren.

Clarence graduated from Lackey High School, Class of 1943. He served in the US Navy, and after his service, worked until his retirement at the Metallurgy Division of the Naval Research Laboratory. He enjoyed camping, boating, fishing, and being with his family. He especially enjoyed being with the fire department. Besides being a Past President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association in 1986 - 87, he was a Life Member and Past President of the Potomac Heights Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, a Past President of the Charles County Volunteer Firemen's Association, and a Past President of the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen's Association. He actively served in all of these organizations, participating on many boards and committees.

Clarence's Funeral Mass was held at the St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Indian Head, MD. His interment was at the St. Charles Cemetery in Indian Head. Memorial contributions may be made to the St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church or to the Potomac Heights VFD&RS and Auxiliary.

Health and Safety Tips While Attending the MSFA Convention

By Jim Jarboe

Below is a list of health and safety-related tips that you, the convention-goer (and family), should consider during your stay in Ocean City:

Remember to take any prescribed medications; drink plenty of water to stay hydrated; seek shade under a beach umbrella, wear sunscreen or both, to reduce risk of skin damage and skin cancer; reapply thick layer of sunscreen if you stay out in the sun for more than two hours and after swimming, sweating or toweling off.

Also, apply sunscreen even on slightly cloudy or cool days; wear sunglasses, especially ones with UV protection, to protect your eyes and reduce risk of cataracts; wear a hat in shade face, ears and back of neck; pay full attention while driving, don't text or use phone or otherwise become distracted; be watchful when walking, especially when about to and crossing streets; get restful-night sleep to stay alert the next day when driving and walking. (The CDC [Center for Disease Control and Prevention] is the source of the sun-related suggestions.)

The priority concern of ALL MSFA convention-goers should be their safety and well-being and that of their family members. The temporary increase in the local population and corresponding increase in pedestrian and motorist traffic, contribute to higher risk of vehicle crashes, pedestrian injuries and other potentially injury-causing situations, especially the "risk-multiplying effect" of excessive alcohol consumption by possibly some.

There's nothing more unsettling and disruptive to thousands of convention-goers than a report of one or more attendees, tourists or local residents being injured or even worse due to careless or reckless behavior on the part of a few.

Have an enjoyably and safe time during your stay in Ocean City (and a safe trip when returning home). Don't stray too far from healthy eating. Pace yourself to keep your physical activities consistent with your health and fitness. Be careful not to go home with a larger waist size than you had when you first arrived!

Enjoy yourselves. Do fun filled things with family and friends. Carry back new information to sharer with members of your fire, rescue, EMS departments and

other organizations. Be sure to not do anything that may bring pain or shame to you, your department or the MSFA. Take care!

Elect Mark A. Bilger

MSFA, 1st Vice-President



Perryville Fire Company Banquet



The Community Fire Company of Perryville recognized members at the banquet. See article on page 11

President Roth's Term in Photos



Top — MSFA Fire Prevention Ambassador Susan Hilton and President Roth attending the Frederick Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association meeting at the New Market VFD.



Bottom — Left — At the Montgomery County Public Safety Training Academy in May — L to R — Marcie Roth, LAMSFA, MSFA Fire Prevention Ambassador Susan Hilton, Pres. Roth, LAMSFA PP Carol Hayden and LAMSFA Color Bearer Joann Kramer



On a frigid weekend in January, the MSFA and LAMSFA took the plunge into the Chesapeake Bay for the Maryland Special Olympics. The combined effort raised thousands of dollars for this worthy cause. Even Governor Larry Hogan came by to greet the Association. L-R Pres. Roth, Gov. Hogan, MSFA Fire Prevention Ambassador Hilton and LAMSFA Pres. Darby Byrd.



Left — At the Montgomery County Public Safety Training Academy in May — L to R — Marcie Roth, LAMSFA, MSFA Fire Prevention Ambassador Susan Hilton, Pres. Roth, LAMSFA PP Carol Hayden and LAMSFA Color Bearer Joann Kramer

MSFA Search and Rescue (SAR) COMMITTEE works with MEMA on resource identification

By Todd "Scuba" Johnson
MSFA SAR Committee Chair

Members of the MSFA SAR Committee are working closely with SAR partners and MEMA on resource identification for response during catastrophic incidents. We will be reaching out to known swiftwater/flood resources to support this effort.

The Maryland Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Response System Whitepaper provides the following background information on this process specific to swiftwater/flood response. The entire Whitepaper is available for review on the MSFA website under the SAR Committee page.

"In January of 2006, a working group called the Maryland Water Rescue Technical Advisory Group composed of public safety entities from across the state, the Maryland Fire Service, Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), The Maryland State Police (MSP), The Natural Resources Police (NRP), and the Maryland National Guard (MDARNG) came together. This group researched how Maryland could develop a model compliant with the NIMS Swiftwater/Flood Rescue Team Typing standard and provide a robust integrated flexible and responsive system. States such as California, Texas, and North Carolina developed similar systems to meet state level flood rescue requirements several years ago, and they have been time tested

and proven effective. The Maryland Water Rescue Technical Advisory Group has developed a NIMS compliant model and developed a plan to meet Maryland swiftwater/flood rescue requirements.

Based on the fact that floods and rescues in this environment are very dynamic, the working group believes that swiftwater/flood teams that wish to be deployed throughout the state and outside the umbrella of mutual aid agreements must meet minimum criteria as outlined in the NIMS document and this document as well. Jurisdictions are not required to adopt this plan for their swiftwater/flood rescue team(s) unless they wish to be rostered at MEMA as a resource for state-wide deployment in which case NIMS and the swiftwater flood search and rescue response system standards shall be met."

Other members of the MD SAR Coordination Workgroup are reaching out to MSFA member companies for information regarding technical rescue resources other than swiftwater/flood rescue. As noted in bold above excerpt jurisdictions are not required to meet these credentialing and typing standards to operate on a normal day to day or mutual aid response. This level of credentialing is only done if you want to be available for response during catastrophic incidents.

We are seeking any resource that meets even the lowest typed option

and can review any gaps in typing requirements for possible inclusion. Even a Type III or Type IV resource that has been identified and vetted is valuable to Maryland's ability to respond to major incidents. For additional information on resource typing and position qualifications please go to the FEMA Resource Typing Library Tool website at <https://rtlt.preptoolkit.org/Public> then enter "Search and Rescue" in the search area. This will give you the listings for both resource typing definitions and position qualifications in SAR disciplines.

Please contact Todd "Scuba" Johnson, Chair of the MSFA Search and Rescue Committee, at scubaj59@gmail.com or 301-693-8536 to volunteer your assistance or with any questions



President Roth in Washington, D.C. for the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend. See full photo album of President's term on page 14.



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**Representing the volunteer fire,
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A level Volunteer Fire Company Engine was stationed outside the door to the station and at the door Joe was waiting to welcome prospective recruits. Photo: Mike Dixon

