Finding a Face for a Hero

By Gary Rains

The Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation website includes a Line of Duty Death ("LODD") Directory. The LODD Directory has an individual profile for each of Maryland’s Fire/EMS/Aviation LODD Heroes, beginning with Maryland’s first recorded Fire Department LODD, Frederick County’s William Carlton, Junior Fire Co. No.2, LODD December 22, 1840.

The LODD profile includes name, DOD, affiliation, a brief narrative regarding the circumstances of the LODD, and there is also a space for a photograph of the Hero. Currently, the LODD Directory is "under construction". It is being updated and revised; because, it was discovered that out of the 410 Maryland LODD profiles 170 profiles had pictures of Heroes while 240 profiles had NO pictures. None of Baltimore City Fire Department’s 165 LODD profiles had pictures and the remaining 75+ LODD profiles missing pictures were from various fire departments and fire companies throughout the State of Maryland.

And, so it began: April 2016 MFRSMF LODD Directory Project

Phase One: "Finding a Face for a Hero"
The search is on and the search will continue...It is our most earnest hope, that someday, there will be a picture of each LODD Hero to be displayed next to their name. Until then, if a picture of the Hero has yet to be located, then alongside their name will be: a picture of the Hero's actual helmet; a picture of the Hero's badge or appropriate collar pins; or a picture representing the Hero's fire company or fire department.

So far, out of the 240 originally missing, and, thanks to the help of many, more than 50 pictures of Heroes have been recovered and are appropriately displayed next to their name. Including a picture of Baltimore City FD’s first recorded LODD of Charles Bertram on October 29th, 1866.

Currently, and thanks to the help of many, each of the remaining 190 LODD profiles awaiting "a Face for a Hero" has either a picture the helmet, badge or appropriate collar pins, or, a picture of fire company/department displayed alongside each name. Eventually, all of these pictures (along with complete individual narratives) will become part of the updated and revised on-line LODD Directory and can be accessed and viewed via the MFRSMF website http://www.mdfirerescuehero.org/lodd-directory.

Until then . . .and thanks to the help of many . . . In Honor and Memory of Volunteer and Career ~ Men and Women from Maryland’s Fire, EMS, Rescue & MSP Aviation Services whose lives were lost while serving the citizens of Maryland there has been created a transportable modified reproduction of the Maryland Fire Rescue

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The President’s Corner

“To Improve is to Change; To be Perfect is to Change Often”

by Michael A. Davis

How many times have you heard “Because we’ve always done it that way...” at the firehouse? I think I do probably once a week or so. For many things, it may be true; there are several standing traditions that we (or the older folks as some say) like to keep in our stations, such as driving privileges or station duties that we prefer the probies do!

We’ll always have a right of passage style of mentorship, or at least I hope we will, in the fire service. It’s just like any job you take on in life, you have to earn your keep.

However, with the quick pace of technology, the increasing call volumes, and the growing shortage of volunteers, we need to change our ways to some extent.

Winston Churchill had many great quotes and I feel he couldn’t be more right. “To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.”

He stated many times throughout his life. He also stated “Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.” We need to evolve with the ever-changing fire service and that takes looking at it with the right attitude and from many angles.

Year after year, I keep hearing how the same issues and problems are plaguing the volunteer fire service.

We have to find new ways to combat these issues to recruit and retain folks. We have some issues that we need to take a stand on that have negative impacts to volunteer membership. We also have issues that need more done to help protect life and safety. In the end, we need to do all that we can do to help our neighbors when the time comes. We can do this by looking at these issues with a different attitude, in a new light, and make a change.

The fire service is steeped in tradition; I’m not asking you to change that so much as I would like you to analyze the problems from someone else’s point of view. As we celebrate 125 years of the MSFA, remember to take a look at our past. We’ve gotten this far by persevering the tough times, doing the right thing, and loving thy neighbor. Let’s continue
The Chaplain’s Corner

Honoring Your Members

Chief Chaplain MSFA

In this issue I want to talk about honoring your members. It was not even five minutes after this year’s memorial service when I was asked why “so and so” was not in the memorial service.

After checking all submittals all I can tell the person is, “we did not get a submittal from the company.” This goes on year after year. The chaplains do not have any way of knowing who has passed away during the past year. We depend on the company to submit the memorial forms for their members. If we do not get a form, they do not get memorialized.

One can also post death notices in the announcements on the MSFA web page (www.msfa.org) or e-mail me the deceased member’s information and I can post the announcement on the website. I will also add the deceased member to the memorial page on www.msfa.org.

If you do not see the members name on the memorial page, please e-mail me the information as soon as possible. I will add them to the list and then if no one from your company submits a form, I can use that information for the memorial service.

It is my goal to have everyone being honored at the memorial service listed on the website memorial page. That way one would not have to second guess if they were submitted for the memorial service.

I also noticed that the number of people recognized without a photo is on the increase. I try to assist by looking up obituary information and downloading photographs from the funeral home website, but ultimately, it is the responsibility of the company to submit a photograph with the form.

I would suggest that if your company does not have photographs on file for every member, then get one taken and stored in their file. Every company uses computers now, so it is easy to take a photograph during meeting nights with a digital camera and download them to the station computer for future use.

Our members donate a lot of time and energy to our organizations. We need to strive to honor them properly at the memorial services.

Thank you and be safe.


MIEMSS NEWS BRIEFS

By James Brown MIEMSS

New Primary Stroke Center—Doctor’s Community Hospital, located in Lanham, Maryland in Prince George’s County, was recently designated a Primary Stroke Center. The hospital is now receiving stroke patients that meet the criteria for transport as directed by the Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers.

Vehicle Heatstroke Prevention—Heatstroke is the leading cause of vehicular non-crash-related deaths for children under 14, and an average of 37 children die from vehicle heatstroke each year. While it seems like an impossible mistake to make, every parent or caregiver can potentially become distracted, and distractions often fuel this devastating situation. Everyone has a role to play to help keep children safe. Help share live-saving tips and resources with as many people as we can. Come up with some ways to remind individuals that there is a child is in the car, such as placing a briefcase, purse, or cell phone in the back seat next to the car seat. That way the individual will always check the back before they leave their car. If a bystander sees a child, always make sure the child is okay and responsive. If not, call 9-1-1 immediately.

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Finding a Face for a Hero

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Services Memorial "Wall of Honor", displaying the official seal of each of Maryland’s 23 counties, Baltimore City, and MSP Aviation; and, beneath each seal, are replicated bronze plaques, appropriately and honorably displayed, each bearing the name, affiliation, and date of death of a Maryland Hero. Displayed alongside each Hero’s name is a picture.
You Can Help Find A Face For A Hero!
I will be sending out a county specific "Finding a Face for a Hero" list of names to the leadership of each county’s Volunteer Fire/EMS Association and to individual fire companies. If you have, or know the whereabouts, of one of the 190 Hero pictures being searched for, please contact me at GaryCRains@hotmail.com.
Thank you!

Firefighter William Frederick, Easton VFD.
DOD: March 24, 1924

"It is our most earnest hope, that someday, there will be a picture of each LODD Hero to be displayed next to their name."

President’s Column

(Continued from page 2)
for another 125 years.
Sure we need to change some things. We probably could use a little attitude adjustment along the way, just never lose sight of the big picture. We’re in this together to help everyone out. Just remember, you can make an impact on someone at anytime in life, no matter how simple it may be.
I often wonder if the guys at Bridgeville, DE never let me in to buy a 35-cent Coke on those summer nights while I sat on their old REO Speedwagon if I’d ever be so interested in the fire department. Or, when my best friend in high school drug me into Abingdon VFC to be an EMT...80 hour course then, good times!

Be safe,

I’ll see you around the state!

VOLUNTEER. GET INVOLVED.

President Davis

MSFA Officers Cont.
Financial Secretary
Mitch Vocke
Jarrettsville VFC—Harford
PO Box 401
Jarrettsville, MD 21084
H 410-692-6914
C 410-808-1693
wmv@harfordpublicsafety.org

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

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

Send email inquires to trumpet@msfa.org

The Volunteer Trumpet
55 Sunnybrook Drive
Elkton, MD. 29121
The Ancient & Honorable Mechanical Company

by Chief Clarence “Chip” Jewell, III

The Maryland State Firemen’s Association enters its 125th anniversary year celebration with the Executive Committee meeting at the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department to honor those early fire companies in Baltimore.

The very first volunteer fire company in Maryland was organized in Baltimore City. The company meets annually and still exists today. In 1763, The Ancient and Honorable Mechanical Company of Baltimore (the “Mechanical Company”) was formed to “discharge nearly all the duties of government of the town, its policing, magisterial functions, etc., and in addition, act as firemen.” In 2013, the Mechanical Company celebrated 250 continuous meetings, technically making it the oldest fire company in the United States.

The Mechanical Company also served as a military unit, both in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. Mechanical Company’s Captain Jas. Cox was killed on September 11, 1777, and believed to be the first Marylander killed in the Revolution.

The “Mechanical Volunteers” were organized during the War of 1812 and were instrumental in the Battle of North Point. A monument to the “First Mechanical Volunteers” was erected in their honor on North Point Road in Baltimore County.

Though the company initially opposed Baltimore incorporating, the company eventually supported municipal government and James Calhoun as the first mayor of Baltimore, who was a prominent member of the Mechanical Company.

Many of the streets of downtown Baltimore are named after company members. The first fire engine purchased by the Mechanical Company was initially a pump without wheels that was carried to fires by company members. The engine was also used by a sailing ship to wet sails. The ship was the “Dido of Amsterdam”, thus, the pumper became known as the “Little Dutchman” proudly serving the company for ninety years.

Mechanical Company members subscribed to the company to provide funds for the engine and fire company requisite equipment. Each member also purchased two leather buckets to be “hung in a public place near the entrance door.”

In 1821, the Mechanical Company purchased the “Old Lady”, a pump engine built in Philadelphia by Perkins & Bacon. Around 1847, the engine was rebuilt by the Rodgers Company of Baltimore.

After the purchase of the steam fire engine “Maryland” in 1859, the Baltimore City Fire Department was born and all “Mechanical” equipment and buildings were turned over to the new department. The “Old Lady” was eventually sold to the United Fire Company of Frederick and remained in service there until replaced in

(Continued on page 11)
Please join us in beautiful St. Mary's County for a Gala Celebration Event and Fundraiser Honoring Our Maryland Fallen Firefighters and Rescue Personnel Who Have Made the Ultimate Sacrifice

Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation's 12th Annual Gala and “On Line & Live” Silent Auction

Saturday, September 24, 2016 starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department 24801 Three Notch Road, Hollywood, MD 20636

Join us for dinner, dancing, and a silent auction fundraiser

Tickets are $50.00 per person.
To purchase tickets please call Joyce at 301-290-1590 or Betty at 301-855-9336.

"On-line/BiddingOwl" bidding OPENS at midnight on Friday Sept 16th "On-Line/BiddingOwl" bidding CLOSES at midnight on Friday Sept 23rd "Live ~In Person" bidding OPENS at 6:00 p.m. at the Gala on Saturday, Sept 24th

If you have an item you would like to donate for the "On-line and LIVE" Silent Auction; please contact Sharon Owens at owene2@verizon.net or Gary Rains at GaryCRains@Hotmail.com

We thank you for your continued support!
BY Mike Dixon

ELKTON, Aug. 6, 2016 — The Harford Cecil Volunteer Firemen’s Association hosted the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen’s Association’s (CVVFA) 115th annual convention on the first weekend in August. Throughout the weekend convention events were scheduled at various places in Harford and Cecil counties.

One of those activities was the annual, grand parade, which took place in Elkton on Aug. 6. “Nearly 70 units participated, according to MSFA past president John Denver, who chaired the parade. Denver said units came from as far away as Winchester, VA. And McConnellsburg, PA.

The parade featured both antique and modern fire equipment, as well as marchers representing member companies.

The CVVFA represents companies from Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, New Jersey, and New York.

The organization was started on August 15, 1901 when fire chiefs from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia met in Chambersburg, PA for the purpose of adopting a uniform hose coupling and to develop a mutual aid system along the Cumberland Valley Railroad. General Boyd, a retired member of the Union Army and a principal of the railroad, called the meeting to improve fire protection in the towns that lay along the railroad. Stretching from Harrisburg, PA to Harrisonburg, VA, the Cumberland Valley Railroad served as an artery for trade between the four states through which its rights-of-way traverse.

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Cumberland Valley Parade

Aetna Hose, Hook, and Ladder Company, Newark, DE.

Harford County was well represented in the CVVFA parade

Photos by Dixon

Additional photos page 9 and 12
MIEMSS Briefs

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Stroke Education Grant

In an effort to inform prehospital and hospital personnel in Maryland about stroke signs, symptoms, and recognition, MIEMSS developed materials through a grant from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The Maryland Medical Protocols for Emergency Medical Services Providers was updated to include the Los Angeles Motor Scale (LAMS) in diagnosing stroke patients. If the Cincinnati Prehospital Stroke Scale is positive, the LAMS should be performed. Providers will then inform the receiving hospital of the score during “stroke alert” notification. As part of the grant, laminated LAMS pocket cards were created and distributed during EMS conferences, the MSFA Convention, and to local jurisdictions. Additionally, in order to increase awareness of neurological emergencies and stroke, MIEMSS videotaped two lectures by noted physicians for distribution to EMS and hospital personnel. A presentation was recorded during the 2016 Miltenberger Emergency Services Symposium and a second one was recorded during the 2016 EMS Care Conference. These programs are available on disc and may be used for company drills and in-service training to better inform both EMS and hospital personnel regarding the latest information in stroke care.

Training Video: What to Expect When You Dial 911

Training DVDs are available through the MIEMSS EMS for Children office. “What to Expect When You Dial 9-1-1”, featuring the Cecil County PSAP, helps individuals with what happens when 9-1-1 is called. Another program, “Right Care When It Counts” features children and youth teaching families how to be better prepared for emergencies. Led by the EMS for Children Department in partnership with Safe Kids Maryland, Interactive Prevention Education Displays were available at the 2016 MSFA Convention. Risk Watch/ Safe Kids were in a new location on the second floor of the convention center and had more adult visitors than ever before. The adults were able to gather information on how to create displays at their local station. Approximately 350 families came through the displays and many of the Fire Safety Ambassadors volunteered to teach younger children. For more information please email: riskwatch@msfa.org.

Cumberland VVFA Convention - continued from page 6

Top Left — Little Fire Chief, Hacks Point FC
Top Right — Aberdeen Fire Company
Bottom Left — Sparky riding a Singerly unit waves to the crowd
Bottom Right — McConnellsburg Fire Company ambulance in parade. The unit took the award for the company coming the longest distance.
See main article page 7
Lunch & Learn Camp at Takoma Park

By Jim Jarboe

On July 14, Lunch and Learn Camp was held at the John Nevins Andrews School in Takoma Park, MD. This year’s enrollment was 180 children and Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department members, Jim Jarboe and Adam Bearne visited the camp and gave a presentation on Fire and Injury Prevention. Firefighter Adam, using his firefighting protective clothing, showed the children how he puts on the clothing when he goes to a fire. (Photo 1). He would then walk among the group, letting them touch the clothing and shake his hand. He also emphasized that firefighters are their friends and that they should never be afraid of them, especially in the event of a fire. A fire engine, from the Takoma Park station, was brought to the camp to provide attendees with a close-up view. Special thanks to Captain John Peppel and crew.

Later, Jim, divided the total group into two groups (90 each), referring to them as team 1 and team 2. (Photo 2). And then he had each group identify one person to represent them to answer “fire and injury” questions. While going back and forth between the two representatives, Jim, would ask each representative one question until all 16 questions were answered. Would you believe it, there was a tie! Each team correctly answered eight questions. The tie-breaker question was: What is the No. 1 cause of home fires? Team 2 won. Certificates were presented to the first and second place winners.

The children enjoyed the presentation, learning about the fire department and injury and fire prevention.

The Lunch and Learn Camp was founded in 2013, by Takoma Park resident, Jacquette Frazier (Director). She was assisted by Doris Duarte (Assistant Director). This free summer program included meals for the participants as part of their fun and learning venture. Meals were provided by the Montgomery County Public Schools Summer Meals Program.
1878 by the “Lily of the Swamp”, a Clapp & Jones steamer. The “Old Lady” was eventually placed in service at the United Volunteer Fire Company of Libertytown until sold. The last response of the Mechanical Company came on May 5, 1859 at the corner of Broadway and Thames. However, even though the company was absorbed into the Baltimore City Fire Department, the membership voted to continue meeting and keep the company intact.

A Mechanical hand tub engine called “Old Lady” returned to Frederick about 8 years ago and is on display at the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum in Emmitsburg, MD and is restored to pumping condition. There is still a bit of mystery surrounding the “Old Lady” as all primary documentation indicates she is the actual engine owned by the Mechanical Company, but the description in the “Mechanical” history does not match the present unit.

Did the United Fire Company replace the original “Old Lady” but keep her name? Did the Mechanical Company sell another engine to United as the “Old Lady”? Is the description in the history inaccurate? Many questions still surround this piece of history, but until officially disproved, she is considered the “Old Lady” of the Mechanical Company.

Today, Engine 4 of the Baltimore City Fire Department is the predecessor to the Mechanical Fire Company No. 1 and displays pictures of much of the early equipment. Mechanical Company is made up of active, retired and volunteer firefighters from around the Metropolitan Baltimore (except a few foreigners from Frederick County, including yours truly), as well as a large number of prominent businessmen and professionals from around the Baltimore area. The organization meets the first Thursday of December of each year, and still has a report from the “Pirates and Indians” committee. Laying claim as the oldest civic organization in the nation, the organization is technically the oldest continuously meeting fire company in Maryland, though not responding to actual fires since 1859.

Be Safe.
Chip

Author’s Note: Much of the information contained in this article was retrieved from The Ancient and Honorable Mechanical Company a Historical Sketch by George McCrea, former Baltimore City Librarian, 1901.
The Volunteer Fire Co. No. 1 of Chesapeake City at the Cumberland Valley VFA parade. See main article on page 7