Tilghman Island 9/11 Commemoration Ceremony

By Kelley Renshaw

On September 11, 2016, a Commemoration Ceremony was held in Tilghman Island, Maryland for the 15th anniversary of September 11, 2001. Fire companies from the Tri-county and surrounding areas were in attendance to honor the fallen. The Coast Guard and Oxford were in attendance with boats. Tuckahoe State Park also provided a bald eagle for the ceremony. Following the ceremony, Tilghman Island Vol. Fire Company provided a buffet breakfast before the 2nd Annual Fireman Olympics began.

The Fireman’s Olympics consisted of teams of 5 firefighters from various local fire companies competing against each other in a 3-part competition including Engineer’s Contest, Skills Contest, and a Bucket Brigade; some of the events were ladder climbing, forcible entry, rescue drag out of a motor vehicle, advance a hose line through tunnel and water brigade. The companies were evaluated on Engineers, skills, and Brigade. Oxford Vol. Fire Company swept the competition to receive the Best Overall Performance by taking 1st place in Overall Time and Skills as well as placing 2nd in Brigade and Engineers. A complete listing of winners can be found below.

Engineers: 1st Place: Rescue Fire Company @ 1:14 2nd Place: Oxford Vol. Fire Company @ 1:27 3rd Place: Frostburg Fire Department/South Iredell Vol. Fire Department

Skills: 1st Place: Oxford Vol. Fire Company @ 2:02 2nd Place: Frostburg Fire Department/South Iredell Vol. Fire Department @ 2:17 3rd Place: Rescue Fire Company @ 2:38

Brigade: 1st Place: Trappe Vol. Fire Company @ 34.66 seconds 2nd Place: Oxford Vol. Fire Company @ 35.72 seconds 3rd Place: Rescue Fire Company @ 37.30 seconds

Overall Time: 1st Place: Oxford Vol. Fire Company @ 2:37.43 2nd Place: Frostburg Fire Department/South Iredell Fire Department @ 2:56.12 3rd Place: Rescue Fire Company @ 3:11.46


Additional photos on page 9
The President’s Corner

by Michael A. Davis

It’s heartbreaking to read some of the recent headlines that involve the fire service, especially when it’s a fire fatality involving a whole family. Just recently in Crisfield, MD, one adult, one teen, and an infant along with multiple family pets, apparently died as a result of no working smoke alarms in the structure. I find this very troubling particularly after reading that American families will spend, on average, $74 on Halloween costumes, decorations, and candy. That’s enough for about 7 smoke alarms, albeit basic units, 5 of them is typically enough to give adequate coverage of any average structure. In a time when modern furnishings and interior materials of homes today should catch fire, you have less than 3 minutes to escape the structure, you need every chance you can to get out. We’ve been proving that with sprinkler demonstrations around the state with good success. The average citizen does not realize the short time you have to escape an active fire environment or the effectiveness of a smoke alarm or sprinkler system. We must continue to advocate smoke alarms and sprinklers together as this is paramount to surviving a structure fire in a residence or any budding for that matter. This year’s NFPA theme has been to "Check the Date" making sure the alarm is replaced every 10 years. Let’s also not forget to "Close The Door" when you go to bed or even when you’re doing an interior attack or search. Closing a door on an active fire can give you 20 minutes of survival time and keep the fire out. When you go out on a call, especially a good intent call to a residence, be sure to ask if the smoke alarms are working and test them, teach about checking the date and monthly tests and even battery replacements as necessary. If you’re in a high density housing complex, check any of the neighbors that may have popped out to see what’s going on. Ask the residents if they have checked their alarms, if they have an escape plan, and instruct them about closing the door to rooms to prevent the spread of a fire. Every day is fire prevention and safety day.

Throughout the MSFA, we have been making great strides improving the services we offer our member companies and volunteers around the state. Our Strategic Planning Committee along with our Marketing Committee have regular meetings with Benchworks, a contractor who is re-building our mdvolunteer.org site. We’re making steady progress to build this site out to grab not only new recruits but to keep track of them as well as current members so we can build out a more robust database and connect better with everyone. We have partnered with MFRI to work on a universal student database as new members sign up for classes, they will be able to register with us as well. This will help in exponential ways. The main goal is to be able to get all active volunteers enrolled in the system along with the new recruits brought in through the SAFER Grant program to get everyone on a universal ID System. This way, any future classes or events, we hope you’ll just have to be

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Mt. Savage Dedicates New Pumper

Article and photos by Ron Watkins, MSFA Public Relations Committee

Labor Day in Mt Savage is always a festive occasion, with a Labor Day parade followed by games, music, and food at the fire station. This year, though, it was an extra special occasion, as Mt Savage dedicated their new pumper after the parade. The new rig, a 1500 GPM pumper carrying 750 gallons of water and rescue tools to carry the designation with Allegheny County as Rescue Engine 15-2, replaces a 1999 American LaFrance pumper as their primary fire response unit. The 1999 rig was sold to the Star City Fire Company in Morgantown, West Virginia.

While a water shortage prevented a traditional “wet-down”, a special ceremony was held, using water from the old pumper to “prime” the new pumper. Four gallons of water from the replaced apparatus was added to the new one by Lacy Robinson as the committee and attending crowd watched. The new engine has already had several runs and the company is very happy with their new piece.

Top — Lacy Robinson, new apparatus committee member, adds water from the old engine to “baptize” the new engine at the Labor Day parade in Mt Savage.
Bottom — Committee members of the new apparatus committee with the new pumper, Rescue Engine 15-2. Photos by Watkins

MIEMSS NEWS BRIEFS

By James Brown MIEMSS

New Primary Stroke Center—Prince George’s Hospital Center, located at 3001 Hospital Drive, Cheverly, MD is now designated as a Primary Stroke Center and is accepting stroke patients that meet the criteria for transport to a primary stroke center as directed by The Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers.

Vehicle Heatstroke Prevention—A 30-second Public Service Announcement (PSA) has been produced by MIEMSS in conjunction with the EMS for Children’s Program. It is entitled, “Don’t Rush Your Child to the Next Stage of Car Seat Use”. This message is intended for parents, grandparents, child care providers, and everyone who transports children in vehicles on Maryland’s roads. It is being displayed throughout the State on websites, internal hospital TVs, and kiosks. It was developed to be used during National Child Passenger Safety Week, which was observed in September, but may also be used throughout the year to help educate the public.


Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Seminar – March 25, 2017 – MFRI Headquarters, College Park, Md.

EMS Care 2017- April 26 – 30, 2017 – Ocean City, Md.

Point/Counterpoint 2017 – May 11-12, 2017 – Baltimore, Md.
Harford County Honor Guard Celebrates 15 Years

Article and photos by Ron Watkins

On September 18, 2016, the members of the Harford County Honor Guard celebrated their 15th anniversary with their annual picnic at the Harve de Grace Ambulance Corps pavilion.

Awards for participation, length of service, and special awards were presented to the members. Rusty Leftwich served as the emcee for the event.

Two members, Ben Kurtz and Herman “Buddy” Schweers, were honored as being the two charter members of the unit still actively serving. Mission BarBQ catered the event and a cake commemorating the years of service was served.

The Honor Guard serves at events throughout Harford and Cecil counties, as well as participating in many events at the annual MSFA Convention in Ocean City.

Top Photo — Unit Commander Buddy Schweers presides over the gathering.

Bottom Photo — Charter members Ben Kurtz and Buddy Schweers prepare to cut the anniversary cake.

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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 inquiries to trumpet@msfa.org
His election as Senior Vice President of the MSFA in 1893 was one of the final accolades to an individual that made tremendous contributions to the Maryland fire service. In 1850, Mr. Holloway organized the Pioneer Hook and Ladder Company, the first ladder company in Baltimore. In 1855, he encouraged the purchase of the first steam pumper to begin the era of steam powered pumpers as the companies transitioned to the newly formed paid department.

In 1859, Mr. Holloway was appointed as the first Chief Engineer (chief) of the Baltimore City Fire Department. He served in that position from 1858 until 1863. He was credited as being the first to keep statistical data, providing an excellent source of information to justify the ultimate increase of apparatus and staffing. He served as a fire inspector for the Baltimore City Fire Department from 1868 to 1894. Mr. Holloway also helped organize the Baltimore Insurance Salvage Corps.

Mr. Holloway accepted appointment as the first chief of the newly formed Baltimore County Fire Department in 1882.

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Frederick County VFRA Selects Miss Fire Prevention Ambassadors for 2016-17

On October 2, 2016, the Walkersville VFC hosted the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association’s Miss Fire Prevention contest for 2016-17 at their social hall. The attending crowd was welcomed by Amanda Soper, contest chairman, and MSFA Past President Dave Keller was introduced as the emcee for the event. Dave introduced the judges – Susan Hilton, immediate past MSFA Miss Fire Prevention, Brittany Hill, MSFA Miss Fire Prevention 1st Runner-up for 2013 – 14, and Gloria Schaffer, President of the Washington County VFRA Ladies Auxiliary. The event was well-attended, with families and friends of the contestants and several local officials.

The contestants for the various titles at stake were as follows:
Little Miss Fire Prevention – Elizabeth Schuebel, 8, from Woodsboro;
Little Fire Chief – Dylan Harne, 7, from Middletown;
Junior Miss Fire Prevention – Daryenne Dorsey, 14, from Frederick, representing the United Fire Company and Ashley Nalborczyk, 12, from Myersville; and
Miss Fire Prevention – Grace Lakin, 19, from Jefferson.

The positions of Little Miss Fire Prevention ambassadors were uncontested; however, all participants were asked to speak before the audience, answering two questions. First, they were asked why they wanted to represent Frederick County as a fire prevention ambassador, and second, they were asked to draw a fire prevention question from a bag. After their on-stage interviews, the judges retired to decide the winner of the Junior Miss Fire Prevention contest and the audience heard from last year’s ambassadors as they gave their final remarks.

Little Miss Josie Masser, Junior Miss Tiffany White, and Miss Fire Prevention Jessica Lapole spoke of their year as FCVFRA ambassadors and thanked all that helped them through their year. The judges returned and declared that Daryenne Dorsey had been selected as the Junior Miss Fire Prevention for 2016 – 17, and Ashley Nalborczyk would serve as 1st Runner-up. The Committee would like to thank all those who participated in this year’s Miss Fire Prevention contest, and asked that all support the new ambassadors as they go through their year.
The Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation

A Maryland Story and a Remarkable Journey

By Gary Rains

In 2017, the Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation celebrates 20 years since incorporating as a non-profit, whose mission and purpose: “to design, construct, and maintain a unique living Memorial, dedicated to the Members of Maryland’s Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Community who have given their lives in the performance of their duties.”

I had the honor and privilege to write a story about the Foundation and it’s remarkable 20 year journey. We then added photographs, videos, quotes, and music to the story and packed nearly 20 years into a 25 minute YouTube production.

https://youtu.be/oX9jRanlzV8

I hope everyone throughout Maryland’s Fire & EMS community will watch, enjoy, learn from, and then share this Maryland story, that all began with the dream of one man.

The Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation Movie

This mini-documentary short film is a story about the Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation Inc. A non profit, established in 1997, that will soon celebrate 20 years of volunteer service to the Great State of Maryland.

It’s a story about how the dream of one man became a reality that will last forever. It’s a story about honor, tradition, loyalty, compassion, hardwork, perseverance, respect, determination, teamwork, commitment, leadership, comradesry, and reverence.

It’s a story about people from all over Maryland and what they can accomplish, together.

It’s a story about bravery and selflessly helping your neighbor.

It’s a story about lives that were lost while serving the citizens of Maryland that spans 170 years. It’s a story about Honoring and Remembering. It’s a story about volunteer and career, men and women, from Maryland’s Fire, EMS, Rescue, and MSP Aviation services. It’s a story about Maryland Heroes. It’s a Maryland story and it needs to be shared.

Please access the MFRSMF movie via the following YouTube link https://youtu.be/oX9jRanlzV8 or go to YouTube and search MD Fire Rescue Memorial

President’s Corner

(Continued from page 2)

scanned to collect your information. This ID could also be used as a member benefits card to offer exclusive benefits and offers to volunteers. Things such as discounts or event access could be accomplished simply by showing your ID just like when you go grocery shopping and use a club membership card. The possibilities are endless and we are very excited to see this progress.

We recently met with MIEMSS to discuss the current National Registry EMT progress. The amount of students involved in the original NREMT testing that didn’t pass, who continue to show interest, have dropped to about 338. These students still have an option to continue to attempt certification according to MIEMSS. Students eligible to re-test were sent a letter and emailed a survey to indicate if they would like to extend their window of opportunity for 6 more months. MIEMSS also stated they will cover the cost of the first and if necessary, the second National Registry tests for all students which is now inline the MFRI’s testing policy. This essentially will give those folks involved until June of next year to pass the NREMT test. We encourage anyone who may attempt this to seek remedial training or they may fair better to take the course again as they will have covered the material once before and the classes have been adjusted to better align with the NREMT testing. Director Edwards from MFRI reports an 89% pass rate this last quarter! That’s proof that the new strategies MFRI has adopted are working. There is a general consensus that the amount of training brought on to become a NREMT is extraordinary, especially for volunteers. We are looking into more options to try and head off the growing epidemic of future EMT shortages such as, state requirements regarding level of care for transport and reaching out to the National Registry Board and how this is affecting the volunteer system. We have been reaching out to neighboring states to gather their information on NREMT results and the effects it is placing on their system. This has proven to be

(Continued on page 10)
Carroll County Selects Miss Fire Preventin Ambassadors for 2016-17

Article and pictures by Ron Watkins, MSFA Public Relations Committee

On October 2, 2016, the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association and Auxiliary held their annual Miss Fire Prevention contest at the Carroll County Public Safety Training Center in Westminster. The positions being contested were the Junior Miss Fire Prevention and Miss Fire Prevention ambassadors.

Competing for the position of Junior Miss Fire Prevention were Elizabeth Hann, 11, from Hampstead; Amanda Gubernatis, 12, from New Windsor; Laurie Iogue-Ruckman, 13, from Winfield; and Gracie Morris, 11, from Manchester. Another contestant, Makensie Seymour from Lineboro, had to miss the contest due to illness.

In competition for the Miss Fire Prevention position were Taylor Blizzard, 18, from Lineboro; Delaney Roper, 20, from Hampstead; Sarah Paul, 16, from New Windsor; and Jennifer Franklin, 24, from Winfield.

All of the contestants had an individual interview with the Judges and presented a fire prevention demonstration at that time, prior to their podium performance. While these were conducted, the audience listened to messages from the outgoing ambassadors. Last year’s Miss Carroll County, Emily Reaver, is currently the MSFA 1st Runner-up Miss Fire Prevention. During the public speaking part of the contest, Miss Brittany Hill, last year’s 1st Runner-up Miss Fire Prevention for the MSFA served as the Emcee and moderator. Each contestant was given two questions to answer before the audience—one of which was related to why they wanted to be the Miss Fire Prevention ambassador and one a question dealing with fire prevention issues.

Selected to be the Junior Miss Fire Prevention was Elizabeth Hann. The Junior Miss Fire Prevention 1st Runner-up was Amanda Gubernatis. Sarah Paul was selected to be the Miss Fire Prevention ambassador for 2016-17, and Jennifer Franklin was named the Miss Fire Prevention 1st Runner-up. All of the contestants in both contests were very well versed in fire prevention measures and represented their companies well.

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Hosts 35th Annual Memorial Service

Ron Watkins, MSFA Public Relations Committee

Over the weekend of October 8 and 9, 2016, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (the “Foundation”) hosted the 35th Annual Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg. 79 firefighters that lost their lives in the line of duty in 2015 were honored, along with 33 additional firefighters who had died in previous years.

Families were brought to the Emmitsburg area, by the Foundation. Personnel from the MD Fire Chiefs Association provided drivers to pick up incoming family members, speakers, and other dignitaries from the various airports during the previous week and the days following the event. The visitors were given a choice of several seminars to attend and offered travel to other area sights while they were guests here.

On Saturday night, a candle-lighting ceremony was held at the Basilica of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton next door to the National Fire Academy. On Sunday, there was a wreath laid at the Monument in honor of all of the fallen personnel, and a plaque was officially added to the circle of plaques surrounding the Monument. As the names of those honored this year were read, each family came forth with their escort to receive a folded American flag, a rose, and a lithograph of the Monument. The lithographs have been provided for many years by the MSFA. A large crowd attended the event, and members of fire services honor guards from across the nation carried the items to each family as they were called out.
Tilghman Island 9/11 Commemoration Ceremony

Additional photo coverage of the 9/11 Commemoration Ceremony at Tilghman Island. See main article on page 1.

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Cecilton Vol. Fire Company Remembers 9/11

By Mike Dixon

The Cecilton Volunteer Fire Co. remembered Sept. 11, 2001, fifteen years after nearly 3,000 people were killed in the terrorist attack on the United States.

Truck One, the ladder fully raised, had a U.S. Flag suspended from the top of the aerial, it flapping gently in the breeze of the comfortable September day. In the station parking lot at the corner of Bohemia Ave., and Main Street, Truck One stood as a silent sentinel, reminding passersby that we should never forget.

When we stopped by Cecilton Firefighter and Director Ashton Holland was preparing to climb the aerial ladder to make some adjustments to the United States Flag. We had a chance to talk to Firefighter Holland about 9/11 and the Cecilton Volunteer Fire Company, and the department’s history.

Here are some photos from our visit. Thank you Cecilton Fire Company for honoring the memory of those lost in the attack and reminding us to always remember.

President’s Corner

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a difficult task, however we will keep trying to collect this information and possibly be able to collectively express our concerns to the National Board. We will continue to work on this as we are making steady progress for the future EMT’s in the state.

Many folks, including myself would also like to see a new MSFA MD State Fire tag design. There are many variables and challenges that go along with this so I’m announcing an artwork challenge contest to start it off! I’m personally offering a grand prize worth over $150 to the winner of the contest! The prize will consist of a Maryland Basket, including a custom embroidered Jobshirt, Maryland hat, MD blankets, and gift cards. I will also offer the runner up a Maryland hat and blanket. The deadline for this challenge will be December 1st. Once all entries are received, we will review them and put out a survey for the members to vote on. Due to various options available to us by the MD MVA, we ask that you provide at least 2 versions of your design. One version being a whole plate design and the second as a left only portion of the tag using space similar to our current tags. The two versions don’t need to be similar, we just need to have the option for a whole tag or partial format. You can go online to the state MVA website and view special organization tags there for ideas. All artwork needs to be camera ready proofs and in a PDF and or JPEG format. Please submit entries to myself at mdavis@msfa.org. Further contest details can be found on the MSFA.org website as well.

Michael A. Davis, President
Volunteer Trumpet

Chip’s Firehouse Logbook

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City of Baltimore ultimately led to the Baltimore City Fire Commissioners to direct city apparatus not respond outside the city limits and not send a telegraph alarm for any request for such assistance. This action resulted in the County Commissioners of Baltimore County to formally organize fire protection.

The “belt” area surrounding the city was growing rapidly and the sporadic volunteer companies were not sufficient to provide fire protection. The county established engine companies in communities such as Roland Park and Highlandtown. Having help organize the paid service in the city and having served Baltimore City as both the chief engineer and a fire inspector, Mr. Holloway was an ideal choice for the infancy of this new fire department. Mr. Holloway is also credited with helping the City of Pittsburgh, PA in organizing the paid fire department.

Even with the prestigious positions as “chief” of both the Baltimore City and County Fire Departments, even with his 25 years as a Baltimore fire inspector, and even with his unanimous election as Senior Vice President of MSFA, Mr. Holloway is best remembered as a builder of dependable and unique fire apparatus. The ornate hose carriage “Romeo” of the Independent Hose Co. No. 1 of Frederick is one of the most superb examples the Holloway handiwork. Many communities in Maryland purchased a Holloway Hook & Ladder, Holloway Hose Carriage or an innovative Holloway Chemical Engine. Baltimore, Frederick, Hagerstown and a host of other cities and municipalities purchased Holloway apparatus.

Mr. Holloway is credited with being the father of the chemical engine. He developed reliable chemical engines that soon became a mainstay in many fire houses. These engines used a combination of soda and acid to provide an immediate stream of water to fight fires. He saw the need for a larger capacity chemical engines to enable additional firefighting capabilities. He developed the “double tank” chemical engine with each tank capable of 90 gallons of firefighting water.

His final major accomplishment was to help organize the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. His continued efforts to maintain the history of the early volunteer fire companies served as his entry into the annals of MSFA history. An interesting historical footnote, Charles T. Holloway is the only person to serve as an MSFA officer who was not a member of a volunteer fire company. He is also the only person to serve in a MSFA office that was the chief of a fully paid fire department. Charles T. Holloway died in 1898 just five years after he helped mold the future of the Maryland fire service.

Author’s Note – Research information included Official History of the Fire Department of Baltimore City by Clarence H. Forrest, Hands, Horses and Engines: A Centennial History of Baltimore County Fire Service by Betsy Weaver and Chief Gary Frederick (BFD, ret.) and Proceedings of the First Annual Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

“Romeo” at the 1992 Centennial Celebrations of MSFA in Frederick. The 1893 Holloway Hose Carriage “Romeo” was especially built by Charles T. Holloway for the Independent Hose Co. No. 1 of Frederick to honor the 75th anniversary of the company and the organization of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association in Frederick in June of 1893.
At Cecil County Station 1, on an overcast day, the Cecilton Volunteer Fire Company marks 15 years since 9/11. See article page 10.