

THIS ISSUE

Somerset Co.	1
President's Corner	2
MD Memorial	3
MIEMSS News	4
Chip's Logbook	5
Galena Fire	6
Frederick Meeting	7
Takoma Park VFD	8
Pets	8

Somerset County Meeting at Tylerton

By Ron Watkins, MSFA
MSFA Public Relations Committee

The Somerset County Volunteer Firemen's Association's recent meeting was held on Smith Island, hosted by the Tylerton VFD.

For many years, the meeting rotation would place the meeting in Tylerton during February, with their Spring meeting being held in May at the Ewell station. With a change in their meeting scheduling, this was one of the first warm weather meetings Tylerton had hosted.

When the meeting was held in May, on the second Wednesday, this used to be a special treat for the MSFA officers, as many would

trip out to the island. The boat moved at a leisurely pace, and the trip took about 1½ hours. This gave plenty of time to chat with old friends and discuss upcoming events and Convention items.

There would often be twenty or more MSFA officials enjoying the day out. Sometimes the weather would be very rough, but usually the trips were without incident on the

"All would gather with our host, Donnie Howard, at the docks in Crisfield, and climb aboard a large buoy tender, the "Millard Tawes",

way out. Thunderstorms often accompanied us on the way back!

After a great meal prepared by the Auxiliary and a short meeting, we would head back, taking a different route that took about 2½ hours; arriving at Crisfield about 10:30 PM for the three hour trip home.

When the location for this meeting was known, many of us made plans to attend this meeting. Most of us had not been to Tylerton, so this was a great chance to do so. We met at the Crisfield dock with Donnie Howard, and left around 5:30 PM on board the "Hungry Jack III", a



Waiting for the boat – (l to r, first row) Emily Reavers, Anne Price-Davis, Curtis Warfield Sr, Clark Beall, Doyle Cox. 2nd row – Richard Blair, Rick Hemphill, Mike Faust, Donnie Howard. Back row, MSFA President Mike Davis. Photo: Watkins

attend this meeting as guests. All would gather with our host, Donnie Howard, at the docks in Crisfield, and climb aboard a large buoy tender, the "Millard Tawes", which was provided by the State of Maryland for the seven mile

sleek charter fishing boat the Association had gotten to take us out.

The trip was a smooth one, and only took 25 minutes to make the run. From the Tylerton

(Continued on page 11)

MSFA Officers 2015-16

President

Michael A. Davis
 Cockeysville VFC
 14019 York Rd.
 Sparks, MD 21152
 H. 410.785.5729
 C. 410-371-6966
 davisemergency@gmail.com
 www.facebook.com/
 davisformsfa
 Twitter: @davisemergency

1st Vice-President

Mark A. Bilger
 Hampstead VFC
 4530 Black Rock Road
 Hampstead, MD. 21074
 C 443-791-4807

2nd Vice-President

Richard C. Blair
 Clear Springs VFC
 10921 Roessner Ave.
 Hagerstown, MD. 21740
 H 301.582.3031
 C 401.991.2540

Secretary

Doyle E. Cox, P.P.
 Prince Frederick VFD-Calvert
 29132 Superior Circle
 Easton, MD. 21601
 H 410-690-3568
 C 443-532-1416
 dcox@msfa.org

Treasurer

Ronald J. Siarnicki
 United Communities VFD—
 Queen Anne's
 2130 Priest Bridge Dr., Ste 6
 Crofton, MD 21114
 C 301-467-5780
 W 301-721-6212
 rsiarnicki@aol.com

Continued page 4

The President's Corner

By Michael A. Davis, President, MSFA.

Wow! Hard to believe we've just finished our 4th Executive meeting in lovely Port Deposit, marking the end of our "Road Tour" of Charter Members. I can't thank the 125th Committee, Mayor Wayne Tome, VFW Post 8185 and the businesses and citizens of Port Deposit enough! This was a cozy and memorable meeting. Despite the weather, everyone pulled through and made it all happen. A good time was had by all. I especially enjoyed the Pub Crawl and have found a new place to stop by whenever I'm in the area. With this meeting over, that leaves the big finale for the 125th Convention in Ocean City.

You're going to really enjoy the convention this year as we have taken a part of the theme from each executive meeting and will be adding it to this year's program. The Second Annual 'MACK's on the Bay' will also take place Tuesday, Noon to 4. Be sure to come check it out in the North Parking Lot. We've added a crab feast to Thursday's family events at Frontier Town too so be sure to purchase tickets! Check the schedules and on-line information so you can stay up to date. We'll also have an app and social media coverage of the events. Make sure you follow @Mdsfa on Twitter, MD State Firemen's Assoc. on Facebook and you can always follow me @davisemergency on Twitter and Instagram and Davis-ForMSFA on my Facebook Page. Go to our site, MSFA.ORG for more convention information.

As we approach convention, I look back and realize that the year went by fast and the two before it, even faster! I can't thank everyone enough for your support, all the progress we've made, and of

course, the good times! There have been challenges along the way. However, thanks to everyone's help and perseverance, we are, and will continue to help our volunteers! I will continue to remain vigilant and work on the issues we've been facing along with other initiatives that we've established this past year. I will always continue to fight for the good cause of our volunteers!

We've all suffered some big losses too. I will always keep those that have gone before us, and their families, in our family's thoughts and prayers. May all of you be blessed and stay safe. Please educate yourself on firefighter cancer as well as PTSD. Don't ever be afraid to talk with someone, no matter what it is. We're all a big family and we need each other, all the time!

I look forward to seeing everyone and I hope you take part in all the activities you can. Please don't drink and drive or text and drive; take the bus. Use crosswalks, be respectful, and set good examples. Image is everything. Maryland's Volunteer Firefighters and EMT's are the best of the best! You never know when you may make a lasting impression on anyone at any age!

Enjoy this 125th Convention of The Maryland State Firemen's Association.

Volunteer.

Get Involved!

See photos page 9



2017 Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Memorial



Maryland Fire ~ Rescue Services Memorial Foundation

2017 Annual Memorial Service

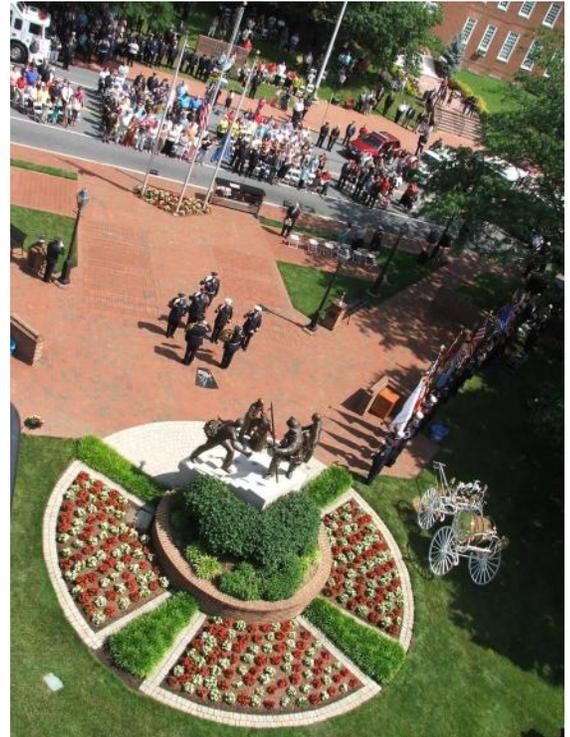
Sunday ~ June 4, 2017 ~ 2 p.m.

101 Calvert Street ~ Annapolis ~ Maryland 21401

Memorial Service & Wall of Honor Plaque Unveilings

Honoring and Remembering

Maryland Fallen Heroes



Charles David "Duffy" Crist
Ft. Detrick Fire Co. ~ Frederick County
LODD February 26, 1967

Robert Joseph Traynelis
St. Michaels VFD ~ Talbot County
LODD May 31, 2016

Christopher E. Hill
PGCo. Fire-EMS ~ Prince George's County
LODD July 21, 2016

Jacob A. Howser
Pocomoke EMS ~ Worcester County
LODD March 25, 2017

Charles R. "Rick" Gentilcore
MCFRS ~ Montgomery County
LODD April 7, 2017



MIEMSS NEWS BRIEFS

By James Brown MIEMSS

EMS UPDATE 2017 Including the 2017 Maryland Medical Protocols

The printed versions of the 2017 Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers are now available to providers. This year, a set of replacement pages, the smaller spiral-bound full protocols, and the pocket protocols have been printed. One pocket protocol will be distributed free of charge to each Maryland provider. The full binder-sized protocol, set of replacement pages, and spiral version, as well as additional pocket protocols, are available for purchase from the Office of Licensure and Certification.

Maryland Substance Use Disorder Crisis Hotline

MIEMSS encourages EMS providers to share the Maryland Crisis Hotline phone number with opioid overdose patients who refuse transport to a hospital. The Maryland Crisis Hotline is provided by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The hotline provides support, guidance, and assistance on how to access substance use disorder and mental health services. Information includes accessing naloxone, recovery support, and family services in the individual's local area. Encouraging patients to utilize the crisis hotline may help prevent future overdoses and assist to combat the opioid epidemic.

Maryland Crisis Hotline: 1-800-422-0009

Maryland Emergency Medical Resource and Alerting Database (MEMRAD)

The Maryland Emergency Medical Resource and Alerting Database or MEMRAD, formerly known as HC Stand-

ard continues to host the County Hospital Alert Tracking System (CHATS), Facility Resource Emergency Database (FRED), and County Hospital Request System (CHRS). These three sub-systems are utilized by the Maryland healthcare system to coordinate ambulance transports, emergency resources, and to provide statewide situational awareness. MIEMSS continues to provide support and assistance to facilities through MEMRAD. With financial support from DHMH, MIEMSS intends to upgrade system capabilities over the next few years. Future updates will bring needed changes to the MEMRAD platform to meet agency and system needs including mass notification, hospital bed counts, automated messaging, facility alerting, as well as automated resource coordination.

Governor Hogan Declares State of Emergency to Combat Heroin and Opioid Crisis

Governor Larry Hogan has signed an Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency in response to the heroin, opioid, and fentanyl crisis in Maryland. Heroin-related deaths have nearly doubled in the last year in Maryland. This declaration activates the Governor's emergency management authority and enables increased and more rapid coordination between the state and local jurisdictions. The Governor's Executive Order delegates emergency powers to state and local emergency management officials, enabling them to fast-track coordination among state and local agencies and community organizations, including private sector and nonprofit entities to ensure whole-community involvement. The Governor's senior advisor for emergency management, Clay Stamp, oversees this coordinated effort.

MSFA Officers Cont.

Financial Secretary

Mitch Vocke
Jarrettsville VFC—Harford
PO Box 401
Jarrettsville, MD 21084
H 410-692-6914
C 410-808-1693
wmvocke@harfordpublicsafety.org

Chief Chaplain

Rev. John F. Long, Jr.
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. Its 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

Chip's Firehouse Logbook: Past, Present and Future

Hug-A-Dispatcher

by Chief Clarence "Chip" Jewell, III

When I graduated from high school, I knew exactly what career path I wanted to follow. I was enamored with what was then known as Central Alarm, the county fire dispatch center.

Being a "radio dispatcher" was my ultimate goal. Just in case I did not get a job a Central Alarm, or if my draft lottery number was too low, I was also prepared to enter the United States Air Force.

My lottery number was mid-range and I was hired as a dispatcher on July 1, 1972. I had my dream job and disappointed my Air Force recruiter. I became a familiar voice of every fire monitor throughout Frederick County. For eight hours a day, I would be the sole human being on duty. Ten incidents was a busy day.

Though my ambitions had been fulfilled, my expectations were shaken. I soon realized working at Central Alarm opened up an entirely different perspective that I was not pre-

pared. I was suddenly a target of every miss-dispatch, street miss-pronunciation, or response error the entire world heard over a monitor.

Make a mistake on a fire ground hardly anyone knows. Make a mistake dispatching a call and every fireman, grandma, family and 7-11 store in the county knows you screwed-up.

Move the clock forward 40 years. 911 has replaced a 7 digit phone number and computer aided dispatch systems have replaced cardboard "running" cards. Voice Over IP phone systems have replaced a

dial telephone. Instead of one person on duty, a dozen people handle more calls in ten minutes than Central Alarm handled in a full day. But, what hasn't changed is the overall lack of respect for those individ-

uals that live under the head set.

An emergency telecommunicator lives in a high pressure, fast paced environment with split second decisions. They are the first responder's first responder. But, they are the

Rodney Dangerfield of public safety. When you are dispatched on an incident, you at least have an idea of where you are going and what type of incident you are responding.

When the phone is answered at the 911 center, the telecommunicator has no idea if it is a request for assisting a patient back in bed, an active shooter or a Boeing 747 falling from the sky. The communications professional must be prepared to handle any type of incident, without any preparation or hint of what is on the other end of the line.

In the field, personnel only hear one radio transmission at a time without knowing what is really happening at the call center. The person dispatching the incident could well be simultaneously taking a 911 call or answering multiple radio channels.

While a volunteer chief knows the first due area, the telecommunicator is expected to immediately know an entire county

(Continued on page 10)



"When the phone is answered at the 911 center, the telecommunicator has no idea if it is a request for assisting a patient back in bed, an active shooter or a Boeing 747 falling from the sky."

Multi-Unit Barn Fire in Galena

Article & Photos
By Nevin Steffy

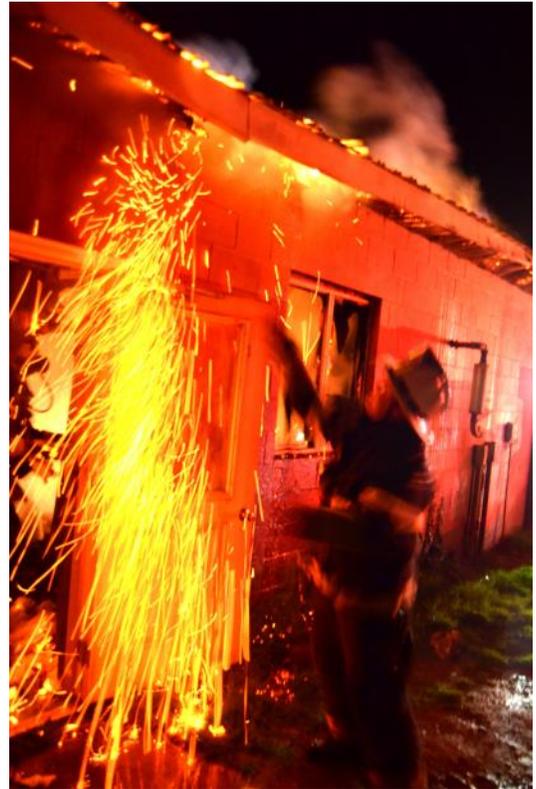


On Saturday, April 15th just after 10:00PM, Kent County Box 30-10 was struck for the barn fire at 12859 Vansants Corner Rd., Galena.

First arriving units advised of heavy fire through the roof of a 40 foot by 250 foot barn containing a milking parlor and milk house. A second alarm was struck upon arrival.

Units on the scene initially led with hand lines to stop the fire spread and were the assisted by Kent Tower 3 and Cecilton Truck 1 for final extinguishment. The scene was then turned over to the Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office for investigation. Total loss was valued at \$300,000.00.

Units responded from Galena, Kennedyville, Millington, Cecilton, Sudlersville, Crumpton, Betterton, Chestertown, and Kent County EMS. Transfer companies included Rock Hall, Clayton, DE, Smyrna, DE, and Hartly, DE.



MSFA Returned to Frederick



Celebrating our 125 years of service to the Citizens of Maryland the MSFA met at the Junior Fire Company No. 2 on North Market Street In Historic Frederick Maryland in February. In addition to a packed meeting schedule, there was the Firemen's Ball at the City of Frederick Armory, which is now the William Talley Recreation Center, 121 North Bentz Street.



Top left — Past President Frank Underwood holds a copy of one of the anniversary booklets; above—1st VP Mark A. Bilger and (left) 2nd VP Richard Blair listening to committee reports.

Joining Together to Promote “Home Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness

By Jim Jarboe

On April 2, 2017, Takoma Park VFD Fire Chief Tom Musgrove and Chief Jim Jarboe in partnership with the City of Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Manager Ron Hardy, gave a 3-part presentation for the Takoma Park Church Center. Approximately 75 people were in attendance.

Part 1 — Prior to Chief Jarboe's presentation, he passed out Wally's "Home Fire Safety Quiz". He went over 15-questions, with the audience participating by answering the questions. He followed up with a brief discussion on each item.

Part 2 — Fire Chief Musgrove discussed the "Do's and Don'ts" When Using a fire extinguisher. He brought along handout materials and two fire extinguishers for demonstration and hands on participation. He asked for two volunteers from the audience that have never operated a fire extinguisher. He first advised them, they needed to know the word "PASS". It stands for: P - Pull Pin; A - Aim; S - Squeeze; and S - Sweep. They both did

well for the first time. In closing, he stressed the most important thing is - Safety at all times... If you are not sure how to operate an extinguisher, that's the time for you and your family to get out of the house and stay out, until Fire-fighters arrive.

Part 3 — Manager Hardy discussed "Emergency Preparedness," being ready in the event a disaster - snow, ice, high winds, flood and power outage, etc. What should you do and what you should have available. You must have the following for at least a 3 day period... food, water, flashlight, fresh batteries, cell phone, your medications and first aid kit. He finished with several questions. They requested another 1 or 2 more programs. Well, I agreed all went okay.



PETS... Believe It or Not, They Are Part of The Family

By Bruce Secrist

Often times we respond to an MVC, structure fire, hunting accident or just an ordinary medical call where we will encounter a family pet that is affected by the situation at hand.

A few years ago my family and I, including our dog, were in an MVC. Our vehicle rolled several times and when we came to a stop upside down, our dog took off running. Now, my wife often refers to our dog as “my son,” especially when he has done something wrong.

With that being said, while I was lying in the ER with several people working on me, three things were weighing heavy on my mind..... How my wife was doing, how my daughter was doing and last but not least, did they find “my son?” We

were fortunate, after several hours he was located unharmed hiding in a barn of a nearby farm.

The photo is from an MVC in Caroline County. It shows Ridgely VFD Firefighter Bobby Utz holding a dog belonging to one of the families involved. The owner of the dog was transported to a local facility with minor injuries; however they were from out of state and didn't have anyone to pick up their dog. Just like me, they were extremely worried about the welfare of their pet.

Firefighters on the scene assured the patient that their pet would be safe and taken care of, easing the mind of the owner. The crew took it upon themselves to make sure the dog was taken by a veterinarian, checked over and kenneled until the owner could pick it up.

Regardless of the situation, we should always go above and beyond to assure the comfort of our patients, even if it includes reassuring them that their pet is going to be taken care of. After all, they are FAMILY too!



©2015 Bruce Secrist

President's Corner

Continued from page 3



President Davis (left) makes a presentation before the Port Deposit parade to Mayor Wayne Tome. The mayor is also the Chief of EMS at Water Witch and a member of the MSFA Executive Committee.



Ron Siarnicki packing up at the end of a damp day in Port Deposit while getting ready to move on to Ocean City

IN THE CONVENTION
 ISSUE
 JUNE 2017
 LOOK FOR FULL
 COVERAGE
 OF THE GRAND
 MSFA
 125th CELEBRATION IN
 PORT DEPOSIT



The Association was pleased to present Dr. Thomas Scalea with this helmet at the R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Board of Visitors Meeting, April 4, 2017. (L to R) PP Doyle Cox, MSFA Rich Hemphill, Dr. Scalea, 2nd VP Rick Blair, President Davis, PP Phil Hurlock

**MSFA CANDIDATE
 ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE**
 Candidates for various MSFA offices may submit advertisements for placement in the Volunteer Trumpet.
 Rates are discounted for MSFA office-seekers
 To inquire about rates or to get additional information email the editor at trumpet@msfa.org
 Deadline for submission of copy for the Convention Issue — May 15 2017

Chip's Logbook

(Continued from page 5)

with every dirt road and resident memorized.

Woe is the individual that takes a job in emergency communications that is also a member of the volunteer fire & rescue service in the same county. They immediately become a pin cushion for complaints.

Often, they cannot walk into their own firehouse without someone complaining about "missing" a call or the "idiots" at communications. Today's telecommunicator must be a combination of the Amazing Kreskin, Rand McNally and IBM Watson. They must see the incident, know the exact location and be able to assess information needed before the incident is dispatched.

A mutual aid call is even worse. The whole world hears the neighboring county call, but has no conception the county receiving the information must input and hand type all information into CAD before the incident can be dispatched.

You think it's an easy job. Test your skill, have someone stand across the room, shout an address, cross street, "box" number, several unit numbers and a radio channel while you try to type this information into a computer; the stop watch ticks away. Just maybe you can feel the pressure the poor dispatcher feels trying to input the mutual aid incident correctly knowing the

***"You think it's an easy job.
Test your skill . . ."***



countdown is on in the firehouse.

One incorrect entry and the entire incident may have to be completely input again. The high tension, high stress environment of the communications center has been compared to a military command center or air traffic controller.

My years as a dispatcher in the dark ages of dial telephones, running cards and rural mail route combined with my more recent experiences as the director of one of the 10 busiest communications centers in Maryland has provided me the experience of the stress in the center and the lack of respect outside the center. Everyone is human, telecommunicators do make mistakes.

Each year, one week in April is dedi-

cated to telecommunicators. This year April 9 – 15, 2017, was National Telecommunicators Week.

There truly should be a national holiday that all 911 centers close to allow at least one 24 hour period each year that all of these dedicated individuals could relax. But, obviously, this 24/7/365 service never stops.

We can at least say thank you and try to appreciate this most critical but unappreciated public safety position. Thank a telecommunicator. Hug a dispatcher. They need it.

Be Safe.

Chip

Somerset County

(Continued from page 1)

docks, we walked short distance to the Methodist Church for our meal and meeting. Tylerton is a picturesque old town and is very scenic. We were treated to a delicious meal of turkey with all the trimmings, clam chowder, and Smith Island cake for dessert!

In attendance as guests were MSFA President Mike Davis, LA-MSFA Past President Ann Price-Davis, 2nd VP Richard Blair, Secretary Doyle Cox, Asst. Secretary Rick Hemphill, Executive Committee member Mike Faust, Safety Committee Chairman Mike LeCompte.

Safety Committee members John and Janet Fisher, Public Relations Committee Chairman Ron Watkins, MSFA Miss Fire Prevention 1st Runner-up Emily Reavers, guests Clark Beall and Curtis Warfield.

It was a real nice treat for me, as it gave me the chance to photograph one of the very few volunteer fire stations in Maryland that I did not have. Tylerton currently has a new ambulance on order, and is building an addition to the station to house it when it arrives.

We traveled back to Crisfield as fast as we came, with a beautiful sunset accompanying us. We were back at the dock by 8:30 PM, a far cry from the 10:00 to 11:00 PM arrivals of the past. The whole trip was enjoyable and gave many of us a chance to see part of our system not often in view.

“We traveled back to Crisfield as fast as we came, with a beautiful sunset accompanying us.”



*Above: Somerset County VFA officers preside over the meeting.
Below: Tylerton Fire and Rescue Station
Photo: Watkins*





The Volunteer Trumpet
A publication of the Maryland State
Firemen's Association
www.msfa.org
55 Sunnybrook Drive
Elkton, MD 21921

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



The February executive committee meeting was held at the Junior Fire Company No. 2 on North Market Street In Historic Frederick Maryland. Photo: Dixon

