

## THIS ISSUE

MSFA Foundation	1
Smith Honored	1
President's Corner	2
Trustees Need Help	3
Smoke Alarm Update	4
PP Sterling	4
Chip's Logbook	5
Qualifications Board	7
EMS Bike Unit	7
Plink Game	7
MSFA Aug. Meeting	8
MIEMSS Update	9
Governor Hogan	10
Who are the Trustees?	13
Reese VFD	14

## What is the MSFA Foundation, Ltd. And What Does it Do?

The MSFA Foundation Ltd. was established by the leadership of the Maryland State Firemen's Association after the dreadful attacks on our homeland on September 11, 2001 as an avenue to provide relief funds.

The foundation is now an independent organization which focuses on raising and accumulating funds to be awarded to volunteer fire service personnel of Maryland by means of scholarships and other benevolence. All contributions received by The MSFA Foundation Ltd. are tax deductible to the contributor.

The Board of Directors of The MSFA Foundation Ltd. is composed of fire service personnel from across the state of Maryland, supplemented by personnel from the business and professional communities.

As we move forward, the foundation is committed to maintaining our close ties to the Maryland State Firemen's Association and our support for activities of the association. The foundation has established ties with other fire service organizations from Maryland including individual fire companies, MFRI, MIEMSS, University of Maryland Medical System, and the Maryland Fire Chief's Association.

The foundation is committed to continuing support of educational opportunities for our volunteer fire and rescue personnel, supporting the activities of other fire and rescue service related groups, and other expanded avenues of benevolence. We are happy to



Chief Richard Smith at an Executive Committee Meeting

## Smith Honored With Gladhill-Thompson Award

By Mike Dixon, Editor

Ocean City, June 2017 -- Richard Smith of the Oxford Fire Company was honored with the most prestigious award the Maryland State Firemen's Association confers to an individual, the Gladhill-Thompson Award. Given annually to an individual who had made an exceptional contribution to the welfare of the Association, it was presented to Chief Smith at the 125th convention.

The chief is the vice-chair of the legislative committee, which works with lawmakers in Annapolis, promoting the interest of the volunteer fire service. He spends many untiring hours developing the legislative agenda, monitoring legislation, taking positions on issues, meeting with legislators, and keeping members informed about bills. As a result of this significant effort, he was nominated by the chair of the legislative committee, Stephan Cox.

Chief Smith joined a long list of honored recipients who have distinguished

themselves in the service of the association and received this highly selective honor.

First awarded in 1974, the trophy was established by Bernard D. "Buck" Gladhill. Mr. Gladhill saw the need to honor individuals who have distinguished themselves in their support of the MSFA. In 1984 the award was changed to the Gladhill-Thompson Trophy in recognition of both Mr. Gladhill and Chief Thompson.

(Continued on page 9)

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Continued page 4

# The President's Corner

By Mark A. Bilger



It is truly an honor to serve as your President and I look forward to working with the executive committee, elected officers,

committee chairs, committee members and each department across the State of Maryland to make our organization better. Additionally, I look forward to working with the Officers and members of the Ladies Auxiliary and the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association.

As an organization, we must honor and remember the past, and in doing so pave the way for a great and prosperous future. Moving forward in 2017, and into 2018, our hopes and prayers are for the safety of our members, for the continued positive growth of our association and the wellbeing of the emergency services of our great state.

Again, I remain humbled and honored to serve as your President. It is a position and a responsibility that I do not take lightly. The Executive Committee and I will work daily to move our association forward, and provide the leadership that you and our great organization deserves. Thank you for the continued opportunity to serve you.

Mark A. Bilger, President  
MSFA, 2017-2018



Governor Hogan stopped by Hero's Pub and is chatting with the MSFA leadership team.

L TO R: 2nd VP Faust, Governor Hogan, President Bilger.

## MSFA Trustees Need Your Help

By Doug Alexander

The MSFA Trustees make monthly payments to surviving spouses and dependents of our firefighters lost in the line of duty. Some of these payments have been going on for many years.

The Trustees attempt to learn when any of these beneficiaries pass away or dependents reach the age of 18 so we do not continue to send checks and cause unnecessary additional grief for these survivors.

This is where the Trustees need the help of all member companies of the MSFA. If a receiver of benefits passes away, remarries, or changes address, the Trustees should be notified so our records can be maintained correctly. In some cases, the Trustees do not learn of these changes until we receive a check

back with a sad note attached that the beneficiary has passed away, or is no longer at the address.

Most benefit receivers whose marital status changes, or address changes, notifies the Trustee Secretary, but not always. That is where we need the assistance of our member companies in keeping the Trustees up to date.

Personnel who are receiving disability payments are required to keep the Trustees posted on their ability to work status and medical condition.

We would strongly encourage our member companies to stay in touch with the widows or widowers of members of their company that were lost in the line of duty, and their members that were injured in the line of duty.

This is part of keeping the “fire service family” together.

The Trustees wish to make payments to all persons approved for benefits promptly and correctly. We wish to spare families the grief of having to return payments. We also wish to keep our accounts correct and up to date whenever possible. We ask for the help of our member companies in keeping our records current.

*This is part of keeping the “fire service family” together.*

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## Smoke Alarm Update

By: Brian S. Geraci, State Fire Marshal



As of January 1, 2018 the replacement of BATTERY ONLY operated smoke alarms **must be** made with units powered by sealed-in 10 year long-life batteries. Nine volt battery operated units can no longer be installed as the replacement but can continue to be sold in the state.

Both battery and hard wire smoke alarms need to be replaced every ten years. The date of the smoke alarm can be found on the back of the unit. Note that smoke alarms manufactured in 2007 need to be replaced **this** year.

Smoke alarms are required to be installed outside of each sleeping room and on every level of the house. Homes constructed since 1994 require smoke alarms to be installed in all sleeping rooms but regardless of the date of construction we highly recommend placing smoke alarms in all sleeping rooms.

Please take the time to inform your communities of this new update at community events and while you are out during the next Community Risk Reduction Weekend October 21 & 22, 2017.

### PP Sterling Elected President of the Eastern Div. of the IAFC

MSFA Past President Paul Sterling (2007-2008) has been elected president of the Eastern Division of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) at their 90th Annual Conference, held in Rehoboth Beach, DE from May 7-9.



Chief John Sinclair, president of the IAFC and Chief Sterling

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) represents the leadership of firefighters and emergency responders worldwide; IAFC members are the world's leading experts in firefighting, emergency medical services, terrorism response, hazardous materials spills, natural disasters, search and rescue, and public safety policy.

The Eastern Division of the IAFC consists of Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Washington, DC with a membership of nearly 1800 members.

Prior to being elected President, Chief Sterling served on the Eastern Division Board of Directors for 9-years, as the Maryland Director. Maryland will be host to the 91st Annual Conference of the Eastern Division - IAFC in April of 2018.

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## 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

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The Volunteer Trumpet  
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## Chip's Firehouse Logbook: Past, Present and Future

### Saving Chaplain White

by Chief Clarence "Chip" Jewell, III

I first met Gary White over 40 years ago through his service as an active volunteer firefighter with the New Market District Volunteer Fire Department.

We have been friends ever since. He moved up the ranks from firefighter to ultimately serve as an assistant chief. He remained a member of New Market, but as is frequently the case, took a sabbatical from the operational end of the department for employment and family.

The New Market District Volunteer Fire Department has had a renaissance that has attracted some senior members back into the fold.

Gary became active as the company chaplain. His chaplaincy in this department also led him to become a chaplain with the Maryland Fire Chief's Association and expand his activities. Responding to incidents was still in his blood as he would show up to working incidents to help console and support

families that lost everything to the ravages of fire. He returned to operational status and complied with our county medical physical requirements.

We are extremely fortunate in Frederick County. Our county government has budgeted funds for NFPA 1581 physicals for volunteers based on the 2001 MOSHA Fire Service Health and Safety Standard, the infamous "Blue Book". Over the age 40, the physical also requires a treadmill stress test. Even our fire police are required to pass the physical, minus the fit testing.

It was during the required treadmill stress test that Chaplain Gary White was advised of abnormalities that required prompt attention. Gary had serious open heart surgery, not only for double bypass, but also to repair an aortic aneurysm.

He had an extended stay in the hospital, and even had to return for complications after he was released. His physical the most likely saved his life.

As a Christian chaplain, Gary spreads the good news of Jesus Christ. He is now also preach-



ing the gospel of the benefit of firefighter physicals and healthy life styles. Even I have become a poster child for firefighter physicals. Though not as severe as Gary, over the last few years my firefighter physicals have detected health concerns that could have worsened and ultimately had a negative effect on my life span.

The MSFA Safety Committee has taken up the cause of health and wellness of our volunteers. The Safety Committee has worked with partner agencies to develop a portfolio of information and recommendations.

I highly commend Mike LaCompte and his committee members for taking an aggressive approach to encourage fire/rescue operational physicals. The committee is offering

(Continued on page 11)

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**Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute  
University of Maryland**



Presents

**2018 Maryland Weekend  
at the  
National Fire Academy**

Save the Date

- Dates:** February 3 and 4, 2018
- Location:** Emmitsburg, Maryland
- Courses:** W0379 - Fire Investigation: First Responders  
W0455 - Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations  
W0522 - Executive Skills Series: Exercising Leadership Through Difficult Conversations  
W0609 - Introduction to Unified Command for All-Hazard Incidents  
W0648 - Leadership in Supervision: Frameworks to Success  
W762 - New Fire Chief: Contemporary Issues

## The Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board Presents 150,000th Certification

By Ron Hassan, Manager,  
Technology & Certification MFRI

On August 7, 2017, the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board, which began operations in 1988, presented its 150,000th certification. The honor went to Kimberly Quathamer of the Hurlock Volunteer Fire Company who was certifying for Firefighter II. Previously, Ms. Quathamer had been certified in Hazardous Materials Awareness, Hazardous Materials Operations, and Firefighter I. The presentation of the 150,000th certification was made by MFRI's Assistant Director Larry Preston during the Dorchester County Firemen's Association meeting at the Eldorado-Brookview Fire Department. The certification issued to Ms. Quathamer was endorsed by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (the Pro Board) and the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and will be entered into the international registry of each organization. This registration of the certification will make the training received portable between participating jurisdictions.



*(left to right) R.J. Helmer, Second Assistant Chief, Hurlock VFC; Lenny Pfeffer, President, Dorchester County Volunteer Firemen's Association; Larry Preston, Assistant Director, MFRI; Mike Faust, 2nd Vice President, MSFA; Kimberly Quathamer, Hurlock VFC; Bob Rose, Certification Facilitator, MFSPQB; Richard Smith, Executive Committee, MSFA; Joe Ward, Regional Coordinator, Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute-LESRTC.*

## EMS Bike Units Hit the Road

By Jim Jarboe

At the City of Takoma Park Annual July 4th Parade, the Takoma Park VFD introduced its new "EMS Bike Units". Each of the two units is operated by a member of the TPVFD and is equipped to handle a medical emergency until arrival of an ambulance. Each bike carries basic first aid supplies, oxygen and an automated external defibrillator. Each bike is also equipped with a siren, red lights, megaphone and a portable radio. The bikes will participate in many of the annual community events, and be ready to respond to a medical emergency. Special thanks to member Adam for spearheading the bike project.

## "Plinko" Game back at the Fair!

By Jim Jarboe

This is the second consecutive year that the Takoma Park VFD's popular Plinko Game has made an appearance at the Montgomery County Fair, in the Fire-Rescue Education Tent. During the 4 (10 hour) days it was there, over 800 children and some teens played the game. On Wednesday, 330! Before they could play, they had to answer 2-3 fire safety questions. After playing the game, they would receive a bright plastic "red" firemen's helmet. When it comes to teaching, I am a strong believer, you can learn while having fun and they all did, and so did their parents attending with them. In closing, I want too thank member EMT Nishiuwa Sato Bess for her assistance. Try a game, it might work for you.

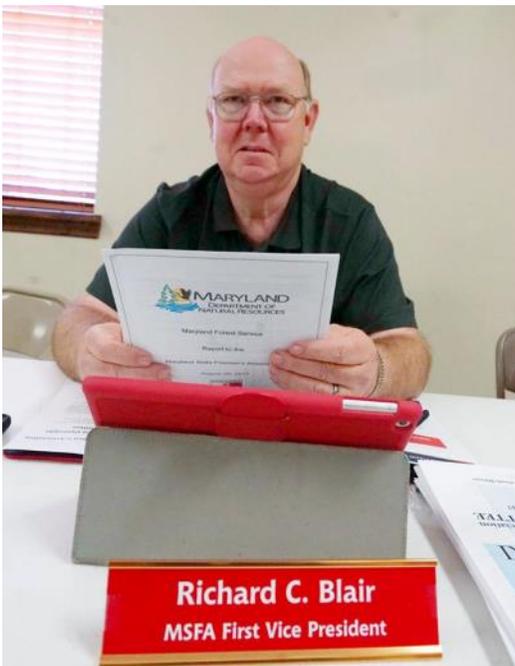


Above L to R EMT Daria Kirilenko and EMT/FF Adam Bearne. Bottom — Jim at work with the "Plinko" game.



# Executive Committee Meets at Reese & Community VFD

Reese, MD. August 26, 2017 — On this last Saturday in August, a beautiful late summer day in Western MD., fire service leaders from throughout the state assembled at the Reese & Community Volunteer Fire Department. The meeting called by President Bilger had a packed agenda, as the Association addresses matters of concern to the volunteer fire, rescue, & EMS service. Here are some views from the sessions as officials went about fire service business.



Photos & article by Dixon; top left — President Bilger; top right—Executive Committee Chair, Charles Simpson; bottom left—1st VP Blair; center — Lauren Caudill reports; bottom right — State Fire Marshal Brain S. Geraci discusses matters with the Association.

MIEMSS NEW BRIEFS

By James Brown,  
Director of Education Support Services  
MIEMMS

**Intranasal Naloxone:  
Factors to Consider**

For a patient who is suspected of having an opioid overdose with respiratory depression or respiratory arrest, civilians and EMS providers should first initiate rescue breathing to provide adequate oxygenation and ventilation.

Without this supportive measure, no amount of naloxone will help the patient—they will die from lack of oxygen. After initiating rescue breathing, naloxone can then be administered via an intranasal route. The nostril is a very vascular structure, but has a limited surface area to absorb the finely-sprayed naloxone. Each nostril can only handle 1 mL of misted naloxone no matter the concentration, as any excess amount of the drug will either go down the back of the nose into the pharynx or run forward out of the nose.

Naloxone comes in concentrations of 0.4 mg/mL or 1 mg/mL; the newer version is the 4 mg/0.1mL concentration. Providers are permitted to use the 4 mg/0.1 mL concentration even though it exceeds the dosage authorized in the current Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers.

The onset of action of the intranasal naloxone is between 4 and 8 minutes, so it is important to maintain adequate oxygenation and ventilations, or conduct CPR, while the naloxone is being absorbed and taking effect.

**EMR-to-EMT Bridge Course**

Maryland has developed a process to streamline the transition of EMR (Emergency Medical Responder) level providers to an EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) level. Working with our partners, we have identified portions of the EMR program that can be credited to-

wards the education required for an EMT. The EMR-to-EMT Bridge Course will reduce the in-classroom time by 21 hours for EMR providers wishing to transition to the EMT level.

**2017 Maryland Medical Protocols**

The printed versions of the 2017 Maryland Medical Protocols for EMS Providers are available to providers. The replacement pages, 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.

~\*~\*~ SAVE THE DATES ~\*~\*~

2017 Education Programs



28th Annual Peninsula Regional Medical Center Topics in Trauma September 22, 2017 Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel, Ocean City, MD

2017 Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference September 26, 2017 The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory 11100 Johns Hopkins Rd, Laurel, MD

MSFA FOUNDATION

*(Continued from page 1)*  
have provided over \$17,000 in scholarships in 2017 to fire and rescue services personnel.

The MSFA Foundation Ltd. invites you to visit our website at [www.msfafoundation.org](http://www.msfafoundation.org) We hope to provide even more scholarship opportunities in the coming years, and ask for your help with this goal. Tax deductible contributions can be made on line via Pay Pal, or by mailing your check or money order to The MSFA Foundation Ltd., 11032 Nicholas Lane, Suite A201, Ocean Pines, Md. 21811.

**Executive Committee Meetings**

**2017-2018**

Aug. 26, 2017 — Reese & Community Volunteer Fire Co.

Dec. 2, 2017 — Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department

Feb. 24, 2018 — Singerly Fire Company

April 14, 2018 — Midland Volunteer Fire Department

June 17, 2018 — Ocean City Convention Starts.



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## Governor Hogan Visits MSFA



The Association has been busy representing the Maryland Fire Service at Conventions over the course of this year. At the two of the events in Ocean City, the Governor stopped by the MSFA booth to talk to representatives. Left Photo: PP Denver, Governor Hogan and PP at the Maryland Association of County's Convention. Right photo: (L to R) left 1st VP Rick Blair, Past President Fred Cross, Governor Hogan, and PP John Denver at the Maryland Municipal League Convention. Photo Credit: The Press Office of Governor Larry Hogan,

## Chip's Logbook

*(Continued from page 5)*

*grant funds to provide a funding resource to at least assure everyone has an entrance physical, a statutory requirement for heart and circulatory malfunction presumption for workers compensation.*

*It is hard to believe there are still active members of our volunteer fire and rescue service that oppose physical for operational members. There is still a certain opposition that reeks of "I am a volunteer you can't tell me what to do" attitude. You are more than a volunteer. You are a professional. You are*

*part of a functional team who's members depend on each other. Your health is a priority to assure the safety of the entire team. As a driver, you have the lives of the personnel and untold civilians in the grip of your palms. As a firefighter, the fellow crew members depend on you to be at the height of readiness. As an EMS provider, your patients depends on you. And most of all, your family depends on you every day.*

*Whether volunteer or career, each year heart attack and circulatory malfunction continue to be the number one cause of line of duty deaths in the fire*

*and rescue service. We must continue to make the health and wellness of our personnel a priority. You have an obligation to your family and your fellow members to make every effort to commit to being physically fit to perform your duty. Above all, make sure EVERYONE GOES HOME!!*

**BE SAFE**

**CHIP**

## Who Are the MSFA Trustee's and What Do They Do?

By Doug Alexander,  
Trustee's Vice Chairman

The MSFA Trustees are five persons elected from the member companies of the MSFA, who are there to administer the Line of Duty injury benefits to member company personnel that are injured, or Line of Duty death benefits to the surviving spouse or dependents of member company personnel that die in the line of duty. The members of the Trustees are elected for a five-year term, thus one Trustee is elected each year at the annual convention. The funds for the Trustee Benefits come from the State of Maryland budget each year and are earmarked for the specific purpose of assisting fire service personnel injured in the line of duty, or assisting the families of personnel killed in the line of duty. The definition of "Line of Duty" injury or death is defined in the Manual of Trustee Benefits and each application for assistance must adhere to these definitions. The MSFA Trustees meet at each Executive Committee meeting and review any claim applications that have been submitted for benefits. The forms are

checked for complete and accurate information. The content is checked for applicability and qualification. Benefits for line of duty injuries can be short term or long term. Death benefits are not only for surviving spouses, but dependent surviving children as well. There is also a benefit for the college education of dependent surviving children. All of these applications must be considered and approved by the Trustees for each case. Key points to remember when filing a claim for Trustee benefits are that the Trustees must be notified of the possibility of an injury claim within 10 days of the injury. This notification can be by e-mail, telephone call, personal contact, or letter. The completed injury claim forms must be received by the Trustees within 30 days of the injury. In the case of a "Line of Duty" death, the Trustees must be notified of the possible death claim within 10 days of occurrence, and the claim filed within 90 days of occurrence. Again, the initial notification can come by e-mail, telephone call, letter, or personal contact. In a situation where

documents needed for the claim to be filed are not available within the time parameters, additional time will be permitted by the Trustees with appropriate notification.

For 2017 – 2018, C. Dan Carpenter from Potomac Heights in Charles County is the Chairman of the Trustees, Doug Alexander from Mount Airy in Carroll County is the Vice Chairman of the Trustees. Jeff Thompson from Chestertown in Kent County is the Secretary/Treasurer, and Terry Thompson from Savage in Howard County, and Ben Kurtz from Jarrettsville in Harford County fill out the Board of Trustees. The Trustees are available to assist a member company in applying for benefits at any time. If anyone should have a question on whether someone is eligible for benefits from the Trustees, or needs assistance with an application, please contact one of the Trustees for assistance. All forms for filing a claim for Trustee benefits are on the MSFA website on the Trustee Benefits

### Passing of Galena Charter Member Harvey Camp

By: Nevin Steffy

Harvey Hurtt Camp, 99-years-old, passed away on July 16, 2017. Mr. Camp was the last remaining Charter Member of the Galena Fire Company, which he joined in 1942. For 25 years he served as an EMT on the ambulance, and was a CPR instructor for 14 years. Mr. Camp was still attending fire company meetings and functions, becoming a fixture tending the coffee maker.

The Galena Fire Company Banquet Hall is named in honor of Mr. Harvey Camp.

A funeral was held for Mr. Camp on Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, honoring him with Fireman and Military Honors, in the Galena Cemetery.

Photo credit to Amy Duhamell



## FABSCOM - Deaf and HOH Program

One of the programs FABSCOM is involved with is the Deaf and HOH Program that was created by Mrs. Peggy Webb. We have a great group that oversees the distribution and installation of the devices. We currently also receive financial support from the MSFA.

The devices we offer are Safe Awakes (bed shaker) and Gentex (strobe). If someone in the State of Maryland, cannot afford a device they can obtain one free of charge through FABSCOM. A medical note of need is required from their doctor or audiologist, along with the application that is available at [www.fabscm.org](http://www.fabscm.org). In the near future, the application will be an online process thanks to Joe with the MD State Fire Marshal's Office.

If your area is not covered on the installer's list, please feel free to contact me to join this worthwhile cause. I can be reached at 410-861-6058 or [debbiegartrell@comcast.net](mailto:debbiegartrell@comcast.net).

Debbie Gartrell-Kemp  
Deaf & HOH Program Manager  
FABSCOM

Please Contact the Person in Your Area to Request a Device

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PG County and Southern MD – Teresa Crisman [TACrisman@co.pg.md.us](mailto:TACrisman@co.pg.md.us)

Prince Georges County Fire Dept. 6820 Webster St. Landover Hills, MD 20784

If you have any problem contacting the representative(s) in the county you live in, or your county is not listed, contact the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program Manager Debbie Gartrell at 410-86

## Thank You Reese & Community VFD for the Hospitality

As President Bilger schedules Executive Committee Meetings around the state there is a lot of behind the scene activity that goes on to support the assembly. For this session, the Reese & Community Volunteer Fire Department hosted the meeting. From early on a fine Saturday morning in late summer, long before representatives arrived, the ladies auxiliary was busy pre-preparing for the arrival of Maryland fire service leaders. This work continued throughout the day as they served lunch and refreshments for 120 guests. President Bilger thanks the company and auxiliary for their final hospitality in hosting the August Meeting



photos & article by Dixon: top left — Jay Prise, EMT, and Norman Schaeffer 1st VP of the Reese & Community VFD; top right— Barbara Richards, financial secretary of the auxiliary and Beverly Markline 1st VP; bottom left — members of the auxiliary Stephanie Geordt, Barbara McComas, Sue Olnick, and Ginger Rill; bottom left — MSFA's Vivian Boyd passes through the serving line; bottom right — Betty Ford president of the auxiliary

### More Coverage of Reese

Photos Top Left 2nd VP Faust monitors the meeting;

top right: Joseph Chornock stands for a report to the Executive Committee;

bottom left — Sarah Paul makes the Miss Fire Prevention report;

center: Chairman Simpson makes a point as he keeps things moving along;

Photos by Dixon

### Executive





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



It was a beautiful Western Maryland day as the Reese & Community Volunteer Fire Company hosted the MSFA Executive Committee Meeting.

Photo: Dixon

