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Fire Department Licenses Plates

By Thomas L. Flint
Chairman, MSFA
Transportation Committee

At the request of Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA) President Bilger, the Transportation Committee was tasked to design art work for a new MSFA License Plate. The Transportation Committee, attended a meeting that was held with the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Administrator Christine Nizer along with mem-



bers of her staff to discuss the process necessary and cost to submit art work to design a new tag. President Bilger and Past President Underwood were also in attendance.

Since that meeting, I have had correspondence and phone calls from The Director and staff of the Compliance of Maryland Vehicle Law and the Director and staff of the Electronics Division. They gave me the information and specifications necessary to submit art work for a new logo design. The logo on the tag is the only thing that could be changed for various reasons. They agreed to al-

low us to present our own design without a charge.

Two designs were submitted to the Directors for review and approval. I am happy to report that one was approved is attached to this memorandum. This is the beginning and the first step in the process.

The process to make the tag, distribution and fees were discussed. This is known as replating and may be a fee associated with replating and this fee may not be waived. There may be a cost to a member. This cost could be a onetime charge of \$25.00 and would only be processed at the member's

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Deputy Chief Jewell Retires

By Robin K. Santangelo
PIO, Frederick County

FREDERICK, MD – After nearly 20 years of public service, Deputy Chief Clarence “Chip” Jewell has announced his retirement as the director of the Frederick County Division of Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services, effective Dec. 31. Over the decades, Mr. Jewell has seen dramatic changes in the fire and rescue service.

He began his county career

in 1972 as a dispatcher with Frederick County Central Alarm.

He also worked in communications for Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Services and had over 20 years in the insurance industry as an insurance agent and insurance education in-



Frederick County Chief Tom Owens presents Deputy Chief Chip Jewell with his helmet upon his retirement.

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The President's Corner

By Mark A. Bilger

I would like to start my remarks by wishing all of the 35,000 volunteer fire and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) personnel in Maryland a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Your dedication to service saves the citizens of Maryland millions of dollars each year.

As the holidays are upon us, it is such a pleasure to take comfort in family and friends... to slow down a bit and savor those things that matter most. Home and health call to all of us. The holiday traditions beckon us also to contemplate the year, and to reflect upon all for which we are grateful.

The Maryland General Assembly will reconvene Wednesday, January 10, 2018, at 12:00 p.m. Once again the Maryland State Firemen's Association will have a strong presents in Annapolis representing our members.

Past President Steve Cox and Executive Committee Member Richard Smith have been working on our Legislative Agenda since our Annual Convention and Conference that was held this past June in Ocean

City.

As in the past, we will be calling upon our members to assist us this session.

So remember when we contact you and ask for your help, it is important that you reach out to your representatives and ask them to support you and all the volunteer fire and EMS personnel in Maryland.

I would like to close my comments by thanking all of the members of the members of the General

I would like to thank all of the members of the General Assembly for their continued support of the volunteer Fire and EMS personnel who give back to their communities every day.

Assembly for their continued support of the volunteer Fire and EMS personnel who give back to their communities every day.

Mark A. Bilger, President

MSFA President, 2017-2018



MFRI Director Edwards Recognized by the Association

By Mike Dixon, Editor

Kent Island, Dec. 2, 2017 -- At today's MSFA Executive Committee Meeting Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) Director Steven T. Edwards made his last report to the Association. He is retiring on January 5, 2018, having served as MFRI's director for 25-years. Prior to his service with MFRI, he was with the Prince Georges County Fire Department for 25-years, beginning as a high school cadet in 1968 and retiring as Chief in 1993.

In his closing remarks, Director Edwards thanked the many individuals and organizations that worked with him to improve emergency service training in Maryland for the past 25 years. "Please know that I deeply appreciate each of your contributions. . . . Everything that

has been accomplished during my tenure as Director has been a joint effort inspired and implemented by the outstanding faculty, staff, and field instructor of MFRI. This has been coupled with the strong support by the many statewide fire, rescue and EMS organizations who have worked with MFRI toward continuing the excellence that Maryland is known for Nationally. When I came to MFRI in 1993, my plan was to work here for perhaps five years and then move on. . . . It has been a true honor and privilege to serve as MFRI Director and to be a part of a great organization.

Following the director's remarks at Kent Island, President Mark Bilger



thanked the director for his service while presenting him with a special honor, a speaking trumpet, from the Association "in recognition of 25 years of outstanding and dedicated serve as the Director of MFRI."

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Volunteer Trumpet Welcomes New Column — Legally Speaking

by Mike Dixon, Editor

In this issue of the *Volunteer Trumpet*, we welcome attorney and Past MSFA President Roger N. Powell’s new column, legally speaking. Mr. Powell, a member of the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Company, was president of MSFA in 2009-2010, and he served as the Association’s attorney for 35 years.

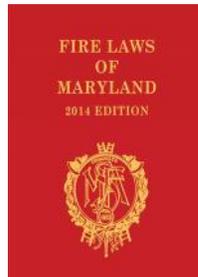
Maintaining a private practice in Pikesville, he has provided representation for many emergency services agencies across the state as legal counsel. The counsellor chartered the Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation, The Maryland Fire Rescue Services Certification Board, the MSFA Foundation, and other corporate bodies.

He has also represented many of the Association’s member companies for various matters over the years. Some of the notable fire service cases he handled included *Haavistola v Community Fire Company* and *Goldstein v Chestnut Ridge Fire Company*. These landmark cases with national significance are reported in multiple federal reporters and both were won at the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals after having been won at the U.S. District Court level

Mr. Powell was named to the MSFA Hall of fame in 1989, and in 2003 he was recognized with the Gladhill-Thompson Trophy for his outstanding contributions to the the Association. He has long been active in reviewing legislation and advising officers on issues affecting the state’s volunteer emergency service members and has served as an advisor to many MSFA committees, including the Constitution and By-laws Committee. For 25-years he was the principal editor of the *Fire Laws of Maryland*.

In “Legally Speaking” he will examine issues of interest to the volunteer fire, rescue & EMS services.

See his column on page 12



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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.

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Transportation Committee Report

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 renewal time.

On December 2, 2017 at the MSFA Executive Committee this art work for a new design and various steps were outlined to the MSFA Executive Committee. After discussion the MSFA Executive Committee approved the art

work for the new design and the steps that will follow. A sample license plate will be made for the Transportation Committee to approve.

When we give final approval, we will finalize.

Procedures:

- Cutoff date for current tag production:

- Procedures to replace your current tags.

- Tag Numbering

At this time nothing has changed continuing obtaining tags from your local coordinator.

Chip's Firehouse Logbook: Past, Present and Future

Firehouse Holidays

by Chief Clarence "Chip" Jewell, III

This time of year, many fire companies join in the spirit of the season by brightly decorating the stations and sometimes even the apparatus. Christmas lights outlining apparatus bay doors, Santa on the roof and tinsel in the firehouse brighten the stations. Family Christmas parties are held inviting all family members to the firehouse. Often, this event is the first exposure the toddlers of members have to the firehouse, and sometimes the first meeting with Santa. Many fire and rescue companies hold a weekend breakfast for a fundraiser. During the Christmas season, "Breakfast with Santa" is a popular event that combines a big breakfast with a visit from the Jolly Old Guy.

Some fire companies are involved in community events, often helping decorate the town Christmas tree. Many companies collect coats, clothing and food during the holidays. Toys for Tots bins are

found in many fire stations. Local Christmas or holiday parades are traditions that almost always involve the local volunteer fire or rescue company. In Frederick, an old time Kris Kringle Procession is conducted with many characters right out of a Charles Dickens scene. The members of the Independent Hose Company No. 1 pull "Romeo", the ornate 1893 Holloway Hose Carriage, through the streets of Frederick with the lanterns lit and brass bells chiming. To the little girls "Romeo" looks like Cinderella's carriage. In many parades, it's the fire engine that brings Santa

to town from the North Pole. Firehouse train gardens are a tradition that goes back decades and has seen somewhat of a revival in recent years. Engine 45 on Glen Avenue in Baltimore City and Wise Avenue

in Baltimore County are two of the more popular train gardens that have entertained thousands of children. The members of Engine 45, Truck 27 and Medic 14 work together to build the last train garden in a Baltimore City Fire Depart-



ment station. This layout has been a labor of love for these firefighters since 1955. The Wise Avenue Volunteer Fire Company picked up a tradition that was originally hosted by the Dundalk Fire Station. When the Dundalk Fire Station of the Baltimore County Fire Department ceased the train garden in 1978, the members of the Wise Avenue Volunteer Fire Company decided to pick up the tradition. The Wise Avenue train garden has been traveling the tracks since 1981. Many other fire stations in Maryland have reinstated this long standing tradition. Christmas tree sales are conducted by many volunteer companies. Members gather around a warming barrel, often providing hot chocolate to the families as they search for the

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"Remember, the four year old that receives the red fire engine for Christmas may well be riding the bucket in 20 years."

"Responses do not stop on holidays. Volunteers often have to leave Christmas dinner or miss opening packages..."

Chief Jewell Retires

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structor.

Mr. Jewell returned to county government in 2003 as the first director of Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service. In 2006, he was promoted to director of the Department of Emergency Communications. In 2014, he returned to the volunteer services as the chief/director of the newly created Division of Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service.

“Chip has been an incredible asset through the years, with an extensive knowledge of Frederick County’s volunteer system that is unmatched,” County Executive Jan Gardner said. “He will be greatly missed.”

“I have truly been honored to serve the citizens of Frederick County as

both volunteer director and the director of emergency communications,” Mr. Jewell said upon announcing his retirement Tuesday. “Our county is so fortunate to have an excellent cadre of volunteers in our more than two dozen volunteer fire and rescue companies. Our dedicated members continue to meet the demands of training while responding to an increasing volume of emergency incidents. I am grateful for the many years of support from the leadership in each company and the officers of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association.”

Mr. Jewell has been an active volunteer in Frederick County since 1969. He will continue to maintain his activi-

ty in the volunteer service as assistant chief of the Libertytown Volunteer Fire Department and life membership at both Libertytown and the Junior Fire Co. No. 2.

He will also continue to serve as a field instructor for the University of Maryland/Maryland Fire-Rescue Institute.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2017—2018

Aug, 26, 2017 — Reese & Community Volunteer Fire Company

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





LOYALTY & PROTECTION

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Across Maryland, Chesapeake Employers' Insurance helps qualified MSFA members keep firefighters safe from accidents and injuries. We're your insurance partner, and we're here when you need us.

MSFA members could earn a group dividend*

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or visit CEIWC.com

*An individual participant will be eligible to receive a group dividend per Chesapeake Employers' Dividend Guidelines.

The logo for Chesapeake Employers Insurance features a stylized bridge or arch above the company name. The text "Chesapeake" is in a large, bold, blue font, and "Employers Insurance" is in a smaller, blue font below it. Underneath, the tagline "Your workers' compensation specialist" is written in a smaller, grey font.

Chesapeake
Employers InsuranceTM
Your workers' compensation specialist

MIEMSS NEWS BRIEFS

By James Brown,
Director of Education Support Services MIEMMS

Guidelines Developed for Bulk Purchasing of Narcan/ Naloxone

Through the Opioid Operational Command Center (OCC), MIEMSS and the Maryland Department of Health Behavioral Health Administration have worked with the Maryland Department of General Services (DGS) to allow jurisdictions to purchase naloxone in bulk pricing from a State of Maryland contract. This has the potential for significant cost savings across the state.

This process works with the Minnesota Multistate Contracting Alliance for Pharmacy (MMCAP), a voluntary group purchasing organization for government facilities that provide healthcare services. A one-page sheet instructing state and local partners on how to purchase naloxone and other medications through the MMCAP/DGS contract has been developed. Please visit: http://www.miemss.org/home/Portals/0/Docs/EMS_News/Guidelines-Purchasing_Narcan-MMCAP-DGS.pdf?ver=2017-12-14-155026-610. Any state or local partner who is eligible to buy off of a statewide contract is eligible to use the MMCAP/DGS contract.

EMS Naloxone Grant Program

The Maryland Behavioral Health Administration, the Opioid Operational Command Center, and MIEMSS are partnering to provide financial relief to EMS Operational Programs (EMSOPs) that are currently carrying the increased burden of providing naloxone without reimbursement from the patient or insurance providers. The reimbursement program will be funded by a \$200,000 grant from the Maryland Behavioral Health Administration to MIEMSS. MIEMSS will pass-through these grant funds to EMSOPs based on the number of previous naloxone administrations where the patient was not transported or refused transport to the hospital. eMEDS® data will be used to determine the number of past naloxone administrations within a defined period.

EMSOPs that do not procure their own pharmaceuticals and instead obtain supplies from local hospitals are prohibited from receiving these grant funds. Although the amount of

grant funds awarded to each jurisdiction will be based on past naloxone administrations, grant funds that are awarded under this program may be used only to purchase new naloxone and not to reimburse for naloxone expenses already incurred. Information detailing the specifics of the grant program will be distributed by MIEMSS to jurisdictions in the near future.

Influenza Vaccine

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) announced the first confirmed cases of seasonal flu for the 2017-2018 influenza season. The virus that causes influenza spreads from person to person through coughing or sneezing, as well as through direct contact with infected people and contaminated surfaces or objects. The influenza vaccine is the best way to protect yourself and your family from becoming ill with influenza. Yearly vaccinations are important because the strains of influenza that circulate change over time. Emergency services personnel should be vaccinated to avoid spreading the disease to others.

National Traffic Incident Response Week

National Traffic Incident Response Week was observed in November to bring public awareness to the dangers that emergency responders face when responding to a traffic incident. Every minute of every day emergency responders



During the National Traffic Incident Response Week press conference, Deputy Fire Chief Dennis Wood, Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department, stressed the need for motorists to move over when coming upon a crash scene as well as scene safety for responders. Members of the Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad were in attendance.

across Maryland work tirelessly to help save lives at the scene of traffic crashes. Nationally, every year hundreds of emergency responders are struck and either injured or killed

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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

Length of Service Award Program & the MD Income Tax Award Subtraction

By Stu Carter
Chairman, Incentive Program Comm.

Length of Service Award Program and the Maryland Income Tax Award Subtraction Modification, Instructions for the individual company Points Coordinator

With the end of 2017 fast approaching it is time to start preparing for the reports to be sent to your County Points Coordinator. They will provide you with their time table for doing so.

In order for a member to qualify for the yearly deduction they must meet the following requirements:

Have earned a minimum of 50 points in ANY 3 of the last 10 years as long as 1 of those years is in the taxable year. In this case the taxable year is 2017. The last 10 years includes 2008 thru

2017.

If a member has accumulated 25 credited years of service the “taxable year” requirement is waived, however they must still make 50 or more points in any 3 of the last 10 years.

A member MUST have served a minimum of 36 full months in order to qualify. For the year 2017 a member must have joined the company as of January 1, 2015. January 1, 2015 thru December 31, 2017 equals 36 months.

Points earned are based on your County’s program or if your County does not have a program it is based on the State program as outlined in the MSFA tax incentive form MSFA-P.2.2 (Revised 7/17). 50 points must be earned in at least 2 or more categories.

The Maryland State Income Tax Award Modification does not allow deductions for members serving active duty in the Military unless they are in the Reserves or National Guard.

For the taxable year 2017 qualified members can deduct \$4,500.00 from their gross State income by using Maryland Income Tax form number 502 under “Other Subtractions From Income”. They will need to send MSFA tax incentive form MSFA-P.2.2 (Revised 7/17) either with their tax return or separately if filing on line.

Be sure you follow the LOSAP rules as defined by your Count Code. Be sure to maintain records proving your members activities.

MIEMSS News Update

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while responding. To bring attention to the dangers faced by all responders to traffic incidents the Maryland Department of Transportation hosted a media event at the northbound I-95 rest area near Laurel on November 15, 2017. This provided an opportunity to emphasize the importance of the move over law and distracted driving. Everyone is asked to slow down and move over when passing an incident scene to provide a protective buffer for the traveler, responders, and motorists traveling behind.

Maryland State Police Fire and EMS Polar Bear Plunge Friday, January 26, 2018

The Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge is the largest Plunge in the world with over 10,000 brave plungers raising money in support of Special Olympics Maryland by jumping into the Chesapeake Bay in the middle of the winter. The Plunge for the general

public will be held on Saturday, January 27, 2018. On Friday, January 26, 2018, at noon any law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMS personnel, and military personnel are welcome to participate in the Police, Fire, and EMS Polar Bear Plunge. The event will take place at Sandy Point State Park, 1100 E College Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21409. To register yourself or a team, please go to: plungemd.com.



During the December meeting of the Statewide Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (SEMSAC) a plaque recognizing MFRI Director, Steven T. Edwards was presented for his dedicated service as a member of the SEMSAC. Dr. Murray Kalish, Chair of SEMSAC, noted the commitment with which the Director served on the Council made a lasting impact to the delivery of emergency medical services in the State of Maryland.

Chip's Logbook

(Continued from page 5)

prefect tree. These sales are an excellent opportunity for community outreach and fire safety education, especially Christmas tree safety. Maryland State Fire Marshal Brain Garaci reminds us to be sure to distribute Christmas tree safety tags. Senior company members that may no longer participate operationally frequently show up at the "Christmas Tree Lot", very much a social event.

One of the most popular, and potentially most dangerous, holiday events are the annual "Santa Runs". The fire company takes Santa throughout the community, usually perched on top of an engine or ladder truck. A great public relations event, often garnering donations. With lights flashing and sirens wailing, children peak from their house to see Santa ride by, waving in the glow of Circle D lights. For many children,

this special detail is the highlight of the year. Some fire engines are loaded with candy canes and other treats as children wave down Santa. Though a great public relation project, Santa runs pose hidden dangers.

As advocates for safety, it is a very difficult dichotomy. Santa riding on top of a fire truck is an institution. But, there have been fatal injuries when Santa fell off of a fire engine. Attempts to prohibit the Santa runs in one county was considered almost communist. But, the safety factor is very real. The additional concern of small children running towards a fire truck at night to get candy poses an even higher level of risk. I even shudder at parades in the daylight of summer when candy is thrown out of vehicles. I am not advocating eliminating Santa runs, but, I share the safety concerns of someone riding on top of an engine and children running to-

wards a fire truck in the dead of night, especially in subdivisions without sidewalks or street lights.

Responses do not stop on holidays. Volunteers often have to leave Christmas dinner or miss opening packages on Christmas morning to assist a neighbor in need. Our brother and sisters in service are on duty in stations away from their families. The holidays are a very special time for the fire service family. The firehouse can be a magical place during the holidays. The fire truck is often Santa's sleigh. Remember, the four year old that receives the red fire engine for Christmas may well be riding the bucket in 20 years.

Be in the holiday spirit, but always,
BE SAFE

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season,

CHIP

During Unusual Weather Conditions When Your PPE/Clothing Gets Wet

By Jim Jarboe, Takoma Park VFD

How many have you been on call when your PPE, especially your clothing, -- socks, gloves, hood -- become wet. When they are wet they not only cause discomfort when worn, but may be injurious to one's health in that they can contribute to burns, colds and frostbite. There are departments that carry a supply of extra clothing, especially during inclement weather, also some departments encourage their members to have a bag with extra clothing and place it on the apparatus. I am sure this came in handy, especially with the extreme bitter cold spell we went through the end of December to the first week of

January 2018.

It was terrible, if you had to be out there, especially fighting a fire. Back in the 70's, my department came up with a "Weather Kit" containing the following: 4 pairs of waterproof gloves, 12 pairs of cotton "work type" gloves, and 8 insulated hooded sweatshirts (various sizes), and 12 pairs of stretch type thermal socks. In case you don't have dry replacement clothing, you might try a conventional vacuum cleaner. Simply attach the vacuum to the exhaust or blower side of the unit. This will provide a steady flow of relatively warm air.

I am sure all the departments out there, are looking out for their personnel. I

just wanted to share this with you, in the interest of safety to all, especially during extreme weather. Take care and stay warm.



Legally Speaking

BENEFITS FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS - WORKER'S COMPENSATION

By Roger N. Powell, Esq.

The Maryland State Fireman's Association in fulfilling its mission statement "... to serve, promote, advocate and represent the interest of the volunteer rescue and emergency medical services of Maryland", has been instrumental in securing worker's compensation benefits for volunteers beginning in 1991 by statute incorporated into the Labor and Employment Article of The Annotated Code of Maryland in title 9 section 9-234 which same defines when a volunteer is on duty entitling said volunteer to receive benefits in the event of an injury while he/she is "on duty" as therein defined and further defining the benefits to which the volunteer is entitled.

"On duty" means fighting a fire, performing a duty of a member of an advance life support unit or an ambulance, first aid or rescue squad in a volunteer company, performing a duty that the volunteer company assigns to the member, performing a duty that a by-law or rule of government adopted for the volunteer fire company assigns to the volunteer, going to or performing a duty included in the foregoing, accompanying an accident or fire victim while the victim is being transported in a helicopter and returning to the volunteers home station following the accompaniment of the injured victim.

Effectively, anything done or performed by the volunteer for or on behalf of his company including going to or returning from the activity is covered.

The statute additionally determines how benefits are calculated for the volunteer.

Initially, all medical care expense is covered. There is an additional benefit known as temporary total disability which is paid to the volunteer while he is totally disabled from an accident or incident until such time as the volunteer can return to "full duty" and thereafter, benefits for what is known as permanent partial disability to the extent that some of the disability is permanent but is partial for instance (by way of example) the workers compensation commission determines the volunteer has sustained a 25% disability to his arm as a result of an injury. That disability is permanent partial disability

The monetary benefits to which a volunteer is entitled are determined based upon the volunteer's salary in his regular employment or, if the volunteer is not employed full time on the average weekly wage determined by

the legislature on a yearly basis to be the Maryland average weekly wage.

Additionally, there are benefits to which a volunteer is entitled in the event of occupational disease. Unlike an accidental injury which is generally a sudden occurrence an occupational disease is something that develops over a long period of time before it is diagnosed.

*“Wear your seatbelts.
Wear your turnout
gear and positive
pressure air supply.
Don't take risks.
Everyone goes
home!”*



There are presumptions in the Maryland law regarding heart attacks and some cancers entitling a volunteer who suffers a heart attack or is diagnosed with one of the types of cancers described in the statute, that the heart attack or disease is as a result of strain of employment or exposures in employment to the volunteer that occurred during the years the volunteer performed services as a volunteer.

The Maryland State Fireman's Association through its legislative committee continues yearly to lobby the legislature to expand the occupational disease presumptions so that a volunteer sustaining such an occupational disease is presumed to have sustained the disease in the course of performing his duties as a volunteer to remove any question or doubt of the volunteer's entitlement of benefits.

Workers compensation was initially enacted by the legislature to remove the issue of an injury and compensation from any controversy involving an employee who was injured while working thereby providing benefit for his employer.. It was the original "no fault" statute whereby the law provided that an injury arising out of the course of one's employment was not

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Executive Committee Meets at Kent Island VFD

Kent Island, Dec. 2, 2017 -- On this fine Saturday in early December on Maryland's Eastern Shore fire service leaders from throughout the state assembled at the Kent Island Volunteer Fire Company. The meeting called by President Bilger had a packed agenda as the Association addressed matters of concern to the volunteer fire, rescue & EMS services. President Bilger thanks the Kent Island Vol. FD for its hospitality. Here are some views from the sessions as officials addressed the business of Maryland's first responders .



Center Left — Barbara Steiner, a life member and trustee of Church Creek VFC takes notes. A retired school teacher, Mrs. Steiner is an EMT, and a past president of the company. She has also served as ambulance captain; Center Right — Secretary Dole, a PP, is always business handling the Association's paperwork and administrative business.; Bottom - a standing ovation for Director Edwards.



Make Your Plans for the 2018 NVFC Training Summit

By Kimberly Quiros
Chief of Communications, NVFC

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is pleased to announce that pre-registration is now open for the 2018 NVFC Training Summit. The NVFC's signature training conference will take place June 1-2, 2018, in Concord, NC. Scholarships are available for NVFC Members.

This two-day seminar provides an opportunity to participate in valuable classroom training as well as exchange ideas and best practices with attendees from across the country. The conference is open to all volunteer firefighters, EMTs, department leadership, and other fire department personnel nationwide. Attendees will be able to select six out of 12 breakout sessions to attend, with sessions addressing critical issues in first responder health and safety, recruitment and retention, and fire prevention. Full

registration with course descriptions will be available in February 2018. Read more about the 2017 event here.

The registration fee for the Summit is \$75, which includes two days of training from industry leaders and most meals. To help more first responders attend, a scholarship is available for select attendees. Scholarships will be awarded on a monthly basis, with deadlines on the first of each month from January- April. The scholarship will reimburse up to two nights hotel at the room block rate, plus up to \$500.00 per person for transportation expenses. In addition, the registration fee will be waived. To apply for a scholarship, complete this form. Each individual requesting a scholarship must apply separately; a maximum of two people per department can receive reimbursement. To be considered eligible for reimbursement, you or your de-

partment must be a current member of the NVFC. Membership options and benefits can be found at www.nvfc.org/BeYourBest.

Attendance is limited! Reserve your spot today at <https://nvfc.wufoo.com/forms/2018-nvfc-training-summit-preregistration/>. Learn more about the Summit at www.nvfc.org/summit. Questions? Contact Rachel Buczynski, Event Planner, at Rachel@nvfc.org or 571-969-7590.

###

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is the leading nonprofit membership association representing the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services. The NVFC serves as the voice of the volunteer in the national arena and provides invaluable tools, resources, education, programs, and advocacy for first responders across

Legally Speaking

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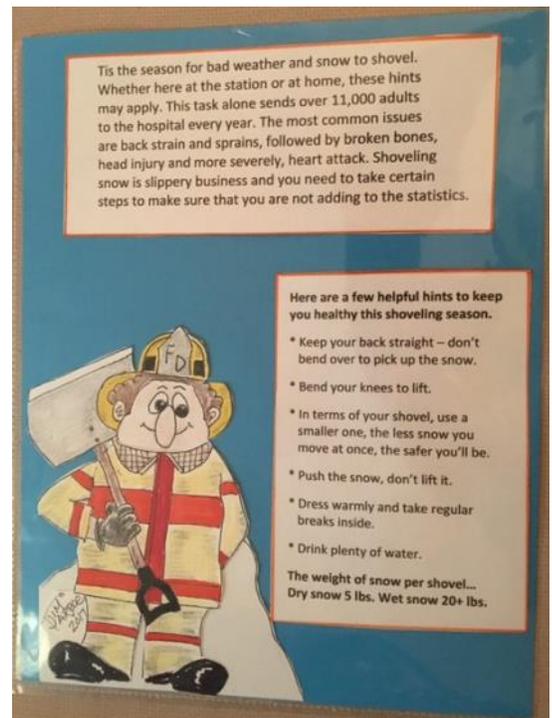
such that could be defended against by alleging that the injury occurred as a result of the employees own clumsiness or negligence, the theory being that the employer receiving the benefit of the employees labors should not be entitled to deny a benefit to such employee for medical care and other benefits which prior to the enactment of statues could be subject to the employers opposing the right to benefits.

So, to the extent that a volunteer sustains an injury while either performing a task or otherwise responding to the fire house or returning from the fire house to his home or any other circumstances

enumerated above, that volunteer is entitled to all of the benefits of workers compensation I have outlined in the foregoing.

In recent years counties have worked to provide blanket policies covering all of the volunteer stations in their jurisdiction either through a policy of insurance or through self insurance. The important take away here is that the benefit for the volunteers is here and available although it is the hope of leadership that none of us are ever in a position where we are obliged to make a claim.

Wear your seatbelts. Wear your turnout gear and positive pressure air supply. Don't take risks. Everyone goes home!



A safety poster by Jim Jarboe of the Takoma Park VFD

Kent Island Meeting—Continued 13



Top Left — Deputy Chief Jeffries and Asst. Chief Bennett of the Shaft VFD addressed the Executive Committee; bottom center — Chief McIntosh of the Lisbon VFC and his staff address the committee; bottom left—Eric Smothers; bottom right — 1st VP Blair and 2nd VP Faust listen as President Bilger makes the presentation to Director Edwards.



Engine that's been away for a long time returns home

By Mike Dixon, Editor

Sudlersville Fire Engine No. 1, a 1927 American LaFrance, has occupied practically every corner of the Chesapeake Bay region over the course of 90 years. But now this well-traveled firefighting machine has returned home, Christmas arrived early for members of the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company.

The sturdy unit made its return on October 14, 2017, as MSFA 2nd VP Mike Faust, Chief Joseph Apple and Asst Chiefs Robert Nicholson and Chris Stant rolled their original engine "Francie" back into station 6. Here's the story of how the engine that has been away from home for 55-years returned to the community it protected for generations.

When the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company was organized in 1927, the members purchased their first engine, the 1927 American LaFrance. Once the Elmire NY factory finished building it, the company shipped it by railroad to Sudlersville. It was an exciting day at the town depot when the local freight train pulled in with the machine. This tireless unit outlasted many newer vehicles, but finally the time came to relieve it of duty so it was put up for sale in 1962.

Lyle Smith, a member of the Old Dominion Historical Fire Society (ODHFS), discovered the rusty, timeworn vehicle in *Rising Sun* in 1985. He bought the aging truck, hauling it to his home in Hampton VA, where he began restoration work. After Mr. Smith passed away in 1991, Michael French, purchased it from Mrs. Smith. While making the arrangements, she showed Mike "the factory delivery photo," which initiated the reconnection with the Sudlersville company.

Shortly after that, Mr. French called

the Sudlersville firehouse located in Queen Anne's County, seeking historical information on the unit. He spoke with a member Kurt Wise who was "momentarily taken aback that the vehicle was still in existence and undergoing restoration in Hampton," he recalled. Mr. Wise expressed a

great interest, saying the members would want it back at the Sudlersville Station if there was ever an opportunity.

Restoration continued over the years until the work was practically done. At that point, Mr. French concluded that

After 90 years, Sudlersville Engine # 1, known as Francie, was reunited at station 6.

"Even a beautiful fire engine, in a garage makes for very dull company after restoration. It's the sharing with people through parades, car shows, church events, and even terrorizing the neighborhood that brings the fire engine to life."

In September 2017, Mr. French was contacted by a Past President of Sudlersville and the current 2nd VP of the MSFA Michael Faust about the truck. He had been looking for the



The Baltimore Sun Image Taken March 18, 1939 in front of Fire Station Driver- Edgar Maule

On March 18, 1939, Fireman Edgar Maule is picture by the Baltimore Sun in front of the original fire station.

truck hoping to reconnect with the current owner to discuss having the truck available for special events and the company's 100th Anniversary in 1927.

The first stop was to speak with Mr. Wise but he had lost the owners contact information due to a computer issue. The only lead VP Faust had was from two younger members, William Davis and Justin Skinner. They were looking for the vehicle and had located a picture of the truck from a 2006 car show in Hampton, VA but they did not know how to go about locating the owner. VP Faust used this information and some new facts he found to track down Mr. French through a contact he had with the Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA). The AACA held the event in 2006 and luckily had a way to contact Mr. French.

When the two men spoke, Mr. French explained that "Francie" was currently in his garage being semi-

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Kent Island Meeting—Continued

(Continued from page 16)

retired. VP Faust then told him that he could not officially speak for the fire company but he and several members would love to have our first engine back and if he ever decided to sell it please put Sudlersville at the top of the list. Mr. French simply asked if we would take as good of care of her as he did to which VP Faust replied "probably better." VP Faust explained

that he was a fourth generation firefighter in Sudlersville and that his Great Grandfather was the town's first Chief and it was very important to him personally that the truck find its way home.

Mr. French, after reading in fire engine magazines "heart-warming stories of how beloved fire engines made dramatic reunions years later with stations that they proudly served as the veteran firemen remember caring for these vehicles," decided the time had arrived to now have this rich opportunity and donated the engine back to Sudlersville. "The realiza-

tion hit like a ton of bricks that Lyle Smith and I were entrusted as temporary caretakers of a very special piece of antique motor fire apparatus that must be shared with others," Mr. French remarked.

Thus, after 90 years, Sudlersville # 1, known as Francie, was reunited at station 6. VP Faust noted that nearly 70 people were on hand for the grand reunion including several members that were members when it was in service. Plans now are for a little more "spiffing up for the station's 100th anniversary in 2027," VP Faust notes. It is also expected to lead the Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention Parade in 2019 when Mike Faust becomes the first member of the Sudlersville Fire Company to serve as the president of the MSFA.

"I'll be eternally grateful for a 25 year "love affair and caretaker calling" with this 1927 American LaFrance Fire Engine from Elmira, New York, # 7445, that I affectionately named "Francie." I've heard the quote that one antique fire engine is too much but three are not enough. Francie was "just right" and will always be a



Francie participated in the 2002 Fort Monroe Car Show.

forever friend. I have thoroughly enjoyed the "deep dive" into the exciting realm of antique fire engines and especially the wonderful friendships with the people who also love, care for, and appreciate them," Mr. French concluded.

Editor's Note — The Volunteer Trumpet thanks Mike French for a detailed history. This article was taken from Mr. French's narrative and information provided by MSFA VP Faust.

"After reading in fire engine magazines "heart-warming stories of how beloved fire engines made dramatic reunions years later with stations . . . decided the time had arrived . . .?"



(L TO R) Chief Joseph Apple, Asst Chief (and head mechanic) Chris Stant, (our hero) Michael French, Past President Michael Faust, and Asst Chief Robert Nicholson III



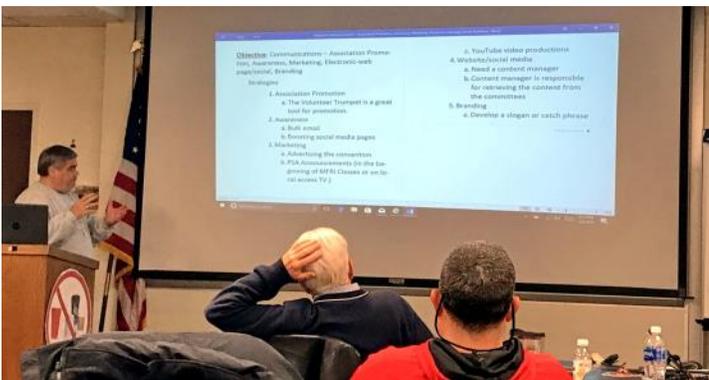
A grand reunion. Picture (L to R) are three life members that were active when Francie was in service and they are still active today - Henry Engrem, Dickie Walls, and Theodore Kimble

Kent Island Meeting—Continued from page 15



Top Left & Right — KVFID provided excellent hospitality for the meeting; Center Left—Pres. Bilger makes remarks; center right — Ray Stevens, Chesapeake City FC, along with Pat Deamond (president), Howard Flower, and Charles Steward of the North East Fire Company; above & bottom right — As a mild, late autumn day on the Shore came to a close, the Association concluded its business. Dr. Alcorta is leaving after finishing the MIEMSS report.

2018 Leadership Strategic Planning Conference



2nd VP Blair has been busy traveling around the State, and he submitted this photo of Pres. Bilger speaking at the strategic planning conference.



The US Dept of Homeland Security

2017

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FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM WORKSHOPS

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January 23	Tuesday	North Central Regional Office (NCRO), to be held at the Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Company; Carnival Activities Bldg
January 24	Wednesday	Northeast Regional Training Center (NERTC)
January 25	Thursday	Upper Eastern Shore Regional Training Center (UESRTC), Centreville
January 29	Monday	MFRI Headquarters, College Park
January 30	Tuesday	Southern MD Regional Training Center (SMRTC), La Plata
January 31	Wednesday	Western Maryland Regional Training Center (WMRTC), Cresaptown
February 1	Thursday	Lower Eastern Shore Regional Training Center (LESRTC), Princess Anne

Pre-Registration Is Not Required To Attend A Workshop



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Representing the volunteer fire,
rescue and EMS personnel of
Maryland

Professionalism and Respect.....



By Bruce Secrist

I have always had the utmost respect for the men and women in BLUE but this photo speaks volumes — a simple hand shake is worth a 1000 words. I snapped this picture yesterday on the scene of a serious MVC in Centreville. Trooper 1 was on the scene to pick up a single patient for transport to the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore. This is how the flight paramedic greeted the ground crew. The photo definition of professionalism....

