By: Jonathan Dayton, NREMT

Hi, Everyone. As a new columnist I wanted to introduce myself. I’m a recent graduate of Frostburg State University, majoring in Psychology/Pre-Medicine. I’m also a graduate of Columbia Southern University with an associate degree in Fire Science. I currently reside in Allegany County, MD with my wife Addy. Many of you may recognize my last name and know my Father Tim Dayton, who serves on the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Executive Committee.

Furthermore, I’m a volunteer Firefighter/EMT for Potomac Volunteer Fire Company of Westernport, MD and Baltimore Pike Volunteer Fire Company of Cumberland, MD. In addition to my volunteer firefighting efforts, I serve as vice president for the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (AGCVFRA) and serve on several committees within the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA).

My primary responsibility for both organizations is running their social media accounts. With my new column I plan to write about social media within the fire service and how it can and should be utilized. I also plan to give a new generational perspective on a broad topic list within the Maryland volunteer fire and ems service. As a younger columnist I highly believe a new generational perspective on different topics is key, to the ever-changing volunteer fire service.

I will also write about anything that catches my attention as I go-about my daily duties as a first responder or as a committee person for the AGCVFRA or MSFA.

I’m also very open to discussions with anything I write about, feel free to contact me at jonathan.m.dayton@gmail.com.
The President’s Corner

It’s still sinking in that I am the current President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. It has been a goal of mine for more than 25 years and I am truly honored to hold this position. It’s also hard to believe that I only have 10 months left and I have several things I’d like to get accomplished this year.

I would like to start with an update on what happened before we left the beach that I think are very positive.

Update
First the leaders of the MSFA met with our State partners on Tuesday afternoon to discuss their current and pending issues but also how we (the three Presidents) plan to communicate more and more frequently. We promised a brief note from the President after each Executive Committee meeting. It won’t be anything “official” but simply the things we think people need to know. This has been and will be sent to our partners, MSFA Officers, and past Presidents.

Second, we promised to send our partners the Executive Committee agenda well in advance of the three meetings to give them a chance to prepare. They were glad to hear both items and glad we set this meeting up. I believe both Chuck and Joel plan to continue to have this meeting each year and to provide the two items mentioned above if they are elected to lead this Association.

Agenda Change
We also mentioned a slight change in our Executive Committee agenda that everyone needs to know about. People should plan to show up both days by 9:00 but on Saturday the actual Executive Committee meeting won’t start until 10:30. The first hour and a half is set aside for committee meetings and the partners have agreed to be there by 9:00 too. We hope the committees and our partners communicate about any pending issues. The committees will then report after the partners so that we can have all parties in the room.

Also, we hope that providing time for the committees to meet at the Executive Committee meetings will:

- Improve communication between the committees and our partners
- Encourage more people to attend the Executive Committee meetings
- Allow other Presidents and other officers the chance to sit in committee meetings they may not have normally attended

Please note that Sunday’s meeting will mainly be MSFA business and it will start at 9:00. The dress for Sunday’s meeting has changed to business casual. Men are asked to wear a jacket and tie and women to dress accordingly as we have done in previous years. We feel it is more professional and appropriate since we are doing meaningful business of the Association.

We also left the beach having addressed a concern with an appeals process for decisions made by the Trustees. The leadership of the MSFA worked with the Trustees to develop the appeals process which will be discussed at our meeting (Continued on page 3)
President’s Column

(Continued from page 2)

in September.

Shortly after leaving the beach I began working on my letter to the Governor. I submitted my letter on July 30, 2019. Although I didn’t ask for an increase in our allotment, I did address our immediate need to have the funding source for the VCAF program be turned back on. Below is an excerpt from the letter.

What the MSFA needs

The MSFA is requesting that Governor Hogan and, if necessary, the General Assembly, replenish the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund (VCAF) to provide a funding level that will support the program’s purpose of providing adequate fire protection and rescue services across the State. The MSFA is extremely appreciative to have the VCAF program. It is an essential tool in keeping Maryland’s volunteer fire, rescue, and EMS organizations viable. Many departments are fiscally challenged and with increasing costs of operating a volunteer fire company, the VCAF program is vital in providing companies an affordable means to purchase, replace or improve firefighting and rescue equipment and facilities used to house firefighting equipment.

Why: The VCAF program empowers local volunteer Fire, EMS and Rescue companies to update their emergency response equipment and facilities and provide Maryland citizens with more reliable services. In many towns across the state, the local volunteer Fire, EMS and Rescue station is the community centerpiece, the community assembly point, and the place that community members celebrate the delivery of new equipment and/or updated facilities. At those celebrations, the Fire, EMS or Rescue company spotlights the value of the VCAF program and the continued support of the General Assembly to its volunteers.

Many of the 362 volunteer companies across the state have aging and failing equipment and facilities. Some companies are responding to calls with 20-plus year-old fire engines and out-of-date support equipment. The MSFA is now challenged with an all-time low Fund balance because of the program’s success and the rising cost of equipment and facilities. The following are average costs of apparatus and facilities often needed to be purchased by volunteer departments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire engine</td>
<td>$550,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ladder truck</td>
<td>$1.2m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulance</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire station</td>
<td>$2.5m - $8m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The VCAF has provided sixty-two (62) loans and grants from FY 2014 through FY 2018. Funds totaling $19,990,451.22 enabled 53 Maryland volunteer Fire, EMS and Rescue companies to purchase, replace, and improve equipment and facilities. The dollar amounts for approved VCAF loans and grants include:

- **LOAN AWARDS:** $18,308,202.42
- **GRANT AWARDS:** $1,965,748.80

According to vehicle data supplied by the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration, in order to replace Maryland’s aging volunteer fire and EMS vehicles as they reach 20 – 25 years of service as suggested by NFPA standards over the next 7 years, we are formally and respectfully requesting that the moving vehicle ticket revenue source be

(Continued on page 5)
“when a member of your own fire department dies in the line of duty, the realization of the tragedy and emotions set in quickly.”

Chip’s Firehouse Logbook

It’s Different When It’s Yours

by Chief Clarence “Chip” Jewell, III

For over 20 years, I have been involved in the National Fallen Firefighter’s Memorial Weekend. I have assisted departments that suffered a line of duty death in Frederick for over 40 years. Being there to support families or help in preparations to memorialize the fallen is an honor. But, when a member of your own fire department dies in the line of duty, the realization of the tragedy and emotions set in quickly.

June 25 was a busy day for the Libertytown Volunteer Fire Department. The day began a little after 4 AM when the station was dispatched on the second alarm for a house fire in Carroll County. Mike Powers and I both arrived at the station, but missed the apparatus responding. We remained back to man additional units. About 20 minutes later, the alarm again sounded for a patient assist. Mike driving, I was riding officer, and a county medic responded, an early call for all, a day that was to forever change our department.

Mike Powers was a personal friend even before he moved to Libertytown. I first met Mike as a young high school age firefighter at the Carroll Manor Fire Company in about 1970. His fire service career began years earlier at the Brunswick Volunteer Fire Company. Mike was a veteran of the Vietnam War and continued to serve his country in the reserves. He served his community for 50 years as a volunteer firefighter. His life was one of service.

When he moved to Libertytown he immediately joined the Libertytown Volunteer Fire Department as an active operational member. He turned 70 years old this year, and initially announced he was “retiring” from operational status. With a decrease in available volunteer drivers over several months, he decided to get his operational physical and return to driving apparatus. On June 25, 2019, he took off work from a job he had held for 43 years with the Montgomery School Board to “get a few things done around the house” which is why I was surprised to see him show up for an incident at 4 AM.

His response that morning was not his only response, his last alarm came later that afternoon as a dispatch to a serious auto-

(Continued on page 8)
President's Report

(Continued from page 3)

reestablished to replenish the Fund.

It is our hope that the funds get turned back as soon as possible because it is our understanding that it does not require legislation. More to follow on this important topic.

Since leaving the beach, it has been an extremely two months for all three Presidents. We have attended numerous meetings separately, but we have also made it a point to attend some meetings together. It gives the three of us a chance to talk as well as showing that the three of us are working together and not going down our own paths. We talk often but the time spent in the car has proven to be invaluable. Look at our reports to the Executive Committee for more details.

In early August we held our Leadership Summit which I found very valuable. Our goals were to improve the effectiveness in communication as a team and to build unity of purpose. Wesley Huey and Michelle Gellert from Skyline Technology Solutions ran the Saturday session and I found real value in it. If you want to learn a little about what was discussed I encourage you to YouTube and watch the video on the golden circle. Here’s the link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qp0HlF35f4

Personally, I think this concept will help the Association and our member companies with Recruitment and Retention. It’s a different approach that I believe in.

I will wrap up my column with a quick note about a really important issue we are addressing. Our legislative committee is already working for us in Annapolis and around the State and the issue of required sprinklers has been raised by Worcester County and it is currently supported by Wicomico County Commissioners. The legislative committee and MSFA officers have been working with our local jurisdictions to oppose their efforts. I feel that this directly impacts one of our most important duties as an association which is the protection of our members and the community. I hope you all agreed that we must oppose any efforts that remove the sprinkler requirements.

That’s it for now and I hope to see you as I travel around the State and at upcoming Executive Committee meetings. Be safe and watch out for each other.

Mike Faust
MSFA President, 2019-2020

MSFA Officials Attend Inaugural VA First Responder Conference

Aug. 10, 2019 — Hampton, VA — left to right: Kate Tomanelli, Chuck Walker, Jimmy Byer (president Virginia State Firefighters Association), Joel McCrea, Frank Underwood (Out of State Committee) at the Inaugural First Responder Virginia Conference
Length of Service Award Program and the Maryland Income Tax Award

With the end of 2019 approaching it’s time to start preparing for the reports to be sent to your County Points Coordinator. They will provide you with their timetable for doing so.

In order for a member to qualify for the yearly deduction they must meet the following requirements: 1) 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 2019. The last 10 years includes 2010 thru 2019; 2) 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; 3) A member MUST have served a minimum of 36 full months in order to qualify. For the year 2019 a member must have joined the company as of January 1, 2017. January 1, 2017 thru December 31, 2019 equals 36 months; and 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). Fifty 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 2019 qualified members can deduct $5,000.00 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 7/19) either with their tax return or separately if filing on line.

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

Stu Carter
Chairman
Incentive Programs Committee

MSFA at the Maryland Municipal League Conference

OCEAN CITY, June 25, 2019 — Members of the MSFA Marketing Committee, Legislative Committee, Executive Director attended the Maryland Municipal League Conference In Ocean City, Maryland Sunday-Tuesday.
Wally ‘s Quiz — Round 3

By Jim Jarboe

Are You Smarter than the old time fire chief?

1. The well known "Halligan Bar" was invented by a firefighter from what fire department?
2. A fire hydrant with just two 2-1/2" outlets is called what?
3. On the TV series "Emergency", what animal appears on the flag in front of Station 51?
4. Which NFPA standard addresses health & safety?
5. What is the name of the Executive Director for MFRI?
6. The "Jaws of Life" tool was invented in what year?
7. Name the special cut at the beginning of the thread on a hose coupling that eliminates cross threading?
8. What are the last four numbers for the National Capitol Poison Center (1-800-222-______)?
9. On the TV series "Chicago Fire", what is Boden's rank?
10. What is the name of the aluminum fire helmet worn in the early days?

See Wally's answers on page 8

LOYALTY & PROTECTION
Qualities Every Fire Company Expects from Its Workers’ Comp Company

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*

Ask your local agent for a quote or visit CEiWC.com

*An individual participant will be eligible to receive a group dividend per Chesapeake Employers’ Dividend Guidelines.
mobile accident. As he had hundreds of time in the last 45 years, he responded to the station and drove apparatus.

Only five minutes had passed from arriving on the scene to the incident commander transmitting “firefighter down.” It all happened in slow motion, but in lightning speed. Everyone sprang into action and did everything right. Despite efforts on scene, enroute to the hospital and at the hospital, he was unable to be revived.

Mike Powers was an example of the demographic of much of today’s volunteer fire service. Our active members are graying without the numbers needed to replace them. Mike had announced his “retirement” from operational status at age 70. But, because some active apparatus drivers moved out of the area, he renewed his physical and rejoined the ranks. His dedication to make sure his department responded is a reflection of so many of our veteran members today, members that many towns depend on to get the rigs on the street.

An average of 80 firefighters die in the line of duty each year. Usually, at least half of the LoDD’s in any year are medical emergencies, often heart related. Thankfully, the number of line of duty deaths today is almost half of the average of about 160 annual line of duty deaths in the 1970’s. But one line of duty death is one too many. You never think it can happen in your own department. You never think twice about responding. But has happened us and it can happen to any department. Every county in Maryland has suffered line of duty deaths.

Baltimore City has by far the largest number. But, tragedy can hit any department at any time. When it does, the support from throughout the nation is overwhelming. Literally hundreds of cards and letters of condolences, from FDNY to small communities in the nation’s heartland, even numerous union locals offered their sympathies to a rural volunteer firefighter that made the supreme sacrifice.

MSFA President Mike Faust reached out with sympathy and empathy. Just a few short years ago, his department suffered a line of duty death of their chief. He understood the grief and pain suffered by our department. He knew what we were going through. He understood the responsibility of providing honors to a fallen hero.

The family of Mike Powers will never recover. It is a void in their lives that will never be filled. Like many in the fire service, his family is a true fire service family. Both of his son-in-laws are career firefighters. Both of his daughters are volunteers. The family is fire service. They know and understand the challenges and dangers of responding to the unknown. They understand the stress on the human body each time the alarm sounds.

They know that Mike Powers died doing what he committed himself to do over 50 years ago, protecting his community.

The pain will never go away from his family. His loss will never be replaced by our department. Whether career or volunteer, we all know what we signed up for. Mike knew the risk, Mike knew the need. Rest in Peace, Mike. Well done, O good and faithful servant.

Be Safe
Chip

Wally’s Answers (see quiz on page 7)

Answers...

1. NYFD
2. Mae West
3. Bear
4. 1500
5. Michael E. Cox, Jr.
6. 1961
7. Higbee
8. 1222
9. Battalion Chief
10. Senator
Dear readers,

On August 6, Deputy State Fire Marshals established a presence across the state for the country’s annual National Night Out. From the mountains of Western Maryland to the farmlands of the Eastern Shore, our office made certain to blanket the regions we serve every day in an effort to engage the community in fire prevention efforts. Whether it was a group of students mesmerized by the technology of our Bomb Squad Robot, or families watching in awe as our accelerant detection K-9 demonstrated how keen their skills are, there was something for every member of the community to enjoy and learn.

Community engagement is one of the most important efforts we can push as a public service agency. National Night Out is just one of many ways to ensure every neighborhood, in every corner of Maryland, knows what the Office of the State Fire Marshal does and how we can serve them. I strongly encourage all members of the Fire Service to use events, like National Night Out, as opportunities to promote community risk reduction and fire prevention efforts.

If this year’s night out snuck up on your calendar, start planning now for next year, and look for other events on the horizon that can establish and grow your department’s presence in the neighborhoods it serves. One of those events should be the Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference on September 24 at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab in Laurel. Not only will this valuable workshop discuss various tools for improved community engagement, it is also a tremendous opportunity for all of us to come together and grow our knowledge base as a unified fire service entity. I look forward to seeing both new and familiar faces this year. For more information about the conference visit www.fabscom.org.

Sincerely,

Brian S. Geraci
Maryland State Fire Marshal

IAFC Eastern Division Meeting in Atlanta

Picture taking at Eastern Division of IAFC Lunch at the Fire-Rescue International IAFC’s Conference & Expo Atlanta, Georgia by Chief Paul Sterling Past President Eastern Division IAFC, MSFA & MFCA; L to R — Angela Hughes President Baltimore Co. Women in Fire Service Fire Dept; Fire Chief Trisha Wolford Anne Arundel County FD; United States Fire Administrator Chief Keith Bryant; Asst. Chief Jennifer Aubert/Utz Baltimore County FD; Chief Deputy Tiffany Green Prince Georges County Fire & EMS Dept. She will come the Fire Chief on November 1, 2019; Chief Hugh Owens Past President MFCA (2016-2018) 7. Fire Chief Joanne Rund Baltimore County FD; Fire Chief Christine Uhlhorn Howard County Fire & Rescue Dept.; Chief Ronald Siarnicki Executive Director National Fallen Firefighters Foundation; Chief Paul Sullivan President MFCA & Maryland Director for the Eastern Division IAFC; Back Row Officers & Board of Director Eastern Division IAFC; photo by Paul Sterling
Glass Fire Service Etching to Be Unveiled During NFFF Weekend

By Chip Jewell

Construction began on August 19, 2019 to erect a permanent lighted display of the William Cochran glass etching “The Volunteers.” This unique fire service art will be located next to the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum at 300B South Seton Ave. in Emmitsburg, MD just north of the National Fire Academy. The artwork was originally designed to fit in the engine bay door of the former Independent Hose Co. No. 1 building at 12 West Church St. in downtown Frederick.

When the old fire station was sold to a commercial interest, the new building owner commissioned noted Frederick artist William Cochran for a piece of artwork to fill the door void. The artist used actual members of the Independent Hose Company to pose for the etching. The artwork depicts 1920’s Independent volunteers running beside the engine in response to an alarm of fire. The engine used for the artwork was owned by the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department of Prince George’s County. Even the dog in the etching was owned by a member of the Independent Hose Company. The glass is over 1200 pounds in weight and 12 feet by 9 feet in size.

The etching was originally dedicated by the artist William Cochran, Governor William Donald Schaefer, the building owners and the Independent members that posed for the artwork as part of the opening of the Firehouse Financial Center in 1982. Mr. Cochran is also well known for the “Community Bridge” on South Carroll St. in Frederick.

Mr. Cochran is also noted for public artwork in Rockville, Bethesda, Columbia and other Maryland cities as well as public artwork in other areas in America.

The etching was located for over 2 decades in the 12 West Church St. building until new ownership decided the etching was not within the design of recent renovations. Initially contacting the Independent Hose Company to see if they were interested in obtaining the etching, the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum was the eventual organization that took procession of the etching.

The exquisite glass etching and Frederick artwork by noted artist William Cochran will dedicated in a lighting ceremony Friday, October 4, 2019 at 7:30PM in front of the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum, 300B South Seton Ave. in Emmitsburg just a block north of the National Emergency Training Center and National Fire Academy.
MIEMSS NEWS BRIEFS

James W. Brown, MA, EMT
MIEMSS

Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program (VAIP) — The Statewide VAIP workgroup has reconvened to conduct a thorough review and update of the VAIP standards in an effort to allow more jurisdictional EMS operational programs to participate. The committee is actively seeking feedback from clinicians and jurisdictions regarding the VAIP equipment standards through VAIP workgroup meetings.

Initial CRT Licenses — MIEMSS is reminding the EMS community that after December 31, 2019, Maryland will no longer license new Cardiac Rescue Technician (CRT) candidates who are seeking an initial CRT license, since the NREMT will no longer offer examinations at the I/99 level. Testing at the I/99 level must be completed by December 31, 2019 as retest opportunities will not be available for candidates beyond this date.

The Medicare Emergency Triage, Treat & Transport (ET3) Program — The Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation announced a new 5-year program, the “Emergency Triage, Treat & Transport ("ET3") Program,” that aims to ensure that Medicare Fee-for-Service beneficiaries receive the most appropriate care, at the right time, and in the right place. ET3 will expand Medicare to reimburse EMS for Medicare patients when those patients are treated / transported under certain new models of EMS care. At the same time, however, ET3 will continue traditional Medicare reimbursement for ambulance transports to hospital emergency departments and other currently permitted destinations. Even though ET3 applies only to Medicare Fee-for-Service patients, Medicare is encouraging multi-payer adoption to support overall success and sustainability.

The ET3 Model team has announced that the Request for Applications (RFA) Online Portal is now live. Ambulance providers and suppliers can now begin to apply to participate in the ET3 Model. The Online Portal can be found on the ET3 Model website under the Request for Applications (RFA) section. Applications will be accepted from August 5, 2019 through September 19, 2019. The best way to stay up to date on the latest ET3 Model news and updates is by subscribing to the ET3 Model listserv.

MIEMSS Region I Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Hall of Fame — Recently four individuals were inducted into the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) Region I ( Allegany and Garrett Counties) Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Hall of Fame. The individuals honored for 2019 were James Dawson, from the George’s Creek Ambulance Service; Allen Ruby, from the Flintstone Volunteer Fire Company; Dr. Richard Perry, Garrett County Jurisdictional Medical Director; and Ralph Lichty, from the Southern Garrett County Rescue Squad. Honorees and guests were treated to a celebration at the Garrett College Career and Technology Training Center in Accident, Maryland. Inductees received a plaque and a commemorative MIEMSS challenge coin. See photo on page 12.

TPVFD Lt. Receives EMS Honor

On May 22, at the Maryland State House, MIEMSS presented the 2019 Star of Life Awards. EMS Lieutenant Jorge Alfaro received the "EMS Clinician of the Year Award" for his outstanding service to his department, community and beyond. Congratulations! L-R: Clay B. Stamp NRP, Chairman, EMS Board; Chief Jim Jarboe; Lt. Jorge Alfaro; Chief Tom Musgrove; Theodore R. Delbridge MD, MPH Executive Director,
Pictured left to right: Dwayne Kitis, MIEMSS Region I and II Administrator, Jonathan Dayton, Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (AGCVFRA) Vice President, James Dawson, Inductee George’s Creek Ambulance Service, Allen Ruby, Inductee Flintstone Volunteer Fire Company, Dr. Richard Perry, Inductee Garrett County Jurisdictional Medical Director, Dr. Ted Delbridge, MIEMSS Executive Director, Dr. Timothy Chizmar, MIEMSS Medical Director, Dr. Janelle Martin, MIEMSS Region I Medical Director.

Absent from the photo: Ralph Lichty, Inductee Southern Garrett County Rescue Squad. Photo courtesy of Doug Bietzel.

See article page 11