The MSFA Safety Committee October meeting was called to order at 10:01 am on Sunday October 16, 2005 by Chairman Hoby Howell at the Level Vol Fire Dept. Donuts and coffee was provided prior to the meeting. 14 committee members were present. Guests included 1st VP Bobby Balta, and 11 members of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemens Association including President Gene Worthington. And Elaine Huttenloch

**Members present:** Chair Hoby Howell, (Fallston, Harford), Vice Chair Russ Healy, (Williamsport, Washington), Jack Gouty, (Jessup VFD, Anne Arundel), Jackie Olson, (Ferndale, Anne Arundel), Gunter Corrado, (Mt Savage, Allegany), Jim Decker, (District 16, Allegany), Gerard McGann, (Mt Savage, Allegany), Ray Stevens, (Chesapeake City, Cecil) Sec. Barbara Steiner (Church Creek, Dorchester), Harry Stone (Deep Creek-Garrett), Joe Slavotinek (Elkridge, Howard), Peter Lott, (Kennedyville, Kent), Bill Huttenloch, (Forestville, Prince George’s), Bennie Shelton, (Sudlersville, Queen Anne’s)

**Moment of Respect:** A moment of silence was observed in memory of Hugh Owen’s 4 month old granddaughter who passed away earlier this week.

**Salute to the Flag.** The meeting was opened with a salute to the Flag led by Chairman Hoby Howell.

**Welcome.** Hoby thanked all for coming. Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemens Association President Gene Worthington was introduced. He welcomed the committee to Level VFD and to the Cumberland Valley Booster meeting.

**Minutes** of the previous meeting – motion by Bennie to dispense with reading of the minutes and accept as sent out. Seconded Jack. Motion passed.

**Welcome** by Steve Heffner – Past Pres of CVVFA – Greeting. Glad to be here and thanks for being here. Members of CVVFA introduced themselves.

**1st VP Balta** – Happy to be here. Greetings from Pres. Sachs and 2nd VP Sterling.

Thanked committee members for serving on the Safety Committee.

Hurricane efforts resulted in opening a joint operation center at MEMA. Lessons learned
- need better preparation. 4-5 people not enough to run center. Those who man desk at center need better training.
- Trying to get cadre of people for extended time at desk. More than 8 hours, maybe 12 hours for 24/7 coverage.

Executive Committee meeting scheduled for Snow Hill on November 4 & 5. Will stay at Quality Inn on 16th street in Ocean City.

Maryland Weekend at National Fire Academy – February 1st weekend.

Carlos Alfaro had surgery – Cards would be nice – 1670 Weeping Willow Rd, Beltsville, MD 20705.

Donna Fretterd is doing better. She has been moved to a nursing home facility.

Maryland Fire Memorial ceremony in Annapolis. Looking forward to dedication in June 2006.
Statistical forms needed from fire departments. Only 40% are in
Thanks to members of Safety Committee for helping Bobby with his work.

**Mr. Hawn:** CVVFA –
- Highway safety issues- Held class at their meeting on Saturday.
- Safety Vests – need to be worn by all. Need to be worn over turnout gear by those
  who are on the highway near traffic. Drivers also need to wear vest all the time.
- CVVFA will do a photo shoot on the PA Turnpike on Oct 26, 28. Safety oriented
  Will use section of PA Turnpike in Unionville and tunnel to do an incident
  scenario
- Asking Safety officers in companies to get everybody to practice safety.
  Responderssafety.com for safety information on internet.

**Hoby:**
- Safety Seminar in Ocean City 2006
  1. Met with Pinoak and set up times for 2006 convention seminars
  2. Alan Baldwin will assist with 2 seminars
    - CVVFA will set up booth again in same room with our display at
      convention
      Great to have both groups in the same room
      Make big poster to steer folks into room
  3. Pocket masks – to be given out at the display in the room. Gerard moved
    Stoney seconded motion to give out pocket masks (same type as last year)
    Jackie will get masks in another color, most likely orange.
    Last year we had about 1800 masks. There are a few left. To be given out
    at Seminar on October 29th.
    Jackie will meet with Vice Chair to determine which type to guy
    – with or without gloves. Price last year was $4.00 due to method of purchase.
  4. Signs from Pepsi- Gerard still working on issue. Asked to get 2.
    Suggestion to hang sign over area near stairway at entrance of area.
    Also hang on apparatus outside
  5. Safety Committee Seminar October 29th at Maryland City VF and Rescue
    Flyer is out. Encourage members to attend
    “Preventing Firefighter Deaths Caused by Firefighters Disorientation”
    presented by “Captain William M. Mora.”
    Located at 3498 Fort Meade Rd, Laurel MD 200724. (located on Rt 198)
    Lunch will be provided. Contact Jackie Olson at 410-222-8278.
    Members of committee were asked to help out with the seminar.
    Bobby Balta will contact MFRI to see if training credit can be given for
    this type of seminar. Hope to have credit available for future.
    Gene Worthington suggested that copies of the flyer be sent to MFRI.

**Grants:** Joe Slavotinek Still working on grants. He was advised to meet with Steve
Austin

**Health and Wellness – Russ Healy – Welfare of firefighters and EMS personnel –**
- Many people in 30s, 40s having heart attacks.
  Concerned for firefighters – feel need physicals yearly to find out exactly what
  shape their health is in. Blood tests and other tests can reveal problem
situations – i.e. colon cancer, diabetes and other items.
Joe stated that Howard county offers free yearly physicals – less than 10% take advantage of offer.
A CVVFFA Chief stated that he can make it mandatory for firefighters and EMS Providers to get physicals – paid for by the company. He requires a form to be filled out and returned to the chief. It is up to the chiefs in Maryland to enforce the regulation.
Safety Committee to work to educate the chiefs to enforce regulation.
Anne Arundel County requires yearly fit test- Volunteers can’t ride if they don’t take it.
No member can take a class prior to taking a physical . Also for EMTs
If you ride you ‘re company responsibility - so need to be fit.
Now – whatever county or company designates what is required .
Maryland is an OSHA compliant state – accepted the 1500 guidelines or has a Standard that is equal – should be adhered to.
Some companies can’t afford to pay – If want physicals – must come up with way to pay for them.
County deems requirements for fire service in county.
Gene Worthington – Health and Wellness document signed in 2002 as legal document. Are to be complying with the document – except where money is an issue. Time to go back to Mr. Fielder of state budget department and get the money put back into the state budget to pay for physicals. State had surplus of money. Money can no longer be an excuse.
VP Balta – plans are to go after the money.
Gene – the money is there.
Asked if possible to get Health and Wellness on agenda as a main presentation.
Hoby – Something has to be initiated  Pres. Sachs is setting up to speak on it
Bill Huttenloch- Do main seminar
VP Balta – DLLR would help get in on the floor.
Health and Safety standard adopted in compliance with 1500 – signed, to go into effect in 2002.
Training Committee – Jackie – was unable to attend meeting.
Hoby – Hugh Owens was working with Maryland Fire Chiefs through Ron Siarnicki on The Everybody goes Home – Hope to get done this year- to be a training program.
Hoby has taken Hugh’s place working with this initiative.
Hoby will contact Mr. Anderson of NJ.
Ron and Hoby will be meeting with Steve Edwards of MFRI and Dan Stevens to bring someone from MFRI on board to get training in Maryland.
Hoby to be contact with Steve and Dan. Will get dates for meetings.
Hope to have something by the first of 2006.
Steve set-up free training course at any fire station of any sort. Contact him.
JJ Lynott is training liaison for Safety committee. jjlynott@yahoo.com
Next meeting will be at Anne Arundel – Millersville
November 20. lunch will not be served, however a breakfast is promised.
No meeting in December. Looking for a location for the January 15, 2006 and February 19, 2006 meetings.
Bill Huttenloch – Quality Control officer for PG county presented information on injuries.

10 injuries – 3 back – ambulance providers
   1 fell off ladder – no safety spotter – make sure safety spotter people are there.

7 career, 3 volunteer
   2 volunteer – burned – back of ears, glove area
   1 slipped and fell on mat
   1 hit by truck backing into station (he was backup man)

27 vehicles were hit – 2% were firesides fault
   rest were trucks sitting on scene and ran into .

Safety officer check for black mold – brown on tiles in ceiling
Fire Hat – strap of hat was still around brim.- not in use position. – was in fire 15 minutes. Hat - was destroyed.

Gear – Sun damaged fabric – rotted. Gear sat in rack that was in front of window
Gear good for 10 years service, clean when needed –
Pants – inside deteriorates. Get burned
Safety inspector – inspects each company once a year.
Gear is sent out every 6 month for cleaning if needed – is inspected
Sentex – new gear – buttons come off. Send to Rockville for cleaning.
Gear is 15 years old

Jack Gouty – Cleaning and inspection program in Anne Arundel County
   Pickup pants in battalion – takes 4 days to get back – Career do it when they have a Kelly day - off 4 days .

Bill- Helmets – 66cs defective if white is showing – need to toss out
   Maryland Fire service does cleaning Have extra gear for those whose is being out
   Inspected 43 pumpers, 7 brush trucks, checked equipment, brakes, seat belts
   Also tankers. 864 personal gear, 24 stations checked, 576 members
   Adopted Maryland State Standard – PG has stricter
   Leather helmets – deteriorate – needs skull saver.
   Ben Franklin does not have skull saver inside. Fire can get into helmet

Gene Worthington – introduced Steve Austin – Brief Overview

Steve Austin:
1. Working on “Move Over Law” – MSP says it is difficult to enforce
   Taking a low and providing guidance for public
   Michigan State Police and Michigan State School system to show video at all Middle schools in state.
   Difficult to reach motoring public with message – who hot fire trucks

2. Push to develop public safety vest for police, fire and EMS.
   Should be in every riding position on all apparatus
   To be worn by all an every incident – driver always (not for HazMat)
   Anyone standing near highway needs high visibility vest

Jack Gouty –
   Anne Arundel County 2 alarm fire – Firefighter stepped out of engine on 5 inch Hose. Broke both ankles and was dragged under fire truck
Rookie firefighter fell off roof – fell on another firefighter and brake his collar
Bone and broke back of 3rd fire fighter.
Seminar on CBRM – Terrorism at Savage VFCo on December 7 at 7pm
Check this out on line Maryland Fire Chiefs.org.
Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm Motion by Joe, Seconded by Benny
Next meeting to be a Millersville on November 20

Lunch was served by CVVFA

Respectfully submitted
Barbara Steiner, sec.

Directions to Millersville:
8501 Veterans Highway, Millersville MD 21108
Travel to Rt 97 via whatever direction you area coming

Eastern Shore _ Rt 50 to Bay Bridge, to Rt 97

Western Maryland _ Rt 70 East to 695 toward Catonsville, Glen Burnie (East – South) to Rt 97

Rt 97 to Benfield Blvd.
Exit towards Severna Park – (exit 10)
Travel 0.3 mile
Turn LEFT on Veterans Highway
Travel 0.4 miles
Arrive at 8501 Veterans Highway - Middletown