

# MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel

[www.msfa.org](http://www.msfa.org)



## SAFETY COMMITTEE

Hobert B. "Hoby" Howell - Chair

Russ Healy – Vice Chair

John W. "Jack" Gouty – Vice Chair

Barbara Steiner – Secretary

### September Committee Meeting Minutes

Sunday, September 17, 2006

Easton, Talbot County, Maryland

The MSFA Safety Committee September Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a. m. on Sunday, September 17, 2006 by Chairman Hoby Howell at the Easton Fire Department in Talbot3 County MD. A continental breakfast was provided. 16 committee members were present. Guests included MSFA President Bobby Balta, MSFA Executive Committee Chair Doyle Cox; Glema Balta, Bobbi Aaron., MSFA Assistant Treasurer, Bobbi Stevens, Training Committee.

**Member present:** Chair Hoby Howell, (Fallston, Harford); Vice Chair, Russ Healy, (Williamsport, Washington); Gunter Corrado, (Mt Savage, Allegany); Jim Decker, (District 16, Allegany); Gerard McGann, (Mt Savage, Allegany); Gary McGinnis, (Sykesville, Carroll); Wayne Fretterd, Sr, (Denton, Caroline); Ray Stevens, Chesapeake City, Cecil); Sec. Barbara Steiner, (Church Creek, Dorchester); Gene Aaron, (Hurlock, Dorchester); Joe Slavotinek, (Eldridge, Howard); David Kline, Walkersville, Frederick); W. R. Bud Campbell, Betterton, Kent ); Peter Lott, Kennedyville, Kent ); Hugh Owens, (Glenn Dale, Prince George's); Training Committee Liaison -Dan Stevens, (Waldorf, Charles)

**Welcome:** Hoby welcomed the committee members to Easton and thanked them from coming out to the meeting. Wayne Fretterd arranged the meeting at the Easton Fire Department in as the Eastern Shore Volunteer Firemens Association Annual meeting followed our meeting. .

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

**Members who are ill:** Hoby announced that Benny Sheldon was admitted to Chester River Hospital in Chestertown. and that Donna Fretterd is a patient in Memorial Hospital in Easton. Your prayers are requested for these folks. Cards were signed by committee members and sent to Benny and Donna.

**MSFA President:** Bobby Balta was welcomed to the meeting. He stated that he was here to listen to what projects we are involved with, what the Safety committee is working on. He will be working with Amber to get articles in the *Trumpet*. The format of the *Trumpet* will be changed. It will be more operationally oriented than administrative.

Life Safety Conference – encourage all to attend meeting.

Bobby is traveling around the State – more organizations want MSFA to participate. Bobby is going to see what they will be doing.

Legislation Sessions: Big Challenge with this year. Several delegates who were our supporters will not be going back. We will need to communicate with new delegates to inform them of our needs

Bobby met with Col Hutchison (MSP) Looking at trying to get the "Move Over" Bill passed. MSP is not in favor of the bill – He says we already have laws. "Move Over" Bill is not a preventative bill – bill challenge to

convince Col Hutchison and legislators that it will help. Wording of bill is very important. Drivers need to slow down when they see flashing lights. Will work with Department of Transportation.

Bobby is here to listen to Safety Committee plan for the year.

**Training:** Dan Stevens: Suggestions for Legislation initiatives

1. Issue of **OPTICONS** – State to install on all traffic signals – want a count of number of times units go through intersections. State had separate funds for money for opticons. State should step up and install them on signals  
Gary – State won't put them in due to "hacking".  
Dan – State has reprogrammed units. Need to research – get act together – Tom Hick's office may be able to give information.
2. University of Maryland – Board of Advisors – trained students for July – June year - NIMS training for outside fire service – London fire brigade on video.
3. MFRI – Health & Safety for Firefighters in training – get copy from MFRI – e-mail  
200 firefighters investment – measured information – to see how firefighters responded in training environment (were wired with sensors under turnout gear). Found firefighters were out of shape and come to training dehydrated. Field institution involved – requested to have physicals before they can come to training.  
3 ways to get physical requirement –
  - a. Take guidelines for physical to physician –who states that individual is fit,
  - b. Go to University of Maryland Clinic for full physicalWant completed in early 2007 if involved in life stuff – physical requirement  
Students – most don't have physicals when come to training – find students with asthma, etc  
Still deciding what to do  
Step test in use – full blown package may come. Feels State needs to fund before required  
Survey was volunteered – were both career and paid firefighters  
Maze was more stressful than any other part  
Ages ranged from 18 through 55.
4. Pyramid 2006 at Solomon's Island – October 20-22. Still openings
5. MSFA Training committee – updating 10 year program – done every 3 years – going around the State  
Sept 22 at North East, Central on Fri at 19:00 at Mt Aireys Fire House - Asking – "What do you want?"  
November 3<sup>rd</sup> will be at Upper Shore Training Center- Centerville
6. Life Safety Conference – Seminars on MFRI website
7. Spring 2007 course signup- training schedule request forms were sent out to companies.
8. George Fairfax – Regional coordinator for Southern Maryland – Cancer patient – is working half speed. He needs our prayers. Keep him in yours.
9. Seat Belts – Firefighter in California – charged –because staff were not belted. Driver charged by CA highway – unit rolled, one killed. Driver charged with vehicular manslaughter  
Seat belt disc on pre-construction on apparatus  
Tom ( a former Salisbury employee, now works for American LaFrance) talks about safety issues  
Fallen FireFighters – SCBA and Full Turnout gear don't fit in seat belts.LA County, Phoenix, buy American LaFrance –  
Look at fire department – have to look at department – which ran fires, which do other stuff. –  
Seat belt don't work with bottles, ropes  
Doing body scans to see what need for seat belts –  
Being done by Fallen Fighters Foundation
10. Other incidents – 2 Firefighters in NJ were burned by steam caused when pump overheated – they were trying to disconnect hose – small pumps overheat fast – light burned out on panel – were unaware of temperature.

**11. ALERT – Vehicles from Hurricane area are coming into area for resale as previously owned.**  
**Sepsis – toxin – coming from hurricane area –**  
**Firefighter died as result of toxin**  
**Hydrant Company – CLOW – valve on hydrants – using wrong lubricant – can't open –**  
**rusting**

Hoby: Seat Belts – NFPA Working on putting breathing apparatus back in compartments  
NFPA interior in emergency ruling – all hose have to be restrained. (Bungeed down –  
secured so air doesn't get under and cause hose to fall off unit.)

Dan: Cadet Program – going well statewide  
Allegany – New – has 16, St Mary's 11, Calvert-22. Wicomico, Upper Shore 4 counties  
Anne Arundel didn't go – Recruitment is a problem. this is our responsibility.

Doyle – Need school board with you.

Dan – Easy one to sell – Volunteer Fire Service – problems are own fault – need education  
Dan is available to talk with counties

Hugh – Asked about RED seat belts

Dan – looking at Seatbelts in ambulances – units getting bigger

Hoby—looking at bigger ambulances – brake systems – bigger sized chassis – for brakes and electrical system

Dan – looking at cost of maintenance

Gerard – School bus manufacturer are going to put RED belts in buses

Dan – Training and Attitude – issues need change

Hoby – Bungee cords, straps – want quick packs; nozzles hanging out of hosebed – want fancy hosepacks  
has to do with straps on cross lays

Changes coming – 2007 engines – 20-25,000 increase in power  
emissions changes – by before end of year

Law changes December 31, 2006

American LaFrance – cabs to be 4 inches wider – increase \$9-10,000 per engine  
modification need \$10-15,000

Fire Engine – can go up to 8foot, 6inches wide

Hugh: Maryland Fire Chiefs meeting – September 28, 2006

Fallen Fighters disc – to send volunteer to help with event

Working with Safety committee and Training with whatever is needed

Hoby- Leonard King – email-looking for give-a-ways for event

MOTION: to give T-Shirts (\$15) from Sunshine Fund with Safety Logo

Gary moved, Russ seconded motion – passed

Contact Margaret Gouty if any company has any items that can be given away i.e. T-shirts,  
glasses, hats, mugs

Call Hoby – needed by September 28.

E-Mail from Leonard King – AED in Hunt Valley building – batteries exploded

Wall mounted unit in office building – smoke in area- were rechargeable lithium batteries

Hoby- Mid-Atlantic Regional Community Policing Institute – Johns Hopkins University – October 5<sup>th</sup>

9:00 – 1PM. Crystal Meth Awareness Training

Gary – email- Chief Richard Bowers – Montgomery County Fire and Rescue – suggested inviting him to our  
meeting. He had been designated as the National Fallen Firefighters Advocate for Maryland  
Everyone Goes Home Motion by Gary, seconded by Gerard – motion passed.

**DATES of MEETINGS: To be put on website.**

**As of today**

<b>October</b>	<b>October 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Glenn Dale – Bowie MD</b>	<b>Hugh Owens host</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>November 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Mt Savage Mt Savage MD</b>	<b>Gerard McCann host</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>NO MEETING</b>		
<b>January</b>	<b>NO MEETING</b>		
<b>February</b>	<b>February 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Chesapeake City – Cecil</b>	<b>Ray Stevens, host</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>March 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>TBD</b>	
<b>April</b>	<b>April 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Church Creek – Dorchester</b>	<b>Barbara Steiner, host</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>May 20</b>	<b>TBD</b>	
<b>June</b>	<b>Convention OC</b>		
<b>July</b>	<b>July 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>TBD</b>	

Russ: Bill Huuttenloch is working on 30 tapes –

Convention critique of committee – receptive

1. Politicians on fire apparatus – can't do much about it – can recommend safety
2. Safety in parking lot – taken care of
3. Convention committee agreed with our items.

Were unaware of no washing regulation in parking lot for parade – EPA – environmental issue. Soap washes into ocean.

Roger Steger – to work with him and police department and life guards coming across street in front of fire equipment

To decide items at next convention committee meeting.

Company coming in as a group discussed

Too many seminars –lectures scheduled at the same time – people can't get to them – not repeated.

Bobby – Big changes to occur – suggestions – changes – all concerned.

Seminars – presently – no repeat of seminars – can't get all –

Cut back on time needed for installation ceremony

Change opening ceremony to make it more interesting

Possible to move all awards to one time

Plan due by January .

Multi-story parking garage going in at inlet – no more parking of apparatus there.

Judging – electronic – not affordable – training too extensive. – need to speed up- working on it.

Hoby presented Bobby with a Safety Committee Capt (hat)

Presented Certificate of Appreciation (from 2005 – Robert Jacobs Pres ) to Russ Healy and Barb Steiner for work on Safety Committee.

Cumberland Valley Vol Assn Conference – Hobby attended Safety Seminar Attended Banquet – helped Gene – Gene Worthington went out as president of association and became secretary.

Hoby to chair access equipment committee

Bobby – new standards for Safety Vests – out –on SALE – Mifflin Valley – Mason Dixon sells them

Gary – Asked about equipment to send to Louisiana and Mississippi

Rusty – Leftwall – Oct 7th Retirement dinner \$25. Level VF 5 PM

410-638-3406 Contact Ruth Hoskins by Sept 29

Hoby – Opticon – want chairman to work on it. Hobby will help

Opticon – visibility

Russ – water related emergencies

Bobby – looking to get State for law – draft up a short scenarios to Danny Davis  
soon – to make a mentionable item when speaking to governor  
Dan Stevens will help Hoby – need research

### **Round the Room**

Russ – just back from vacation

Ray Stevens: announce Harford/Cecil nomination for President, Hoby to be VP

1. Girl works with ground wire of electric wire going into her house – came off – sent surge into house burned most of the items in the house.
2. Accident call – combative patient – cut off telephone – patient crawled out – large person

Bobbi Stevens – Power Surge – makeup mirror – magnifying – raise of sun – set wood on fire – burned a mark

Bobby Balta – Water in clear plastic canvas with sun set boat on fire

Joe – Station meeting with Howard County Fire Chief – State – Accidents on 95 – vehicles hitting trucks- get state legislation involved – need more state highway CHART – are out 243/7.

Directional lights are seen best – arrow board on engine – to raise up – stands above –unit – lays down and raises up

Phoenix Trip – NIMS need to get compliant – affects money

International Association of Fire Chiefs – Near-Miss program on line – if had miss or near-miss- forum to discuss near misses – to stop injuries to Firefighters – in use in Phoenix. Promoted by National Fire Academy

Hoby – Cumberland Valley – company- arrow boards on display - \$3,000 – has super LED- different colors, brighter

Dan –let MSP set up cones and be stopped – slow traffic- not at scene – before seen

Gerard – Elementary School –natural gas leak – need sheriff to calm people. Found baby rattlesnake in school kitchen

Gunter – Rt 68 – Tractor trailer – drunk driver- MSP without safety vests – almost hit – lighting problem – change light – solved

Gary – Fatal house fires – no smoke alarms

Hugh – distributed flyers for Historical committee – put together new – Wants info to put book together. Send to Hugh- past and present

History is getting thrown away – let Hugh know – put in collection

Doyle – Committee dates, locations, put on website- send to Doyle or Safety Committee secretary

Glema – Greetings from the Ladies to the Safety Committee

Anything the Ladies can do let her know.

Basket Bingo –Nov 10<sup>th</sup> St James Southern MD – South of Lexington Park on Rt 235

Jim – Cracked ribs – recovering

Fire Prevention Week- at Mall – needs stuff

Pete – Residential sprinkler discussion – about \$1.50 per square foot – Insurance will go down

Hoby- Last Saturday – demolishing family room on carport - at his residence found ants and termites

Later haze of electric smell – asked for TIC (thermal imaging camera)- didn't work

Had to pull and cut wire – turned off breaker box – fluorescent light puffing - Old light ballast on toxic side.

Meeting adjourned at 12:12pm

Dinner for the ESVA meeting followed at 1pm

Respectfully submitted

Barbara Steiner, Sec

October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting

Directions to follow

Glenn Dale VFC

11900 Glenn Dale Blvd

Glenn Dale, MD 20769

Phone 301-805 2400

Directions: If none of these fit your need – look up on Mapquest and put your address in:  
Glenn Dale Fire Co 11900 Glenn Dale Blvd, Glenn Dale MD 20769  
phone 301-805-2400

From the West:

Take I 68 East – for 36.6 miles

Take the I-70 East/US 522 S exit – Exit 82AB toward Hagarstown/Hancock/Winchester

Merge onto I-70 East via Exit 82B on the Left toward Hagarstown – 51.9 miles

Merge onto I 270 South via Exit 53 toward Washington 32.7 miles

I-270 S becomes I-495 E – Capital Beltway – 13.4 miles

Take Baltimore/Washington Parkway North (Rt 295 N) EXIT 22A toward Baltimore – 0.2 miles

Merge onto MD 295N – 0.5 miles

Take the MD 193 East exit toward NASA Goddard/Glenn Dale 0.1 miles

Turn LEFT onto Greenbelt Rd/MD 193 East – Continue to follow MD 193 E - 4.5 miles

Turn LEFT - Find 11900 Glenn Dale Blvd.

From the Southern Maryland

Take whatever route necessary to get you to Rt 50

If you are coming up Rt 301 at Rt 214 turn West – (Right) RT 50 has NO access to Rt 193 – Need to get on Rt 193 before you get to Rt 50

Take Rt 214 to Rt 193 North

Follow Rt 193 North – this becomes Glenn Dale Blvd

Find 11900 Glenn Dale

From the North of Baltimore

Take I 95 South toward Baltimore

Keep Left to take I-895 South / Harbor Tunnel Trwy toward Annapolis/Bay Bridge

Take the MD 2 South exit toward Glen Burnie

Merge onto I-97 South – for 9 miles

Merge on MD-3 South/Crain Hwy via EXIT 7 toward BOWIE/Odenton – 7.6 miles

Take the MD-450 West ramp toward Bowie –

Turn Slight RIGHT onto MD – 450 West/ Annapolis Rd – 4.9 miles

Turn Right onto Bell Station RD - 0.2 miles

Turn Right onto GLENN DALE BLVD/ MD-193 West – 0.5 miles - find 11900 Glenn Dale Blvd

From: EASTERN SHORE

Take RT 301/ Rt 50 to Bay Bridge – Cross Bridge

Take RT 50 to RT 704 North – toward Bowie

Take Rt 407 to Rt 193 North ( it joins Rt 450 for a short distance before the intersection with Rt 193

Take Rt 193 North Fire house is on the LEFT