

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel

www.msfa.org



SAFETY COMMITTEE

Hobert B. "Hoby" Howell - Chair

Russ Healy – Vice Chair

John W. "Jack" Gouty – Vice Chair

Barbara Steiner – Secretary

October Committee Meeting Minutes

Sunday, October 15, 2006

Glenn Dale, Prince George's County, Maryland

The MSFA Safety Committee October Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a. m. on Sunday, October 15 2006 by Chairman Hoby Howell at the Glenn Dale Fire Department in Prince George's County MD. A continental breakfast was provided. 15 committee members were present. Guests Bobbi Aaron., MSFA Assistant Treasurer.

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); Alfred Britton, (West Annapolis, Anne Arundell); Don King,(Reisterstown, Baltimore); Gary McGinnis, (Sykesville, Carroll); Ray Stevens, Chesapeake City, Cecil); Sec. Barbara Steiner, (Church Creek, Dorchester);Gene Aaron, (Hurlock, Dorchester); David Kline, Walkersville, Frederick); William Huttenloch, (Forestville, Prince George's); Hugh Owens, (Glenn Dale, Prince George's); Bennie Shelton, (Sudlersville, Queen Anne's);

Welcome: Hoby welcomed the committee members to Glenn Dale and thanked them from coming out to the meeting. Glad to see Benny Shelton at the meeting. Stoney (Harry Stone) is back in the hospital. A get well card was signed by members present and sent to Stoney.

Hugh Owens welcomed the committee to the Glenn Dale Fire Company.

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

Reporting

Hoby: Words of wisdom- Bobby Balta was chair of the committee the last time it met at Glenn Dale.

He spoke to Hoby's grandson.

Russ: Passed around an article from the local newspaper (Williamsport) on persons from Africa – possible carrier of biological problem- covered with sores. De-com set up.

Hoby: 1. 2 alarm fire in Baltimore City- a 19 year veteran was killed – in 2 story brick row home. Fire fighter was trapped inside. Partial collapse –caused backdraft- door forced closed when someone fell down steps into door. Firefighter was unable to get out.

2. John Bender retirement from Fire Marshall's Office- November 9th at Bayou Restaurant in Havre de Grace 410-939-3565

3. Rusty Lefwitch – Chair, President's Vehicles – retired after 31 years. Hoby attended function.

4. Donna Fretterd was transferred to University of Maryland hospital- Baltimore. Her vision has been affected – She has been in and out of a coma.

5. Donald J. Mooney – at St. Agnes Hospital- has been transferred out of ICU- is still in hospital

6. Leonard King's wife, Margaret, is getting chemo. She is having breathing problems. Leonard sent a thank you not in reference to our card

7. From Leonard King – the Vests – Public Service Vests standard is out for breakaways.
8. Cumberland Valley Volunteer Assn is meeting today in Pennsylvania. They have been working on the new vests. The Safety Committee will purchase a vest for each member with the Safety Committee name on it. The cost may come from this year's budget.

Motion by Gary, seconded by Hugh to purchase a vest for each member of the Safety Committee. Hobby will check with Cumberland Valley to get the best price- The vests is a breakaway with Velcro Breakaway will allow – if get caught.

Fire Prevention Month:

1. From Leonard King: Fire Prevention for Smoke Alarm Tips, Fire Safety tips to take back to the department. Fire and Carbon Monoxide Safety tips; 5 minute Safety drills, topic listing
2. Go on Internet and get good information on items.

Executive Committee Meeting: November 4 & 5: Oxford MD – 300 Oxford Road

Hobby is working on the 5th. He will ask for rep to go.

For reservations: Comfort Inn, Easton on Route 50. 410-820-8333

Tell receptionist that you are with MSFA- \$75 per night

Casual dress for Saturday.

Shirt, Tie, Jacket for Sunday. Wear Bessie Marshall Pin

Schedule for meeting on website.

Training Committee Chair – J.J. LaNott – Friday, November 3rd at 1900

MFRI at Upper Shore – Centreville on Rt 10 - to discuss 10 year training plan

Bill Huttenloch: Still waiting for tapes to be reproduced. Family illness holding up progress

Bill talked with Howard County to address Water Safety issue. He talked to rescue people – has video on boats – he is working on the script. Targeting for Spring.

Hobby: Dan Stevens (not at meeting) wanted to talk to him about how red light issue is coming along –

Also Opticon issue. Dan has a firefighter working on this issue

Strive to work on getting Opticon put in place.

Bill Huttenloch: Can get state and federal grants forward opticon systems thru homeland security.

Seatbelts: Pledges all signed. Gary turned them in .

Gerard stated that if you jam on the brake enough – the passengers will put the seat belts on

Apparatus code change – seat belts to be longer so occupants can wear turn out gear and use seat belt.

Gary: Article in Fire House mag on seat belts – being looked at by manufacturers. Coming out with red seat belts – a complex issue.

NFPA looking at taking bottles out of cabins. Everyone Goes Home – Fallen Firefighters.

Russ: Insurance – (apparatus with Seat Belts) – won't cover you if you are hurt if you are not wearing seat belt in Washington County. Especially in non-responsive units – i.e. chief's vehicle, utility, Big issue in Washington County

Mass Casualty issues

State of Maryland grant for de-con units. Counties and cities are receiving these.

Several jurisdictions have units– if none in your area, tell your chief. Units are around in county and jurisdiction.

Call for one to assist

Are self contained units. Units are built on Pierce saber chassis. Are 40 foot long. Self contained. hopefully to be utilized in best interest of everyone

If your county does not have one – call to a surrounding county.

Bill H: 3000 face masks- still working on standard. Talked with manufacturer- retrofit masks – no problem since manufacturer knows what problem is and can fix it.

At our Easton meeting, President Balta stated that he wants to see more items put in the Trumpet.

Hobby wants items put in Trumpet from Safety Committee. Don King and Gary McGinnis will submit items from the Safety Committee.

Hugh: Change for item that interest members. Hagerstown item could go in Trumpet so members would be aware and think.

Hobby: Asked Bobby – wanted to come on board with another agency. Spoke with MSP. Decided to go with

Sheriff's association. It has a bigger association. Hoby is looking to meet with Sheriff's Association to see if they want to work with us.

Highway Safety committee met once. Hard to make contact . Women's highway safety committee
Russ will call Elaine Huttenloch.

Hugh: CHART comes on the scene. State operates center.

Fire Chief's Association: Hugh- Emmitsburg Fallen Firefighters

Margaret Goudy – 107 death in 7 previous years.

Everything went smooth at the hotels.

Chiefs make sure guests are taken care of for smooth operation.

Documentation of line of Duty Deaths

How paper work is done determines how identified.

Proper paperwork must be properly filled out

Previous years are recognized when paperwork gets done.

Critical for national differs from state and local

Trustees of MSFA can help with paperwork

Website available for LOD

To get money through National- must have proper criteria. Get help with completing form.

Hugh's Booklet – from meeting has safety items. Gave members copies.

At Fallen Fighter weekend, committee likes to give families items from Maryland. to remember coming to Maryland.

Gary: told of how families react to ceremony/ weekend. Many families want to come back and help next year.

Compared with Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington.

LOD – any Fire Department death – Deaths in Iraq,

Got help from area – to get uniforms, etc.

Suggests companies get items ahead.

Fire Department funerals – stressful, helps if have some preparation ahead.

Still working on getting Chief Bowers to meet with the Safety Committee.

Don: E-Z Pass for equipment?

Russ: When going over the Bay Bridge – told gate what county from.

In Maryland, need light, markings on door- affiliation

May have to explain self – may take a few minutes

Need to know information – Vehicle number, Count y , etc.

Be patient with toll takers – they may not know.

Hugh: Maryland Chiefs meet in Ocean City every 2 years. Met March 21.

Staff Command Sponsor has 10 slots. \$80,000 for course.

get to Maryland Chief's Training committee. Will pay for class, person pays for room and board

December meeting will determine names

Get reimbursed for money. Cost of class is around \$1,000- 1300

Course is Wednesday, March 21 thru Tuesday.

Paper work must be in by December

MFRI puts out a brochure – contact MFRI for one.

North East Coordinator left MFRI

Ray: Can't hold meeting in February. Will hold March meeting instead. (see calendar change below)

Ray brought in the electric power strip that melted as a result of a power surge. It burned the floor and blew out TV A second strip was in the barn- sparking and burning. It burned an electric saw. Surge was caused when a ground wire fell off the pole and the electric surge came into the house.

Bill: Prince George's Report:

1. Federal grant – exhaust system in each fire house. exhaust system connects to fire trucks. It is breakaway style – indicator in vehicle activates fan before units get into house.
2. New ambulance has hydraulic lift for oxygen bottles.
3. Accident – fire fighter fell out of unit – out door – lit door handle while putting gear on
Tumbled out – A firefighter coming along was able to keep traffic from hitting him.

Caught handle while putting gear on.

4.NFPA – make sure equipment in cab is secure so it doesn't become a missile – clipboards, maps, etc.

Oxygen bottle must be secured tight.

5. Vests – 30 days – manufacture with prices – slime green, FD on it. 30 day test – send 3 bids out

Breakaway – come in Various sizes.

Driver put vest on when go to operate pump. Interior do not wear vests.

Gary McGinnis: Philadelphia Inquirer : Chemical waste – Chester, PA. Site – old warehouse with drums – illegal site. Caught fire. Single exposure of multiple chemicals. Fire has killed dozens of people.

Clothing and shoes burned from acids, chemicals . Result – cancers, melanomas on feet, and other issues.

Pre-dates NFF>

ROUND THE ROOM:

Russ: weather changing – people in suburbs – wood and fireplaces- Be ready for chimney fires

Is yours chimney clean? Open flu.

Benny: - Thanked committee for card. problem straightened out.

Hoby: Glad to have back in one piece above ground.

Hugh: Fire in NY. Study on it. 33 died in tunnel from cancer. 33 signs of getting cancer due to burning materials. Fire out, don't take mask off.

Gerard: Van to Garrett County; Crash in Shriners' function

Don – be careful with school buses. People are not stopping for red lights

Gary – West Friendship – ground breaking for new building. Mass Casualty – school situation
Fire fighter charged criminally – not stopping at red light and killed someone.

James: Adult stuff for fire prevention.

Hoby: Ground breaking for \$7 million fire house in West Friendship.

Halloween upon us – look out for pranks

Go into Fire prevention tips. So don't hit kids.

Watch out – be careful – Have a safe one

Thanks for coming.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on November 19th at Mt Savage Maryland. The meeting will be hosted

by Gerard McGann and Gunter and Jill Corrado

Directions to follow

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon. A delicious lunch was served. Thank you Hugh.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Steiner, Sec.

DATES of MEETINGS: To be put on website. (note change in Feb and March)

As of today

November	November 19th-	Mt Savage	Mt Savage MD	Hosts: Gerard McCann Jill & Gunter Corrado
December	NO MEETING			
January	NO MEETING			
February	February 18th			
March	March 18th	Chesapeake City – Cecil		Ray Stevens, host
April	April 15th	Church Creek – Dorchester		Barbara Steiner, host
May	May 20	TBD		
June	Convention OC			
July	July 15th	TBD		

Directions to Mt Savage as per Gerard McGann:

Route 70 West to Route 68 West

Route 68 West to Route 40 West (exit 44)

Route 40 West to Route 36 South

Turn Left of Rt 36 South

7 miles to IRON RAIL St

Turn Left on Iron Rail St

Travel 1 mile

Fire house is on RIGHT

Gerard's home phone is 310-264-3110

Cell phone – 301-876-0437

See you there

Barb