Proceedings Of The
125th Annual Convention and Conference

Held In Ocean City, Maryland
June 17-23, 2017

Next Meeting To Be Held At
Ocean City, Maryland
June 16-22, 2018
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Seal of the
Maryland State Firemen’s Association

The Great Seal of Maryland was used by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association during its first two years (1893-1894.) The second logo of the M.S.F.A. was first used in 1895, and appeared on the Proceedings Book of the Association until 1904, (shown lower left.) In 1905, the logo was changed (shown lower right). In 2001 the logo (shown next page) was slightly altered to include the wording around the outside edge, was created and continues to be used as a sign of recognition by representatives of the M.S.F.A. while conducting the official business of the Association. The description of the logo was supplied by Past President Peter Paul Lochary and Mrs. Jeannie Hare (widow of Past President Herman B. Hare.)

MEANING OF THE LOGO

The color red represents life-red blood of the human being-the gift of God. The hose expresses effort-energy put forth by individuals to his/her job as water flows through the hose. Tools of the trade - Axes - force. Ladders - steps to success for firemen helping to provide better service to the community. Nozzle - used to dispense water-result of success applied by firemen. Oak Leaves - White Oak is the tree of the State of Maryland and shows strength. Acorns symbolize deeds of firemen that grow into accomplishments just as acorns grow into great oak trees. Wreath formed by oak leaves and acorns to symbolize valor and achievement. Bow to tie it all together to make a great organization.
Michael Davis  
Cockeysville VFC – Baltimore  
President 2016-2017
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Mark A. Bilger
President 2017-2018
### Maryland State Firefighters Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

#### MSFA Officers and Committee List 2016-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Officers</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>President</strong></td>
<td>Michael Davis, Cockeysville VFC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Vice President</strong></td>
<td>Mark A. Bilger, Hampstead VFC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Second Vice President</strong></td>
<td>Richard C. Blair, Western Enterprise FC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Doyle E. Cox PP, Prince Frederick VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secretary Emeritus</strong></td>
<td>Leonard T. King Sr. PP, Damascus VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assistant Secretary Emeritus</strong></td>
<td>Joseph A. Cooper, Bay District VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assistant Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Shirley Copado, Leonardtown VRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Nancy L. Cox, Bel Air/Norrisville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Diana Gunther, Seventh District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assistant Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Nancy Scott, Prince Frederick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assistant Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Thomas Scott III, Prince Frederick VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Treasurer</strong></td>
<td>Ronald J. Siarnicki, United Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assistant Treasurer</strong></td>
<td>George “Fred” Cross Jr. PP, Chestnut Ridge VFC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assistant Treasurer</strong></td>
<td>Wylie L. Donaldson Jr., Odenton VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assistant Treasurer</strong></td>
<td>Robert W. Jacobs PP, Citizens Truck Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financial Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Mitch Vocke, Jarrettsville VFC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asst. Financial Secretary</strong></td>
<td>Barbara “Bobbie” Aaron, Hurlock VFC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chief Chaplain</strong></td>
<td>Rev. John F. Long Jr., Ferndale VFC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chief Chaplain Emeritus</strong></td>
<td>Rev. J. Harvey Dixon, Salisbury FD, Sta. #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chaplains</strong></td>
<td>Calvin “Pete” Walbert, Cresaptown VFD</td>
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- (Fire Prevention)
Stephan D. Cox PP
- (Legislator of the Year)
Joseph Chornock
- (Family Appreciation)
William “Bill” Dousa
- (EMS)
Michael A. LeCompte
- (Smith Statem Safety)
Robert W. Jacobs, PP
- (Robert Shimer Admin)
David C. “Rusty” Leftwich
- (Firefighter of the Year)
Kingsley Poole
- (Zembower Training)

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Vice Chairman Philip M. Hurlock PP
C. Daniel Davis, Jr. PP
Joseph R. Robison PP
Roger A. Steger Sr. PP

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John O. Gatton Sr.
Malcolm Helwig
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Roger Marks
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James J. Snyder Jr.
Jeff Thompson
Jeff Ringer

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Asst. Treasurer: Wylie Donaldson
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Asst. Financial Sec: Barbara Aaron
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Executive Comm. Rep:
Doug Simpkins Jr.

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Amber Leizear
Susan Mott
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Jackie Olson PP
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Richard Smith
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Marianne Warchime  
Bridget Weishaar  
FF Cancer Support Network Liaison: Trey Kelso

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- **LA MSFA Liaison:** Flo Collins

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- Roger Powell PP  
- Paul H. Sterling Jr. PP  
- Susan Proels  
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- Mary Frances Crisman  
- Chris May  
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**Co-Chairman** John Denver PP
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Jacqueline Olson PP
Herman “Buddy” Schweers

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**Chairman Emeritus** Robert E. Collins

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**Vice Chairman** Holly Trego
**Secretary** Daria Brown
**Corresponding Secretary** Edwin F. Thurston

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Lori Denbow

**Jr. Miss Fire Prevention Chair**
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Donald Ford
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Melissa Gould
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Susan Hilton
Jane Hoffman
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Justin Towles
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LAMSFA Liaison: Carene Housenfluck

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Anne Arundel - Wylie Donaldson Jr.
Baltimore - Bernard Smith PP
Calvert - George Anderson
Caroline - Russell Dukes
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Cecil - Joe Fisona
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Vice Chairman Philip M. Hurlock PP
Sec/Treasurer Robert Knippenburg PP
(All MSFA Past Presidents are members of this committee)

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Central South Bob McHenry
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C. Dan Carpenter III
David Cohen
C. Daniel Davis PP
William DuSold
Kenneth Gilroy
Vernon L. “Tim” Growden
Donald Lee Howard
Brian Montgomery
David Myers
Allan Schauber
James J. Snyder Jr.
Daniel J. Stevens
Edwin F. Thurston
Michael White
Steven J. Wisner
Liaison: Constitution & By-Laws Committee

STATISTICAL COMMITTEE

Chairman William Snyder
Vice Chairman John “Rusty” Hahn

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES
Allegany  
John Shuhart
Anne Arundel  
Troy Odendhal
Baltimore  
Joel McCrea
Calvert  
Thomas Scott
Caroline  
William Bradley
Carroll  
Mark A. Bilger
Charles  
Duane K. Svites
Dorchester  
Calvin S. Stack Jr.
Frederick  
Rusty Hahn
Garrett
Harford  
Ben W. Kurtz
Howard  
Terry Thompson PP
Kent  
Kristin McMenamin
Montgomery  
Juan Bofill
Prince George’s  
Barry Johnson
Queen Anne’s  
Trish Hunter
Somerset  
Donald Lee Howard
St. Mary’s/Shirley Copado
Talbot  
Richard Smith
Washington  
L. Jason Baer
Wicomico  
Ted Farlow
Worcester  
Jeff McMahon

STRATEGIC PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE
Chairman James Seavey Jr.
Co Chairman Doug Simpkins Jr.
President Michael A. Davis
First Vice President Mark Bilger
Executive Vice Chair Charles Simpson Jr.
Second Vice President Richard Blair
Executive Committee Rick Hemphill
Secretary Doyle Cox PP
Asst. Secretary Nancy Cox
Treasurer Ronald J. Siarnicki
Budget Chair Stephan D. Cox PP
Coordinator Daniel “Skip” Mahan

TRAINING COMMITTEE
Chairman Kingsley Poole
Vice Chairman Dan Stevens (17)
Will Ball
Brendan Bonita
Joseph Chornock
Kevin Copley
Timothy F. Dayton
John Fisher
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Leon Fleming (17)
Donald Ford
Susan L. Grote
Robert King
John C. Korman (18)
Amber Leizear
Rick Leizear
Dan Lubman
Gerald “JJ” Lynott Jr. (19)
Bob McHenry (17)
Roger Marks
Tom Musgrove Sr.
Chad Packard (18)
Jeana Panarella
Jim Pizzini
Jeff Ringer
Charles Simpson Jr. (17)
Barbara “Bobbi” Stevens (19)
Nicholas Thompson
Scott Wood (19)

SAFETY Liaison: Janet Fisher
MIEMSS Liaison: Mike Deckard
DNR/FORESTRY Liaison: Monte Mitchell
MFCA Liaison: Hugh Owens
MFRI Liaison: Larry Preston
MFRETC Liaison: Lynn Gilroy
MICRB Member: Diane May
MFSPQB Liaison: Donald Howard

HIGH SCHOOL CAREER TECH PROGRAM

Chairman: Steven M. King
Angela Cowan
Victoria Cunningham
Susan Grote
George Keithley
Richard Smith
Bobbi Stevens
Daniel J. Stevens
Russell Strickland

Rural Water Supply Committee

Chairman: Stanley S. “Buddy” Sutton
Vice Chairman: Douglas C. Alexander
Steven Barry
Clark Beall
George W. Brown Jr.
Larry Callison
Mark E. Davis
Robert Frances
William Hildebrand
Tim Legore
Gary McGinnis

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Chairman: Thomas L. Flint II
Vice Chairman: William A. Frazier

President’s Vehicle Liaison: Mitch Vocke
LAMSFA Liaison: Carol Flint

AREA COUNTY COORDINATORS

Allegany: Ron Grabenstein
Anne Arundel A - Laura Woods
Anne Arundel B - Jacqueline Olson PP
Baltimore A - West - Edward C. Schultz
Baltimore B - North - Robert J Schott
Baltimore D – South - Charles Deavers
Calvert – Tom Scott III
Caroline –
Carroll – C. Daniel Green Sr.
Cecil - Donald L Briscoe
Charles - Charles W. Wills
Dorchester - Ronnie Reynolds
Frederick – Tom L. Flint II
Garrett - Rodney W. Bowser (17)
Harford - Sharon Worthington
Howard - Terry Thompson
Kent - Henrietta Maloney
Montgomery - Johnie F. Roth Jr. PP
Prince George’s A - Frank Underwood PP
Prince George’s B - Ann McGill
Queen Anne’s –
Somerset - Van B Muir Jr.
St. Mary’s - John O. Gatton Sr.
Talbot - John Hanes
Washington - Graham Snow
Wicomico – Eric Taylor
Worcester - Roger A. Steger Sr. PP

VOLUNTEER COMPANY ASSISTANCE FUND

COMM.

Chairman: Joseph Antoszewski
Attorney Michael J. Farlow, Esq.
Secretary: Diana Gunther
Eugene Curfman - Carroll/Howard
Joseph Robison PP - Prince George’s
Charlie Abrecht - Frederick/Washington
Craig Harmon - Anne Arundel
Darren Long - Montgomery
John O. Gatton Sr.- Cal/Chas/St Mary’s
Peter Lott - Caroline/Kent/Q.A.
David L. McQuay - Dorchester/Talbot
Zachary Coyle - Cecil/Harford
Richard DeVore - Allegany/Garrett
Donald Ford - Som/Wic/Worc

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
Chairman Louis J. Jonske
Vice Chairman Mitch Vocke
Jim Bair
John/Betty Byrne
Tom Fruhling
Jeffrey Geiman
Robyn Sheldon Hahn
Michael Hill
William B. Lay Sr.
Herman “Buddy” Schweers
Luanne Schweers
Sherry Soper
Calvin Stack, Jr.
Charles Stewart
Joseph/Ruth Tollivon
Ernie Tracy
George/Nola Twomley
Darlene Vocke

LAMSFA Liaison: Anna Jonske

REGIONAL COORDINATORS
Metro: Anne Arundel, Howard, Montgomery,
Prince George’s
Ken Holden
Jackie Olson PP
Northern - Baltimore, Harford, Cecil
Robyn Hahn
Rick Udell
North Central - Carroll, Howard
Central - Washington, Frederick
Ramona Ridgely
Sherry Soper
Southern - Calvert, Charles, St. Mary’s
Upper Shore - Kent, Queen Anne’s, Talbot,
Caroline –
Ed Mullikin
Lower Shore - Dorchester, Somerset,
Wicomico, Worcester
Don Kinnamon
Calvin Stack Jr.

Tim Wynne
Western - Allegany, Garrett
Donna Struntz

WILLS FOR HEROES PROGRAM
COMMITTEE
Chairman Roger N. Powell, Esq. PP
Michael W. Farlow, Esq.
George Keithley
Franklin D. Roth Jr.
Steve J. Scheinin, Esq.

MARYLAND FIRE RESCUE MEMORIAL
FOUNDATION
President Gene Worthington PP
Vice President Robert Ringle
Treasurer Dennis Beard
Secretary Sharon Owen
Jim Brown
Bill Barnard
Doyle E. Cox PP
Teresa Crisman
John Davies
C. Daniel Davis PP
John Denver PP
Rod Devilbliss
Cathy Hedrick
Les Hedrick
John Hoglund
Nancy Hoglund
Carene Housenfluck
John Hurley
Dave Lewis PP
John Maher
Rosa Maher
Peg Mooney
Tracy Mooney
Gayle Moreland
Rick Petry
Roger N. Powell PP
Ed Sherlock
Robert Small
Richard Smith
John C. Spiker Sr.
Ron Stroble
Matt Tobia (Honorary)
Bridget Weishaar
LAMSFA Liaisons:
Joyce Thorne
Betty Radisch

Special Liaison: Ronald J. Siarnicki
Special Liaison: Brian S. Geraci

APPOINTED BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, LIAISONS, AND STATE AGENCIES

Adjutant General of Maryland
Major General Linda L. Singh
Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualification Board Delegate: Donald Lee Howard Alternate: Daniel J. Stevens
MD Fire-Rescue Education & Training Commission Chairman: R. Michael Clemens Vice Chairman: Lynn D. Gilroy Secretary: Stephanie Baker
Omar Bouware Robert Cumberland Jr.
Geofffrey Donahue John E. Dulina
Kathleen Hartley John Jerome
John Kisser Barbara Knippenburg Michael Robinson Daniel J. Stevens
Reinhold Strobel
MD Instructor Certification Review Board Alternate: Barbara A. Knippenburg Member: Diane May
911 Commission
Bryan C. Ebling
M.F.R.I. University of Maryland Director Steven T. Edwards
National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Executive Director: Chief Ronald Jon Siarnicki
Board Member Robert W. Jacobs, PP
Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) Executive Director: Dave Engel
FIRE/EMS Analyst: David Lewis Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council Representative Harve Ed Woods
MD Institute for EMS Systems Executive Director: Dr. Kevin Seaman
State Medical Director. Dr. Richard Alcorta, MD, FACEOMD EMS Board Representative George “Fred” Cross Jr. PP
SEMSAC Representative Linda Dousa
R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center Vice President Karen Doyle, M.B.A., M.S.R.N. Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal State Fire Marshal Brian Geraci Maryland DNR Forestry Service State Fire Supervisor Monte Mitchell Maryland State Police Superintendent Colonel William M. Pallozzi MD State Police Aviation Division Major Frank Lioi
Maryland Emergency Management Agency Executive Director Russell Strickland

Thanks to all MSFA Officers, Chairman and committee members for a most successful year.
The Officers and Committee Chairman would like to thank all the Member Companies and Associates for their continued support to
the success of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Because of your efforts, we continue to be a successful organization.
Maryland State Firemen's Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

The Officers and Committee Chairman would like to thank all the Member Companies and Associates for their continued support to
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PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE MSFA

Baker, C. Oscar (78-79)
713 Midway Avenue #128, Mt. Airy, MD 21771
H 301-829-0383

Balta, Jr., Paul R. “Bobby” (06-07)
15187 Point Lookout Road, St. Inigoes, MD 20684
H 301-872-4408

Carpenter, Clarence D., Jr. (86-87)
26 Cypress Place, Indian Head, MD 20640
H 301-743-3871

Cox, Doyle E. (2010-11)
29132 Superior Circle, Easton, MD 21601
H 443-532-1416

Cox, Stephan D. (96-97)
2410 Harford Road, Fallston, MD 21047
H 443-867-6303

Cross, George A. “Fred”, Jr. (95-96)
704 Gladston Circle, Salisbury, MD 21804
H 410-984-5366

Cumberland, Jr., Robert, (87-88)
222 Shipley Avenue, Westminster, MD 21157
H 410-848-8189

Davis, Jr., C. Daniel, (97-98)
25278 Sotterley Road, Hollywood, MD 20636
H 301-373-5280

Denver, John (12-13)
458 Bow Street, Elkton, MD 21912-4622
H 410-398-5356

Edelin, Jr., Carl B., (99-00)
336 W. Dickerson Lane, Middletown, DE 19709
H 302-376-8270

Hurlock, Philip M. (93-94)
P.O. Box 137, 209 Walnut Street, Church Hill, MD 21623
H 410-556-6628

Jacobs, Robert W. (04-05)
410 East Ninth Street, Frederick, MD 21701-4613
H 301-663-3418

16081 Spielman Road, Williamsport, MD 21795
H 301-223-5632

King, Sr., Leonard T., (85-86)
6047 Melbourne Avenue, Deale, MD 20751
H 410-867-3658
Knippenburg, Robert E. (98-99) H 301-463-6114
17608 Old Dan’s Rock Road, SW, Frostburg, MD 21532

Lewis, David W. (11-12) H 410-674-3940
533 Oakton Road, Odenton, MD 21113

Mattingly, Sr., Thomas A., (90-91) H 301-475-8200
P.O. Box 173, Leonardtown, MD 20650-0173

Olson, Jacqueline M. (13-14) C 443-871-0409
424 Greenland Beach Road, Baltimore, MD 21226

Powell, Roger N. (09-10) H 410-833-8338
613 Sunspot Road, Reisterstown, MD 21136

Robison, Joseph R. (89-90) H 301-776-5686
217 Patuxent Road, Laurel, MD 20707-3419

Smith, Bernard J. (91-92) H 410-242-4014
123 Second Avenue, Lansdowne, MD 21227

Steger, Roger A., Sr. (00-01) H 410-213-0780
12445 Fleetway Drive, Ocean City, MD 21842

Sterling, Jr., Paul H. (07-08) H 302-829-8147
P.O. Box 518, Ocean View, DE 19970

Tharp, Thomas L. (81-82) H 305-451-5044
1608 Monmouth Lane, Key Largo, FL 33037

Thompson, Terry E. (03-04) H 410-531-3342
6122 Tulane Drive, Clarksville, MD 21029

Underwood, Frank J. (08-09) H 301-441-2868
4807 Ruatan Street, College Park, MD 20740

Worthington, Gene (02-03) H 410-734-0306
3663 Old Level Road, Havre De Grace, MD 21078

Yinger, Richard L. (94-95) H 410-397-3292
2349 Hoopers Island Road, Fishing Creek, MD 21634
### PAST PRESIDENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past President</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. Roger McSherry</td>
<td>1893-94-95</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edwin J. Lawyer</td>
<td>1895-96</td>
<td>Westminster</td>
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<tr>
<td>William H. A. Hamilton</td>
<td>1896-97</td>
<td>Hagerstown</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Irving Mace</td>
<td>1897-98</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>John J. Stump</td>
<td>1898-99</td>
<td>Cumberland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philip E. Porter</td>
<td>1899-00</td>
<td>Annapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Augustus Albert</td>
<td>1900-01</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
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<tr>
<td>John H. Cunningham</td>
<td>1901-02-03</td>
<td>Westminster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lloyd T. MacGill Jr.</td>
<td>1903-04</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
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<tr>
<td>William G. Rerbin</td>
<td>1904-05</td>
<td>Snow Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>John dep. Douw</td>
<td>1905-06</td>
<td>Annapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palmer Tennant</td>
<td>1906-07</td>
<td>Hagerstown</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Z. Stanton</td>
<td>1907-08</td>
<td>Roland Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter C. McFarland</td>
<td>1908-09</td>
<td>Lonaconing</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Walter Wright</td>
<td>1909-10</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>John B. Baker</td>
<td>1910-11</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. O’B. Diehm</td>
<td>1911-12-13</td>
<td>Sparrows Point</td>
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<td>Harry T. Levely</td>
<td>1913-14</td>
<td>Annapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. F. Fairall</td>
<td>1914-15</td>
<td>Laurel</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. G. Kelch</td>
<td>1915-16</td>
<td>Raspeburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russell P. Smith</td>
<td>1916-17</td>
<td>Cambridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. H. Baumgartner</td>
<td>1917-18</td>
<td>Hamilton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oscar D. Gilbert</td>
<td>1918-19</td>
<td>Westminster</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conrad J. Herpich</td>
<td>1919-20</td>
<td>Cumberland</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. R. Lohner - (died in office)</td>
<td>1920-21</td>
<td>Salisbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William H. Collier</td>
<td>1921</td>
<td>Salisbury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles W. Tucker</td>
<td>1921-22</td>
<td>Annapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>James B. McAlpine</td>
<td>1922-23</td>
<td>Lonaconing</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. W. Bell</td>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Raspeburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward J. Dachiell</td>
<td>1923-24</td>
<td>Snow Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leo M. Moore</td>
<td>1924-25</td>
<td>Havre de Grace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas G. Basil</td>
<td>1925-26</td>
<td>Annapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>John J. Fainter</td>
<td>1926-27</td>
<td>Hyattsville</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. H. Ford</td>
<td>1927-28</td>
<td>Crisfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>James P. Reese</td>
<td>1928-29</td>
<td>Lutherville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vincent A. Simmel</td>
<td>1929-30</td>
<td>Cottage City</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. T. Wentz</td>
<td>1930-31</td>
<td>Lineboro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George W. Colburn Jr.</td>
<td>1931-32</td>
<td>Princess Anne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse A. Fisher</td>
<td>1932-33</td>
<td>Annapolis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene J. C. Raney</td>
<td>1933-34</td>
<td>Kensington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noble F. Rushe</td>
<td>1934-35</td>
<td>Hyattsville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

*Frank T. Shaffer 1935-36  Westminster
*J. Millard Tawes 1936-37  Crisfield
*B. Harrison Shipley 1937-38  Ellicott City
*Karl A. Young 1938-39  Mt. Rainier
*Percey S. T. Reinwall 1939-40  Easton
*John F. McNulty 1940-41  Linthicum Heights
*Roland B. Duke 1941-42  Leonardtown
*F. Lester Smith (died in office) 1942-43  Frederick
*Thomas Tozzola 1943  North Beach
*Showard T. Culver 1943-44  Hebrón
*Phil Ryan 1944-45  Mt. Rainier
*C. William Ecton 1945-46  Hagerstown
*W. Bartgis Storm 1946-47  Frederick
*Charles R Stallings Jr. 1947-48  Pikesville
*E. Landon Walston 1948-49  Easton
*Spencer J. H. Brown Sr. 1949-50  Sandy Spring
*G. Mitchell Boulden 1950-51  Elkon
*Cromwell C. Zembower 1951-52  La Vale
*B. Harrison Shipley Jr. 1952-53  Ellicott City
*William A. Chenoweth 1953-54  Pikesville
*John W. Smith 1954-55  West Annapolis
*Ted C. Gardner 1955-56  Riverdale Heights
*Philip H. Beard 1956-57  Walkersville
*James N. Jarman 1957-58  Ocean City
*Howard B. Springer 1958-59  Havre de Grace
*Ralph N. Small Jr. 1959-60  Boulevard Heights
*Jack V. Reckner 1960-61  Earleigh Heights
*Howard A. Keller 1961-62  Pikesville
*Leslie B. Thompson 1962-63  Damascus
*David B. Kirk 1963-64  Bowling Green
*Herman B. Hare 1964-65  Hampstead
*Raymond I. Atkins 1965-66  Berlin
*Joseph H. Kelly 1966-67  Benedict
*William A. Moore 1967-68  Frederick – United
*Peter Paul Lochary 1968-69  Bel Air
*Charles N. Ringer 1969-70  Hagerstown
*Gerald A. Glaubitz 1970-71  Morningside
*Thomas L. Reynolds 1971-72  Queen Anne’s-Hillsboro
*Richard H. Carter 1972-73  Glen Burnie
*Roy L. Wood 1973-74  Beltsville
*Edwin F. Preston 1974-75  Arbutus
*C. Edwin Turner Sr. 1975-76  Centerville
*Elmer E. Dunn Sr. 1976-77  Powhatan Beach
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

*Arthur Marvin Gibbons 1977-78 Hillandale
C. Oscar Baker 1978-79 Mt. Airy
*Charles B. Burton 1979-80 Landover Hills
* Robert N. Dempsey 1980-81 Kennedyville
Thomas L. Tharp 1981-82 Odenton
*Smith N. Stathem Jr. 1982-83 Pikesville
*Charles W. Riley 1983-84 Abington
*Robert J. Smith 1984-85 West Lanham Hills
Leonard Thurston King Sr. 1985-86 Damascus
Clarence Daniel Carpenter Jr. 1986-87 Potomac Heights
Robert P. Cumberland Jr. 1987-88 Westminster
*Robert H. Shimer 1988-89 Potomac-Westernport
Joseph A. Robison 1989-90 Laurel
Thomas A. Mattingly Sr. 1990-91 Leonardtown
*William J. Fleshman 1992-93 Beltsville
Philip M. Hurlock 1993-94 Church Hill
Richard L. Yinger 1994-95 Citizens Truck
George A. “Fred” Cross 1995-96 Chestnut Ridge
Stephan D. Cox 1996-97 Bel Air
Charles Daniel Davis Jr. 1997-98 Hollywood
Robert E. Knippenburg 1998-99 Midland
Carl B. Edelin Jr. 1999-00 Kensington
Roger A. Steger Sr. 2000-01 Ocean City
*Charles J. “Jenks” Mattingly III 2001-02 Hollywood
Gene Worthington 2002-03 Level
Terry E. Thompson 2003-04 Savage
Robert W. Jacobs 2004-05 Citizens Truck
*Lee N. Sachs, Esq. 2005-06 Pikesville
Paul R. “Bobby” Balta Jr. 2006-07 Ridge
Paul H. Sterling Jr. 2007-08 Wheaton
Frank J. Underwood 2008-09 Branchville
Roger N. Powell, Esq. 2009-10 Pikesville
Doyle E. Cox 2010-11 Prince Frederick
David W. Lewis 2011-12 Odenton
John Denver 2012-13 Elkton
Jacqueline Olson 2013-14 Fearndale
David Keller 2014-15 Citizens

PAST SECRETARIES

*William M. Crimmins 1893-1896 Frederick
*John J. Stump, PP 1896-1898 Cumberland
*Charles V. Wantz 1898-1901 Westminster
*William M. Crimmins 1901-1903 Frederick
*Harry T. Levely, PP 1903-1905 Annapolis
*James Pearre Wantz 1905-1907 Westminster
*Harry I. Smith 1907-1909 Cumberland
*Joseph E. Hollar 1909-1911 Sparrows Point
*Edward Stevenson 1911-1913 Lonaconing
*Charles L. Davis 1913-1915 Westernport
*William Weagly 1915-1917 Westminster
*J. Hall Wright 1917-1919 Easton
*George R. Lindsay 1919-1921 Hagerstown
*Lawrence C. Cooney 1921-1923 Sparrows Point
*George R. Lindsay 1923-1939 Hagerstown
*Benjamin R. Benson II 1939-1940 Towson
*Ted C. Gardner, PP 1940-1953 Riverdale Heights
*Floyd B. Heimer 1953-1973 Branchville
*William B. Fox 1977-1979 Landover Hills
*William E. Denver 1979-1980 Elkton
Leonard T. King Sr., PP 1993-2008 Damascus
Jacqueline M. Olson PP 2009-2010 Ferndale
Joseph A. Cooper 2011-2012 Bay District
Doyle E. Cox, PP 2012-(now serv.) Prince Frederick

**PAST TREASURERS**

*Hiram R. Heck 1893-1905 Frederick
*G. Walter Wright, PP 1905-1907 Cambridge
*John W. Brittingham 1907-1909 Salisbury
*Walter W. Wittig 1909-1911 Frostburg
*William B. Usilton Jr. 1911-1913 Chestertown
*Russell P. Smith 1913-1915 Cambridge
*Edward Stevenson 1915-1917 Lonaconing
*Peter B. Cain 1917-1919 Midland
*Frank C. Ort 1919-1921 Midland
*A. C. Fry 1921-1923 Frostburg
*Frank C. Ort 1923-1924 Midland
*W. B. Davis 1924-1927 Silver Spring
*Frank C. Ort 1927-1924 Midland
*Frank W. Truitt 1934-1939 Ocean City
*Elmer S. Knight 1939-1945 Frostburg
*William A. Wilson 1945-1975 Midland
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

PAST FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

Robert W. Jacobs 1997-2002 Citizens Truck
*Paul Fabiszak 2002-2003 Hereford EMS
W. Mitchell "Mitch" Vocke 2012- (Now Serv.) Jarretsville

PAST CHAPLAINS

*Seth Russell Downie, D.D. 1917-1927 Taneytown
*Russell P Smith 1927-1929 Cambridge
*Conrad J. Herpich 1929-1932 Cumberland
*Rev. James W. Minter 1932-1968 Baltimore
*Rev. Lewis F. Cole 1968-1977 Bel Air VFC
*Pierce M. Damewood 1977-1998 Beltsville VFD
Rev. J. Harvey Dixon 1998-1999 Salisbury VFD

2000 the Office of Chief Chaplain was approved by the Membership

PAST CHIEF CHAPLAINS

Rev. J. Harvey Dixon 2000-2004 Salisbury VFD

PAST TRUSTEES

*W. H. A. Hamilton, PP 1906-1925 Hagerstown
*J. H. Cunningham, PP 1906-1913 Westminster
*Philip E. Porter, PP 1906-1918 Annapolis
*John J. Stump, PP 1906-1933 Cumberland
*John dep Douw, PP 1906-1909 Annapolis
*Palmer Tennant, PP 1907-1911 Hagerstown
*Lloyd T. MacGill, PP 1907-1908 Frederick
*Glenn H. Worthington 1907-1910 Frederick
*Peter C. McFarland, PP 1911-1925 Lonaconing
*John B. Baker, PP 1912-1917 Manchester
*F. G. Kelch, PP 1917-1919 Raspeburg
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

*Roy L. Morgan 1918-1942  Annapolis
*S. J. Kelly 1919-1922  Hyattsville
*William H. Collier, PP 1922-1932  Salisbury
*Robert Strobel 1925-1929  Hagerstown
*Harry L. Smith 1925-1943  Cumberland
*A. Shepard Bayly 1926-1934  Cambridge
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*B. Horace Ford, PP 1933-1937  Crisfield
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*Marc Bryant 1934-1936  Denton
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*Curtis C. Larrimore 1937-1952  Easton
*John S. Prichard 1943-1968  Grantsville
*John O. Cockey 1942-1954  Glynn
*Showard T. Culver, PP 1946-1961  Hebron
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*Dr. James P. Swing 1952-1957  Cambridge
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*Richard J. Mooney 1966-1976  Lansdowne
*J. Francis Fatkin 1968-1997  Clarksburg
*James N. Jarman, PP 1970-1975  Ocean City
*Leslie B. Thompson, PP 1975-1985  Damascus
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S. Richard Powell 1985-1995  Glenelg
*Charles W. Riley, PP 1987-2004  Abingdon
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Robert Knippenburg, PP 2004-2005  Midland
Steven V. Hales 2005-2013  Ocean City
Terry E. Thompson, PP 2005-(now serving)  Savage
Clarence “Chip” Jewell 2005-2005  Libertytown
Gene Worthington, PP 2005-2014  Level
C. Daniel Carpenter III 2006-(now serving)  Potomac Heights
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*1992 Special Centennial Convention
PROGRAM
125th CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE OF THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2017

0900  Convention and Conference Exhibits Office Open – Convention Center Lower Level
1200  Convention and Conference Show Office Open – Convention Center Mezzanine level
1330  Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Training Commission Meeting - Convention Center
1830  JOINT OFFICERS BANQUET (By Invitation Only)

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2017

0800  Exhibitor Registration – Convention Center Lower Level
0900-1700  Education and Training Seminars – Convention Center
0900-1130  Miss Fire Prevention Interviews – Governor’s Room and Board Room Mezzanine Level
0930  MSFA Executive Committee Meeting – Convention Center Performing Arts Center
1000-1200  Convention Events Ticket Sales – Convention Center Ground Floor
1030  SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE – Convention Center Performing Arts Center
1100  Fire and EMS Memorabilia Flea Market – Convention Center Performing Art Center Foyer
1400  MISS FIRE PREVENTION CONTEST – Convention Center Performing Arts Center
1700  JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE – Convention Center Bay Front Hall Room

MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2017

0700  Registration – Convention Center Bay Front Ballroom
0800  Convention Events Ticket Sales – Convention Center Ground Floor
CALL TO ORDER – FIRST SESSION – Convention Center Bay Front Ballroom

OPENING CEREMONIES – Convention Center Bay Front Ballroom

Exhibits Open

Keynote Speaker Presentation –

“The History of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, 125 Years of Service and Dedication, A Year of Celebration and Remembrance” Presented by MSFA Past President and Chairman of the 125th Anniversary Celebration Thomas Mattingly

For the past 125 years, the members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association have provided emergency services to the citizens of Maryland. For the past twelve months, there has been opportunity to study and to celebrate this great tradition of emergency service. This presentation will examine the historical archives of this Association and review the year-long celebration of remembrance and look towards the future.

Recognition of MSFA Past Presidents
Recognition of Guests and Organizations

LADIES AUXILIARY – Dismissed to begin their Meeting –
Convention Center Performing Arts Center

Reading and acceptance of the 2015 Convention and Conference Minutes
Report of the Credentials Committee
Report of the Association Officers
Report of the Standing and Special Committees
Report of the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund
Report of the Constitution and By-laws Committee
Report of the National Volunteer Fire Council

Nomination of Officers and Location of Convention
Appointment of Election Judges and Tellers

END of FIRST SESSION

CALL TO ORDER – SECOND SESSION – Convention Center Bay Front Ballroom

Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Training Commission Report
Maryland Instructor’s Certification Board Report
Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board Report
Maryland Emergency Management Agency Report
Maryland Department of Homeland Security Report
Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division Report
1300 MAIN PROGRAM PRESENTATION – The Price We Pay
Presented by Mike Healy, CEAP, LAPC, SAP, Chief Central Nyack Fire Department Coordinator of Fire Education – Rockland County, New York
Fire Training Center Nyack, New York

Scott Geiselhart
In July ’14, Scott Geiselhart, a 20-year veteran of the fire service, put his favorite gun to his head and pulled the trigger. The gun misfired. Scott had been experiencing the symptoms of PTSD for years as a result of his dedication to his community and the fire service. Stories about the horrors of PTSD and the consequences from across the country are finally beginning to make their way to the forefront of our field. When Scott hit his absolute bottom he called the Firefighter/EMS Hotline and was referred to treatment that helped put his life on a new path. This presentation with Mike and Scott will discuss firefighter behavioral health and all of its symptoms including, but not limited to, substance abuse.

1330 Continuation of MSFA Partner Reports
Report of the Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office
Report of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute
Report of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems
Report of the R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center

END of SECOND SESSION

1430 EDUCATION and TRAINING SEMINARS – Convention Center Mezzanine

1630 Exhibits Close – No entry into exhibits area after 1615 hours

1800 BAG BINGO – Convention Center Bay Front Ballroom (Doors Open 1700 hours)

1830 MONDAY NIGHT FAMILY EVENT AT JOLLY ROGER AMUSEMENT PARK
Convention Events Ticket Sales – Convention Center Ground Floor

TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2017

0800 VOTING – Convention Center – (Open for 2 hours)

0830 CALL TO ORDER – THIRD SESSION – Convention Center Bay Front Ballroom

AWARDS CEREMONY
Gladhill-Thompson Award
Colburn Cup Award
Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award
Hall of Fame Awards
Special Service Awards
Robert H. Shimer Administrator of the Year Award
Josiah Hunt EMS Member of the Year Award
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

0920  Main Program Presentation – The Firefighter Cancer Support Network
Presented by Donna Luce-MacDonald Vice President-East Region I State Director and Cancer Survivor
The Firefighter Cancer Support Network (FCSN) is a non-profit organization that helps firefighters and their families when diagnosed with cancer. FCSN has a mentor program made up of firefighters that are cancer survivors, and an awareness and education program. The educational presentation is taught through personal experiences and mistakes, the carcinogens firefighters are exposed to, the routes of these exposures and how to protect and prevent further exposures. These presentations point firefighters in the right direction to set up policies and fight for presumptive laws. Firefighters are three times as likely to be diagnosed with cancer; it’s time to make the necessary changes to lower those numbers!

CONTINUATION OF AWARDS CEREMONY
Edwin L. Emkey, Sr. Cadet Award
Past President C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year Award
Firefighter of the Year Award
Smith N. Stathem, Jr., PP, Memorial Safety Award Zembower Fire Service Training Award
John E. “Sunny” Rose Memorial Training Award Scholarship Awards
Family Appreciation Awards
Francis L. Brannigan Instructor of the Year Award

1130  Main Program Presentation - Flash Max – Fire Safety Comic Superhero –
Presented by Michael Furman - LaPlata Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., LaPlata, MD
The comic superhero “Flash Max” continues to expand his popular interactive fire safety message platform by adding characters and props. Since his appearance last year, “Flash Max” has released a 32-page full color children’s picture book; introduced a new interactive door prop, “Zoor the Door”, which visually demonstrates the need for children to keep their bedroom doors closed at night time; and redesigned “Blaze”, the costume character that personifies fire in the home. Now working with a professional videographer to produce high-grade YouTube video to reach out to kids on his new YouTube channel “Flash Max” continues to expand his message to promote fire safety throughout the region.
Fire Prevention Awards and Silver Spring Award.
Legislative Committee Update
SENATOR WM H. AMOSS MEMORIAL LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD
Presented by the MSFA Legislative Committee

REPORT OF THE ELECTION JUDGES

END of THIRD SESSION
1200-1600  Mack Fire Truck Rally – Convention Center North Parking Lot Bayside
1300  Cornhole Tournament – Convention Center location TBD
1230  Education and Training Seminars – Convention Center
1400  Exhibits Close
1830  JOINT INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS – Convention Center Bay Front Ballroom
1830  Ocean City FOOLS Block Party – COWBOY COAST – 17th Street & Philadelphia Avenue
(Supporting National Fallen Firefighters Foundation)
Featuring Franklin Square Band/ Pipes and Drums to perform

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017**

0730  PRAYER BREAKFAST – Convention Center Bay Front Ballroom
0900  CALL TO ORDER – FOURTH SESSION – Convention Center Bay Front Ballroom
0900  Exhibits Open

Reading of Communication and Announcements
Reading and Presentation of Resolutions
Introduction of New Officers of the Ladies Auxiliary to the MSFA

0920  MAIN PROGRAM PRESENTATION – Historic Ellicott City Flood – July 2016
*Presented by John S. Butler, Fire Chief, Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services, Ellicott City, Maryland*

The Ellicott City flash flood of 2016 devastated homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure at the center of one of Maryland’s most historic towns. It took less than two hours for waters to rise 13 feet, turning the city’s main street residential and business districts into a raging river. In addition to extensive rescue operations on the night of the flood, the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services played an essential role in extended recovery process as the community worked to rebuild. Fire Chief John S. Butler will speak about his department’s experience overseeing search and rescue operations, leading initial structure stabilization efforts, assuming leadership roles within the Type III Incident Management Team, and providing ongoing safety oversight for recovery workers in the weeks and months following the catastrophic flood.

1000  Remarks by the Past President and Remarks by the Newly Elected Officers

1030  MAIN PRESENTATION – Are Our Maryland Firefighters Really Ready for Today’s Operational Demands?
*Presented by Assistant Chief Edgar Carman - Snow Hill Volunteer Fire Dept., Snow Hill, MD*

Do you offer what is needed to have your firefighters exceptionally ready and effective, for our operational demands and the entire situation, presented? Are you as an individual fire department able to provide the “combat ready” firefighter a fit backup for his/her safety and fellow providers?
Final Report of the Convention Committee

1100 Unfinished Business and New Business

$10,000 Report and Raffle Drawings

FOURTH SESSION ADJOURNED

1200 Exhibits Close – No entry after 1145 hours

1300 MSFA Parade – Downtown Ocean City, Baltimore Avenue. Line-up Inlet Parking Lot.

SPECIAL NOTE – Parade route between 16th and 30th Street on Baltimore Avenue.

1730 Awarding of Parade Prizes and Trophies - Convention Center Dockside Exhibit

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017

0900 Executive Committee Meeting – Convention Center Performing Arts Center

** MSFA Executive Committee Meetings are Open to the MSFA General Membership

1300-1800 FRONTIER TOWN FAMILY EVENT – Berlin, Maryland

1400-1600 LAMSFA Tickled Paint ARTworks FUNdraiser – Convention Center Room 207

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017

0800 MSFA Golf Tournament – Eagles Landing Golf Tournament

** At the conclusion of the Golf Tournament **

Lunch will be provided at Assateague Crab House
Line of Duty Tribute

Master F/F Rescuer Charles “Rick” Gentilcore  
Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service

Captain Christopher E. Hill  
Prince George’s County Fire & EMS Dept.

F/F Jacob Howser  
Pocomoke City Dept. of EMS

President Robert “Bob” Joseph Traynelis  
St. Michaels Fire Dept.
Special Tribute

Thomas L. Tharp
Odenton Vol. Fire Company
Past President MSFA 1981-82

Marian Soderstrom
English Consul Vol. Firemen’s
Association Auxiliary
LAMSFA Historian 1969-70

Mary Coates
Waldorf V.F.D. & EMS Auxiliary
LAMSFA Conference Chairman
1984-85

Barry W. Johnson
Laurel Vol. Rescue Squad
Statistical Chair

William W. Olsen
Waldorf Vol. Fire Dept. & EMS Assoc.
Executive Committee Member
1977-1980

John C. Spiker
Riviera Beach Volunteer Fire Company
Chairman Historical & Archives

Dr. Harry E. Hickey
College Park Vol. Fire Company
Prof. Fire Protection Engineer UM
Tonight we honor memories of those of our colleagues who have departed us like in the past year. Some of them were very close friends; others were acquaintances; some held offices in their Companies or its Auxiliary; County Associations; the MSFA or the LAMSFA; others were “blue shirts” through their careers. They all had something very special in common – a commitment to the volunteer fire, rescue and EMS service of Maryland. They, and we, were all then part of “The Family” and we mourn the loss of each and remember their lives, and extend our sympathy to their loved ones and the companies they served.

Those we honor tonight remind us of the parable that Jesus told in the Book of Luke, Chapter 10. He tells how the Samaritan took care of the man who had been robbed. Jesus pointed out in this parable that everyone we meet is our neighbor and we should love our neighbor as we love ourselves. The individuals we honor tonight exemplify this, as they gave freely of their time and God given talents to help those in need. Proverbs 24 says, “One man gives freely, yet gains even more.” We pray for those who are receiving their just rewards from the Heavenly Father.

As you listen to the readings and see the faces and names being memorialized tonight, silently lift their loved ones up in prayer for comfort, and thank God for their dedication to the fire service.

John F. Long, Jr., Chief Chaplain, MSFA Malea Daughton, LAMSFA Chaplain
Families are escorted into the main hall and are seated in designated area. Tom Musgrove, Chaplain Laytonsville Volunteer Fire Department sings a medley of hymns.

**Chief Chaplain Emeritus Harvey Dixon:** Thank you Tom Musgrove. Very good. I’m Harvey Dixon, Chief Chaplain Emeritus of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and we have assembled today for the State Firemen’s Association Annual Memorial Service.

Greetings to each one of you this evening in the name of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I’m going to ask everyone to please turn off all cell phones and pagers and I’m now going to ask everyone to rise for the presentation of the colors.

Folks there are some seats down front if you want to come down fill these seats in. Please ladies and gentlemen welcome to the annual memorial service as we honor those we’ve lost this past year. Ladies and gentlemen though our hearts are void of their love and the joy of their company let us rejoice in knowing that one day we will rejoice with them again.

Tonight we will have eleven special tributes for our line of duty deaths, one is a past president, one past officer and five committee chairs and one special tribute. We’re honored to have their families with us tonight as we pay tribute to their loved one.

Tonight we are continuing with our tradition of having a candle for each County. Let us pray.

Almighty God we praise your name for those we memorialize this evening. We thank you for their dedication, hard work, friendships and love. Tonight, as we proceed with this memorial service, we pray that it will bring comfort and pride to those who have lost a loved one. Just as Jacob took his father’s body to the land of Canaan we find this in Genesis 50:20. They held a great solemn memorial service and we pray that we follow that tradition for we are told in Ecclesiastic 72 “it is better to go to the house of mourning into the house of feasting for death is a destiny of every man.” The living should take heart father we rely on your loving arms to comfort the broken in heart. Let us rejoice with pride as we acknowledge the dedication of those we honor tonight let us let this be a celebration of their dedication to the emergency services. We take comfort in knowing that these servants now rest in your presence. Amen.

At this time I’d like to introduce Tim Koenig to sing the National Anthem. “Oh say can you see by the dawn’s early light, what so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming. Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight. O’re the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming. And the rocket’s red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. Oh say does that star-spangled banner yet wave, o’re the land of the free and the home
Chaplain Dixon: You may be seated. I would like to introduce the President the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Michael Davis, for his welcoming comments and President Barbara Sue Nelson from the Ladies Auxiliary to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association for her comments.

President Michael Davis: Good evening family and friends of the fire service. As you arrive this evening we received a battery-operated candle. This evening when your county’s name is announced you’re asked to rise and light your candle. You will see a larger candle escorted up the center aisle by a representative from your County and placed on the display stand to the left of the stage. Once the names of your County have been completed please be seated and leave your candle lit for the remainder of the ceremony. At the end of the evening we will have 24 lit candles on the display along with your County flag representing the state of Maryland; and the entire room will be filled with candlelight. Our goal is to send a solid beam of light to Heaven to let our friends and family know that we will always carry them close to our hearts and they are never be forgotten. As we do this tonight we remember several of our fallen brothers and sisters. Words can’t express how much we’re going to miss them. I’m just glad to have you all here tonight as we start this 125th convention. I’m glad you’re all here to enjoy this moment with us. Please have a safe weekend and week through the convention. Safe travels going home and God bless. Thank you and good evening.

President Barbara Sue Nelson: myself and the other officers of the Ladies Auxiliary and the Maryland State Firemen’s Association would also like to extend our deepest sympathy to all family members here tonight. Our hearts are broken as well of you all. We’ve lost brothers and sisters with the auxiliary and in the fire department and we’re here for you if you need anything. Again, we offer you our deepest sympathy thank you.

Chaplain Michael Bowen: From Ecclesiastes 3:1-11. It tells us as there is a time for everything - a season for every activity under heaven, a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to love, a time to laugh and a time to mourn, and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. What does the worker gain from his toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on men and he has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also sent eternity in that in the hearts of men yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer was sung by Tim Koenig: Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed
be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

Chief Chaplain John Long: We will now have the reading of the 23rd Psalm by LAMSFA Vice Chaplain Jean Main: “The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, He leadeth me beside the still waters, He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake, yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil for Thou art with me. Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies. Thou anointed my head with oil, my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”

Chief Chaplain John Long: Stacy Faust will now read her poem she wrote honoring her Chief the night he was killed in the Line of Duty.

Stacy Faust, the author of the Last Call on Earth, First Call in Heaven, reads her poem.

The alarm rings out
Turn out gear is donned.
All rushing about
And engines climbed on
Then it’s off to the scene
To do it they must
Saving a life
Or building up trust
Of a small frightened child
The weak in the frail
They do what they know
They respond without fail
But a life that is but life has its twists
Its bumps in its turns
Life isn’t simple as everyone learns
No one is better
Each equals the other
Everyone here
Is a sister or brother.
But a life is lost
In the midst of a call
Brings new meaning to life
To the great and the small.
   A Last Call on earth
Doesn’t mean it’s the end
There’s a First Call in Heaven
For those we call “friend”.
And once the Last Call
Has been sounded out loud
   A reverent hush
Falls over the crowd
And there in the quiet
Inside of each soul
Comes A First Call from Heaven - The ultimate goal.

Chaplain Harry Hetz reads from The Book of Lamentations. “I have been deprived of peace. I have forgotten what prosperity is. So I said my splendor is gone and all that I had hoped from the Lord. I remembered my affliction, in my wandering, my bitterness and my gall. I well remember them and my soul is downcast within me. It is because of the Lord’s mercy and loving kindness that we are not consumed because his compassion never fails, I have hope. They are new every morning, great and abundant. It is thy faithfulness. The Lord is my portion or share. This is my living being. Therefore I will wait on Him. The Lord is good to those who wait and hopefully expectantly for Him. To those who seek Him it is good that one should hope in and wait quietly for salvation of the Lord.” Here ends the reading.

We will now have the recognition of our passed members:

**Allegheny County**
David L. Miller, Barton Hose Company; Richard N. Smith Sr., City of Cumberland Fire Department; Louis R. Winter, Cresaptown Volunteer Fire Department; Sharon L. Koch, Frostburg Area Ambulance Service; George D. Whetstone, Shaft Volunteer Fire Department.

**Anne Arundel County**
Ronald P. Hoblitz, Anne Arundel Alarmers Association; Leonard W. Kayton, Avalon Shores Volunteer Fire Department; Marianne Gibons, Deale Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad Auxiliary; Richard R. Johnson, Deale Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Bernard C. Philips, Deale Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Vera A. Tucker Epstein, Deale Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad Auxiliary; Melanie L. Smith, Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary; Elmer L. Zick Jr., Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company; Edgar Bowen Sr., Eastport Volunteer Fire Company; Shirley M. Tracy, Eastport Volunteer Fire Company; Stephen D. Saghy Sr., Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company; Judy A. Swauger, Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company; Mark B. Mewshaw, Glen Burnie Volunteer Fire Department; Ruth A. Nevin, Glen Burnie Volunteer Fire Department; George D. Clark Jr., Independent Fire Company
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

#2; Annie M. Hawkins, Jessup Volunteer Fire Department; Dolores A. Brown, Lake Shore Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary; Charles R. Holmes, Lake Shore Volunteer Fire Company; James D. Schlotterback, Lake Shore Volunteer Fire Company; Gabriel Schultz, Lake Shore Volunteer Fire Company; John C. Spiker Sr., Lake Shore Volunteer Fire Department and Riviera Beach Volunteer Fire Company and Chair MSFA Historical & Archives; Patricia A. Barger, Maryland City Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad Auxiliary; Joan M. Dorsey, Odenton Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary; Thomas L. Tharp, Odenton Volunteer Fire Company and MSFA President 1981-82; Bruce S. Smith Jr., Orchard Beach Volunteer Fire Department; Edwin J. Reinking Sr., Riviera Beach Volunteer Fire Company; Joseph M. Connell Sr., Woodland Beach Volunteer Fire Company.

**Baltimore County**
Walter C. Hausenstein, Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department; Alfred G. “Dee” Neighoff Jr., Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company; Thomas P. Wickline Sr., Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company; Henry J. Horner III, Arcadia Volunteer Fire Company; Patricia L. Cross, Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Company; Barbara Howard, Ladies Auxiliary Cockeysville Volunteer Fire Company; Thomas P. Roache, English Consul Firemen’s Association; Marion Soderstrom, English Consul Firemen’s Association; Adam D. MacLellan, Glyndon Volunteer Fire Department; Rosemary B. Stem, Glyndon Volunteer Fire Department; Richard W. Stem Sr., Glyndon Volunteer Fire Department; Philip Wallace, Glyndon, Volunteer Fire Department; Dennis L. Eyre, Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company and Long Green Volunteer Fire Company; William J. Moore Jr., Liberty Road Volunteer Fire Company; David Baker, Middle River Volunteer Fire Company; Henri Casenov, Middle Volunteer Fire Company; Richard Naresky, Middle River Volunteer Fire Company; James Weis, Middle River Volunteer Fire Company; John Lowe, Reisterstown Volunteer Fire Company; Richard W. Stem Sr., Reisterstown Volunteer Fire Company; Clara Ernest, Ladies Auxiliary Wise Avenue Volunteer Fire Company.

**Calvert County**
Mark A. Montgomery, Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Department; Joann Spittle, Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. Auxiliary; Ruth Reid, Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Kenneth M. Wells, Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Maurice C. Hardesty, Huntingtown Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Betty K. Freesland, North Beach Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary; William C. Keefe, Solomons Volunteer Rescue Squad and Fire Department; John R. Langford, Solomons Volunteer Rescue Squad and Fire Department; Robert R. “Bob” Miller, St. Leonard Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Co. #7; Florence L. Sickle, St Leonard Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Company #7.

**Caroline County**
George D. Clark, Federalsburg Volunteer Fire Company; Betty L. Shufelt, Federalsburg
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Volunteer Fire Company; Kemp Todd Jr., Federalsburg Volunteer Fire Company.

**Carroll County**
Virginia Brothers, Auxiliary of the Gamber and Community Fire Company; Betty L. Hale, Hampstead Auxiliary to the Hampstead Volunteer Fire Engine and Hose Company #1; Earl Miller, Hampstead Volunteer Fire Engine and Hose Company #1; Larry F. Bowers, Harney Volunteer Fire Company; Arlene M Hare, Lineboro Volunteer Fire Department and Auxiliary; Levre M. Kopp, Lineboro Volunteer Fire Department; Evelyn M. Krebs, Lineboro Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary; Howard “Babe” Miller, Manchester Fire Engine and Hook and Ladder Company #1; William P. Camuti, Auxiliary Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company; William A. Brown, Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company; Brenda H. Gardner, Auxiliary to Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company; Claire E. Hobbs, Auxiliary to Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company; R. Delaine Hobbs, Auxiliary to Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company; Harvey W. Tabler, Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company; Wayne Blackiston, New Windsor Fire and Hose Company #1; Lettie Cartzendafner, Auxiliary to the New Windsor Fire and Hose Company #1; Joel B. Hawkins, Pleasant Valley Community Fire Company; Charlotte C. Myers, Pleasant Valley Community Fire Company; George F. Smith, Pleasant Valley Community Fire Company; Betty Hibbs, Sykesville-Freedom District Fire Department; David D. Ghoff, Sykesville-Freedom District Fire Department; Gerald D. Rains, Sykesville-Freedom District Fire Department; Eileen Rosen, Sykesville-Freedom District Fire Department; John “Smitty” Smith, Sykesville-Freedom District Fire Department; Alvin L. Vaughn, Sykesville-Freedom District Fire Department; Louise E. Riffle, Taneytown Volunteer Fire Company #1; Charles D. Bostian, Union Bridge Volunteer Fire Company; Alton R. “Ack” Hesson, Union Bridge Volunteer Fire Company; Glenda A. Etzler, Union Bridge Volunteer Fire Company; James B. Wolfe, Union Bridge Volunteer Fire Company; John H. “Jack” Lippy, Westminster Fire Engine and Hose Company #1; Frances R. Conaway, Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department & Auxiliary; Sam France, Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department; Hilda L. Gardner, Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department & Auxiliary; Elise M. Legore; Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department & Auxiliary; Helen C. Wallace, Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department & Auxiliary.

**Cecil County**
Sara Louise “Sally” Aiken, Cecilton Volunteer Fire Company; Carolyn Simpkins, Community Fire Company of Perryville; Charles G. Todd, Community Fire Company of Perryville; Bernard R. Cundiff Jr., Community Fire Company of Perryville; Margaret “Peggy” Sprout, Community Fire Company of Rising Sun; William E. Rothwell, Hacks Point Fire Company; Bobby Ann Sheldon, Hacks Point Fire Company; William L Bolton, North East Fire Company; James F. Penhollow, North East Fire Company; George C. Rhudy, North East Fire Company; Charles D. Tull, North East Fire Company; Christine Stapp, Volunteer Fire Company #1 of Chesapeake City; James P. White, Volunteer Fire Company #1 of Chesapeake City; George F. Hipkins, Water Witch Fire Company; Nellie Hipkins, Water Witch Fire Company; Leon C. Alexander Sr., William M. Singerly
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Charles County
Mary Gallagher, Bryans Road Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Philip M Hamrick, Bryans Road Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; M. Joanne Petrik, Bryans Road Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Nora L. Willett, Bryans Road Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Mary C. Coates, Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department and EMS Association Auxiliary and LAMSFA Conference Chairman 1983-84 and 1991-92; Edward G. Mudd, Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department and EMS Association; William W. Olsen, Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department and EMS Association; and Executive Committee Member 1977-80; Roy B. Pye III, Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department and EMS Association; Marvin E. Raby, Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department and EMS Association; Donald D. Walls, Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department and EMS Association.

Dorchester County

Frederick County
Wayne D. “Doug” Albrecht, Braddock Heights Volunteer Fire Department; Andrew D. Arnold, Braddock Heights Volunteer Fire Department; Dorothy Thomas, Carroll Manor Fire Company; Ronald G. Wachter, Citizens Truck Company #4 and Independent Hose Company #1; Eugene Grimes, Graceham Volunteer Fire Company; George Morningstar, Graceham Volunteer Fire Company; Anthony Weddle, Graceham Volunteer Fire Company; Frank L. Heller, Independent Hose Company #1; Howard H. Kelley Jr., Esq., Independent Hose Company #1; Alice L. Kennedy, Independent Hose Company #1; Herbert D. Main, Independent Hose Company #1; Dr. James E. McClellan, Independent Hose Company #1; Chester R. Stevens, Independent Hose Company #1; Ronald G. Walker, Independent Hose Company #1; Douglas A. Young, Independent Hose Company #1; Margaret Bowlus, Middletown Volunteer Fire Company; Paul L. Stup, Middletown Volunteer Fire Company; Sisty Vincent;
New Market District Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company; Jackie Matthews, New Midway Volunteer Fire Company; James T. “Sonny” Ridgely, United Steam Fire Engine Company #3; Terry R. Shankle, United Steam Fire Engine Company #3; Norman E. Brandenburg, Urbana Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Ronald W. Murphy, Urbana Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Lloyd W. Shipley, Urbana Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Charles V. “Shorty” Hartigan, Vigilant Hose Company; Paul I. Devilbiss, Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company; Helen Eaves, Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company; Melvin E. Filler, Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company; Paul Green Sr., Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company; Melissa A. Jarvis, Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company; Marcia Roberson, Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company; Melby Shepley, Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company; Shirley J. Zimmerman, Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company.

Garrett County
Robert Dunn, Eastern Garrett County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad Department; Mildred “Mich” Friend, Friendsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department Auxiliary; Alice “Peanut” Spear, Friendsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department Auxiliary; Daniel J. Klotz, Grantsville Volunteer Fire Department; John L. Hershberger, Kitzmiller Volunteer Fire Department; William J. White III, Kitzmiller Volunteer Fire Department; Gary W. Finzel, Northern Garrett County Rescue Squad; DeCorsey E. Bolden, Oakland Volunteer Fire Department.

Harford County

Howard County
John W. Merson, Elkridge Volunteer Fire Department; Roy G. Miller, Elkridge Volunteer Fire Department; Ralph L. O’Neil, Elkridge Volunteer Fire Department; Bonnie Kay Poligardo, Elkridge Volunteer Fire Department; John T. McNeece, Ellicott City Volunteer Firemen’s Association; Leroy C. Stull, Lisbon Volunteer Fire Company; Pearl “Jane” Stull, Lisbon Volunteer Fire Company.
Kent County

Montgomery County
John W. Hartley, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad; Daniel J. Strickler, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad; Haig Ellian, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad; Norman Ayers, Damascus Volunteer Fire Department; Pablo Rodriguez, Damascus Volunteer Fire Department; Raymond Slick, Damascus Volunteer Fire Department; Gene Cummins, Gaithersburg-Washington Grove Volunteer Fire Department; John F. Cooley, Hyattstown Volunteer Fire Department; John F. Hanse, Hyattstown Volunteer Fire Department; Elsie B. Hayden, Hyattstown Volunteer Fire Department; Robert P. Lynch, Kensington Volunteer Fire Department; George Kimble, Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department; Velma Oland, Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department; Nancy Stasulis, Laytonsville District Fire Department; Charles “Rick” Gentilcore, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service – LODD 03/07/17; Lisa D. Hinde, Rockville Volunteer Fire Department; Carolyn V. Lewis, Rockville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary; Carlton J. Thomas, Rockville Volunteer Fire Department; John U. “Junior” Whipp Jr., Rockville Volunteer Fire Department; Carl F. Dianda, Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department; Hubert E. Harden, Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department; Connie L. Somerville, Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary; William R. Stroup, Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department; Loretta Alberti, Ladies Auxiliary to the Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.; David T. Engleman Sr., Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department; Sara Engleman, Ladies Auxiliary to the Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department; Frank L. Heller, Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department; Danny Lyons, Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department; David McBain, Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department; Earl Elmore, Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department.

Prince George’s County
Lloyd W. Kramer Jr., Accokeek Volunteer Fire Department; Mark A. Montgomery, Accokeek Volunteer Fire Department; Sharon M. Windsor, Accokeek Volunteer Fire Department; Wayne R. Van Tassel, Baden Volunteer Fire Department; Annette “Sue” Powell, Bladensburg Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad Auxiliary; Jonathan P. Bigony, Bowie Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad #2; Clarence N. Selke Jr., Brentwood Volunteer Fire Department and Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department; Dorothy Varnado, Brentwood Volunteer Fire Department; Edward Riddle, Capitol Heights Volunteer Fire Company #1; Nathaniel Hackney, Chapel Oaks Volunteer Fire Department; Anthony “Tony” Bowen, Clinton Volunteer Fire Department; Dr. Harry E. Hickey, Professor Fire Protection Engineering, University of Maryland, College Park,
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MD; Helen A. Kulle, Forestville Volunteer Fire Department #1; John Randall, Forestville Volunteer Fire Department #1; Edward Albert Worth Jr., Forestville Volunteer Fire Department #1; Alice Moore, The Auxiliary of the Glenn Dale Fire Association; Trisha L. Bayles, Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad and Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad Auxiliary; Pauline Alice Bordas, Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad and Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad Auxiliary; Joann Spittle, Hillside Volunteer Fire Department and Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary; Eric “Buddha” Taylor, Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department; Donald I. “Patch” Aker, Kentland Volunteer Fire Department; Maria McCoy, Laurel Volunteer Fire Department #1 Auxiliary; Barry J. Sachs Sr., Laurel Volunteer Fire Department #1; Michael Gutterman, Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad; Barry W. Johnson, Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad and Chairman – Statistical Committee; Robert H. Simms III, Marlboro Volunteer Fire Department; Captain Christopher E. Hill, Prince George’s County Fire and EMS Department – LODD 07/25/16; Clarence N. Selke Jr., Brentwood Volunteer Fire Department and Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department; Dennis C. Babcock, Silver Hill Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; William R. “Dick” Bodkin, Silver Hill Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Charles Kelly Butler Jr., Silver Hill Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Raymond J. Murphy, Silver Hill Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Charles W. Porter, Silver Hill Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Stephen M. Stampfer Jr. Silver Hill Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; George M. Thompson, Silver Hill Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; Robert S. Turner, Tuxedo-Cheverly Volunteer Fire Company; James Arminger, Volunteer Fire Department of Brandywine; Conrad “Babe” Lederer, Volunteer Fire Department of Brandywine; Mary Grabau, Auxiliary of the West Lanham Hills Volunteer Fire Department; Robin B. Parsons, Auxiliary of the West Lanham Hills Volunteer Fire Department.

Queen Anne’s County
Charles A. Skinner, Crumpton Volunteer Fire Department; Bruce S. Smith Jr., Grasonville Volunteer Fire Department; Robert H. Gibson Jr., Queen Anne Hillsboro Volunteer Fire Company; Mary G. Davis, Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company; Robert M. “Mickey” Embert, Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company; Dolores B. Sharp, United Communities Volunteer Fire Department.

Somerset County
No listings for Somerset County.

St. Mary’s County
Department; George A. Farrell, Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department; Norman A. “Nornie” Guy Jr., Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department; Marsha Evans, Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad and Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary; Melvin Forrest, Ridge Volunteer Fire Department; Jean Lengel, Ridge Volunteer Fire Department; Lynn Nichalson, Ridge Volunteer Fire Department; Tom Wilkinson Jr., Ridge Volunteer Fire Department; Harry “Butch” Wright Jr., Ridge Volunteer Fire Department; Marsha Evans, Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary; Linda Gibbs, Ridge Volunteer Fire Department; Robert E. “Puggy” Russell, Second District Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad; George McWilliams III, Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department; Donald J. Morgan Jr., Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department; Hilda M. Arnold, Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary; Sylvia Gibson, Seventh District Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary.

**Talbot County**
William N. “Bill” Cheezum, Cordova Volunteer Firemen’s Association; Vernon V. Dulin, Cordova Volunteer Firemen’s Association; Frank Leitch, Oxford Fire Company; Kay Young, Oxford Fire Company; President Robert “Bob” Joseph Traynelis, St. Michaels Fire Department, LODD 05/29/16; Beth E. Morris, Trappe Volunteer Fire Company.

**Washington County**
Wicomico County
Sharon Cordery, Delmar Fire Department Auxiliary; Shirley Morris, Delmar Fire Department Auxiliary; Mary Elizabeth Bohnak, Fruitland Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary; Marguerite G. Smith, Fruitland Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary; Jack E. Hoppes, Salisbury Fire Department; Joseph H. Perdue, Salisbury Fire Department; Donald L. Records, Salisbury Fire Department Station #2; Frederick J. “Jerry” LeCates, Salisbury Fire Department Station #2; Lee W. Maczis, Salisbury Fire Department Station #2; Robert C. Atkins, Sharptown Volunteer Fire Department; Ted M. Fletcher, Sharptown Volunteer Fire Department; Cornelius Glen Messick, West Side Volunteer Fire Department; Jack Morris, West Side Volunteer Fire Department.

Worcester County
Emerson Collins, Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department; Robert Quillin, Bishopville Volunteer Fire Department; James B. Baker Sr., Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company; James T Bunting, Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company; Edwin L. Hudson, Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company; Vera Maiorana, Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary; George R. Oliver, Jr., Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company; Howard C. Shaffer, Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company; Richard Huettnerm Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department; Jerry Richards, Ocean Pines Volunteer Fire Department; Jacob Hauser, Pocomoke City Volunteer Fire Company, LODD 03/25/17; Allen D. “A.D.” Merrill, Pocomoke City Volunteer Fire Company; Dorothy M. Willing, Pocomoke City Volunteer Fire Company; Paul T. Hadder, Showell Volunteer Fire Department.

Chief Chaplain John Long: We’ll now do the flag folding ceremony by the Harford County honor guard with the reading from Jackie Olsen, Past President.

Past President Jackie Olsen: Good evening. The Flag Folding Ceremony is a dramatic and uplifting way to honor the Flag and our uniformed personnel. It represents the same religious principles on which our country was originally founded.

The portion of the flag denoting honor, is the canton of blue containing the stars representing the states our veterans served in uniform.

In the Armed Forces of the United States at the Ceremony of Retreat, the flag is lowered, folded it in a triangular fold and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to our Nation’s honored dead.

The next morning it is brought out as ceremony of revelry run aloft as a symbol of our belief in the resurrection of the body.

Tonight we will honor personnel who wear a different uniform, a uniform of a person that defends our homeland every day. Tonight, we will defer from the traditional reading and replace the words with the fire service perspective. In no way do we mean in any way to disrupt disrespect our veterans. We have chosen a series of words that have
been characterized as the true identity of our American heroes.

The first fold is Initiative - For those who were not afraid to train and dedicate themselves to the fire service and to the protection of their communities.

The second fold is for Honor - Which needs to be bestowed upon a group of individuals who remain consistent in service across this nation.

The third fold is for Courage - To all those who place themselves in harm’s way each and every day to afford safety to both friends and strangers.

The fourth fold is Valor - In recognition of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice carrying out their duties in the fire service.

The fifth fold is for Strength - In heart, body and soul, both inner and outer, that is required to meet the challenges of the post 9/11 world.

The sixth fold is Bravery - We are the breed that rushes into the eye of the storm while others seek safe refuge.

The seventh fold is Patience - A special fold with a distinct crisp line. A line of caring that spans from care of children, elderly and injured in the time of crisis.

The eighth fold is for Appreciation - For firefighters who hold a special sense of the fragility nature of the human being. Each moment of service we are able to give to others is one that we cherish. We appreciate being able to help others with no desire to be recognized by those we serve.

The ninth fold is Dedication - In our profession, whether volunteer or career, we are all heralded as professionals. We all love this profession, especially those of us who volunteer. Guess the percentage of those of us here tonight, that serve our citizens as both career and volunteer firefighter. Find this love of duty and any other profession.

The tenth fold is Faith - Many firefighters who has seen life given or taken in the course of their duty has some taste of what faith truly is. Faith can be more than just a religion. It can be a belief in what you do and in those you do it with.

The eleventh fold is Ingenuity - Like the various stars and stripes of our great flag, personnel in the fire service always find ways to make things work and have confidence in their ability to succeed in that mission. This is patterned after our ancestors who crafted our story of freedom.

The twelfth fold is for Family - The family is the binding fiber of our service. Be it relatives through bloodlines or brothers and sisters in the fire service. Our group is truly one huge family dedicated to the community and to each other in good times and in bad.
The thirteenth fold is for Freedom - Firefighters fall into a mold of our past firefighters for free will and personal freedom. Our Creed is to prevail in times of crisis and in any situation which might threaten the public safety.

The final Tuck - As the red and white stripes are wrapped in the blue as the light of day vanishes into the darkness at night, may we never forget those who have given their lives to our public safety community. God be with you until we meet again.

Chief Chaplain John Long: Please stand for the playing of Amazing Grace; followed by Taps and the Benediction by LAMSFA Chaplain, Malea Daughton.

LAMSFA Chaplain Malea Daughton: You may be seated and please bow your head. Oh Lord as we gather, we gather with mixed emotions. We gather to honor and celebrate the lives of our brothers and sisters of the fire service who have been called to their eternal rest and yet as we gather, we remember anew the pain of separation brought by their death. We honor those who have given us their lives in their line of duty. We remember their courage and their sacrifice and their families and loved ones who have been left behind. Our thoughts turn to those who have been raised up to leave this great Maryland State Firemen’s Association and its Ladies Auxiliary. We remember their dedication service and their commitment to their communities and to the fire and emergency services and its auxiliaries across the state of Maryland. We remember all those and we say thank you. Thank you for their service, thank you to their families for sharing these men and women with us in their fire service and thank you for instilling our desire within those men and women to serve in the various capacities. Lord surround us with your mercy as we remember those men and women this evening. Surround us with your love and comfort. Grant us your comfort grant us your peace for these all things humbly thank you. Amen.

At this time the families will be departing along with the officers please remain seated until dismissed by chaplain Barnhart.
President Michael Davis: Good morning, I now call the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention and Conference to order. We will now have our Safety Committee message from Mr. Michael LeCompte.

Michael LeCompte, Safety Chair: Good morning everybody. Thank you all for being here. Living here in Ocean City it means an awful lot. I’ll tell you without all the hard work that they do behind the scenes and the many people on our committees, you can work hard as you can and if no one shows up it’s really not a convention. So because of all of you, you make this convention work and it’s worked for 125 years. Thank you all for being here and I mean that from everybody in Ocean City.

I went back last night in a hurry because they wanted me to mention safety and I looked at what caused people to get hurt 125 years ago. This might be of interest, 125 years ago oil-fired lanterns were their number one concern and the possibility of them being knocked over and starting a fire. Also the glass and all like that. Also their horses were so excited. They would run to a hydrant for a water source or to a drafting site and the horses were so excited when they got there, believe it or not, they would take off while they’re trying to fight a fire. The wagons going down the road with the horses on it. The other thing was they had to worry about were the steel rims on the exterior of the wheels of these steamers. They were trying to get the horses calmed down to hook to a water source and fight to fire, the horses. With no brakes on the horses, they would take off and oftentimes several of the firefighter’s feet were stepped on. The third thing was the illumination of the lanterns. They would fill a lantern up, have it ready and would light it. Then they would use the illumination of the lanterns going down the highway or the roadway, they were dirt roads back then and they couldn’t see, and that was a major problem. They had illumination when they got on the scene and then had no illumination. So they basically had to take the lantern and go into a smoky environment and try to see what they were doing. So there were the hazards and the safety issues 125 years ago.

Today we’re in a different environment. Probably our biggest thrusts in the fire services is we’ve got too many cars on the roadway. We get called to an accident and here’s a thousand cars behind us, and we have to worry about maneuvering and keeping our personnel on the scene safe. The other issues are things like needle sticks, you’ve got some somebody not wearing a seat belt, and driving while texting people and talking
on cell phones. We’re in a different environment we’ve engineered. An environment we’ve gone from one facet to another.

So even though 125 years ago there was a huge safety issues, with not starting another fire or the wagon taking off. Today we have to worry about the people coming at us, basically the environment, so our evolution has changed. There’s two words that I often hear about and the word in because I did it for a living the word is safety, and the other is unity, and I’ll share something with you real quick. If you look around the room right now, believe it or not, anywhere in the entire world, there are probably more firefighters in this room right now than anywhere in the world, united together. So we in Maryland have something to be proud of. Thank you guys again for being here. God bless you and hopefully I’ll see you later on. (Applause)

Chaplain Harry Hetz: Good morning. I’m Reverend Harry Hetz, one of the chaplains from the Chaplains Corps. Let us stand as we are able for prayer. “O Lord our God, we thank you for this day. We thank you for the men and women who have been called to leadership of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. We thank you for the men and women who support and serve these organizations and to help to make them function. We thank you for their skills and for their dedication. You have instilled in the hearts of men and women caring for one another and we thank you for every man and every woman in the communities that you’ve raised up to protect life, and to protect property. Thank you for all that you do to watch over our responders in the street providing care, and our police that protect our communities, and Father, watch over our military as they protect our nation. Father we thank you for sustaining the Maryland State Firemen’s Association across its hundred and twenty-five years and the Ladies Auxiliary to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, and it’s 85 years of dedication and support. Guide us now as we conduct the business of this One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Convention and Conference and the Ladies 85th Conference. Grant wisdom for every decision, give each of us a surgeon servant’s heart. Amen.”

Ladies and gentlemen it is with great pride that I introduce to you the President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Michael A. Davis escorted by his wife, Past President of the LAMSFA Ann Price-Davis; President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Barbara Sue Nelson escorted by her husband, Speedy.

(Music) (Music) (Music) (Music) (Music)

(Music) (Video) (Music) (Video) (Music) (Video)

Richard Brooks: Please be seated. Congratulations to our Presidents. (Applause). Please welcome Mr. Tim Koenig.
Tim Koenig: Good morning. “You’re a grand old flag. You’re a high flying flag and forever and peace may wave. You’re the emblem of the land I love, the home of the free and the brave. Every heart beats true neath the red, white and blue where there’s never a boast or brag. Should auld acquaintance be forgot keep your eye on the grand old flag.” (Applause)

“The dusk but hue is on the shore, Maryland, my Maryland. His torch is at the temple door, Maryland my Maryland. Avenge the patriotic gore that flecked the streets of Baltimore and be the battle queen of your, Maryland my Maryland.” (Applause)

“God bless America, land that I love. Stand beside her and guide her through the night with the lights from above. From the mountains, to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam, God Bless America my home sweet home. God Bless America my home sweet home.” (Applause).

Richard Brooks: Please remain seated.

(Music) (Music) (Music) (Music)

Richard Brooks: Ladies and gentlemen would you please rise for the Presentation of our American Flag and Colors by the Maryland Fire Service Honor Guard.

(Music) (Music) (Music) (Music)

Tim Koenig: “Oh say can you see by the dawn’s early light. What so proudly we hailed as the twilight’s last gleaming, whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight. O’re the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming, and the Rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. Oh say does that Star-Spangled Banner yet wave. O’re the land of the free and home of the brave.” (Applause)

(Music) (Music) (Music)

Richard Brooks: Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance. “I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands. One nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.”

(Music) (Music) (Music) (Music)

Richard Brooks: Would you please join me in recognizing Mr. Tim Koenig and our Maryland Fire Service Pipes and Drums. (Applause)

Chip Jewell: Hear ye, hear ye. Calling to order the Maryland State Firemen’s Convention June the 7th 1893. Roll call of member companies: Frostburg Fire Department #1, First Hagerstown Hose Company, Independent Junior Fire Company #3 of Hagerstown, Western Enterprise Company #4 of Hagerstown, Pioneer Hook-and-Ladder Company
All able bodies of Frederick are hereby summoned, to help organize a fire company to protect our city from fire and conflagration. The year was 1818 and the citizens gathered around our Courthouse Square to discuss fire protection or shall we say, the lack thereof, that existed in our city. Oh, we had fire companies. We had the Union Fire Company, and the Sun Fire Company, the Friendship Fire Company, and Frederick Hose Company, but their abilities and capabilities were somewhat under discussion. The history of the fire service in Frederick is really part of the history of the fire service of our Association and it begins in 1760, when the cities to the Frederick petitioned the Maryland Assembly for permission to conduct a lottery, which they did in 1764. They purchased the first engine called the grandfather and it was assigned to the Frederick Hose Company predecessor to today’s Independent Hose Company. The Independence were organized in 1818, 1893 they celebrated their 75th year, which will be important in just a moment.

In 1817 the city of Frederick passed an ordinance that all males would respond to an alarm of fire with a bucket in hand or be fined the princely sum of 12 and a half cents. In 1838 a group of young men were in downtown Frederick and they felt another fire company was needed, these young men gathered at Dr. Manse’s drugstore and formed the Young Men’s Fire Company ultimately incorporated as the Junior Fire Company #2. Tragedy struck the Junior Fire Company in the State of Maryland in 1840. The first recorded line of duty death occurred when William Carlton a founding member of the Juniors collapsed while pulling the Junior pumper through the streets of Frederick for an alarm of fire in the courthouse square. Today it is acknowledged as the first official line of duty death in the State of Maryland. In 1837 another company tried to organize the Washington Hose Company, but they had difficulty maintaining their membership and asked Independence to take them on as an auxiliary company, but the Independence being very independent refused, and the company ultimately folded. However there was an attempt to bring them back and reorganize at their station, and the company initially was called the Mechanics Fire Company, but for whatever reason, maybe they weren’t very mechanical. They organized as the United Fire Company, United #3 of Frederick. Their fire house was built in a very swampy area of downtown Frederick and the firehouse became known as a Swamp Hall and the firefighters became known as Swampers, and to this day their mascot stands guard over Frederick, Johnny Swamper.

In 1858 Captain John Sin of the United Fire Company went to his department and suggested they organize a militia unit. You see there was about ready to have an
occasion in Frederick of a near riot condition. For the first time in twenty years there
was about ready to be a public hanging, and they felt there would be need for a militia
unit and possibly guards for the gallows. The other fire companies soon followed suit.
The Independence organized the militia unit the Independent Riflemen, and the Juniors
organized the Junior Defenders.

In 1857 a fire was smoldering in our nation’s heartland. A fire that would eventually
require the assistance of our volunteers. A former Missouri slave by the name of Dred
Scott had lived as a free man in Illinois and Wisconsin and returned to his home in
Missouri but was once again declared a slave. He protested all the way to the Supreme
Court of the United States, where the Chief Justice Roger Brooke Tanney, a Frederick
attorney and the brother-in-law of Francis Scott Key, handed down what today we
know as a Dred Scott Decision, that said the United States did not have the right to
usurp the authority of the State of Missouri, and Dred Scott did not have the right of a
free man. This infuriated an abolitionist by the name of John Brown who brought his
violence to the small town of Harpers Ferry. On October 17th, 1859 the fire bell rang
attempts a Swamp Hall, and the Independent Hose Company, and the churches in
Frederick summoning the volunteers; not to fight a fire, but to help quell an insurrection.
The volunteers were transported by a special train of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad
to the town of Harpers Ferry; where they patrolled the streets, guarded the railroad
bridges, and assisted under the command of Captain Robert E. Lee in capturing John
Brown. They actually guarded John Brown in the engine house. Captain Sin and the
United’s were there and John Brown pleaded with Captain Sin, let us go, let us go into
Maryland, follow us there, which he refused. But he asked for medical attention for his
injured men. Captain Sin requested Dr. Tyler the surgeon of the Junior Fire Company be
summoned, but upon his arrival the Marines would not allow him to treat John Brown’s
men, only the injured Marines and civilians. However John Brown publicly thanked the
United Fire Company for their humane treatment at his trial in Charlestown.

When the Civil War broke out our fire companies were also used as Arsenals. The
Junior Fire Company was part of General Hospital #6 treating the wounded from
the Battle of Antietam. The Junior Fire Company was also the home of the Sons of
Temperance an organization I doubt they could accommodate today. After the Civil War
the fire company started the era of the steam pumper. The juniors purchased an 1876
Silsbee pumper. It was the first one purchased in Frederick and also purchased a ladder
wagon from Mr. Charles T Holloway which you’ll hear more about a little later on. The
United Fire Company #3 purchased a steamer in 1878. It was a beautiful steamer
shipped by rail to the town of Frederick. And when they went to uncover it at night, so
they could parade it the next day, instead of a beautiful shiny steamer, they had this
large black ugly monstrosity. And they were very upset. So much so they called Mr.
Clapp of the Clapp and Jones Company to come to Frederick and explain to them this
tragedy. Mr. Clapp advised them to pour boiling hot water over the engine to remove the
camisole, the protective covering and shipment. Which they did and a beautiful engine
was paraded through the streets of Frederick the next day. Mr. Clapp was so proud of this engine that he guaranteed it with those two streams of water over the town clock or they would not have to pay for it. Put it in writing on their contract. Not only did it throw two streams of water over the town clock, it damaged the town clock, and the church vestry voted never to allow the fire companies to test their pumpers over the town clock again. Which by the way is still in existence to this day.

The Independent Hose Company purchased some beautiful LaFrance engine and they called it Romeo. Romeo was a fine pumping piece but had one little bit of a problem, it was heavier than the bridges of Frederick and upon the alarm of fire the gasworks, collapsed the bridge over Carroll Creek, and was destroyed. But the independence were dotted. They ordered another engine from LaFrance and of course it was called Juliet. Juliet was a fine pumping piece. Pump 2800 feet of hose at the Frederick Fair Grounds to save the barns, and was transported by train to the town of Emmitsburg, to fight a fire at the St. Joseph’s College and save the buildings, to what today we know as the National Fire Academy.

Well you know the fire service have always been a bit rambunctious and so they were in Frederick. An alarm of fire at the Hauser Brewery in downtown Frederick. The lads did a fine job extinguishing the fire, however; fisticuff broke out to claim the beer barrel attached to the building. The Independent Hose Company won the battle royal, and to this day the beer barrel was proudly displayed in their trophy case.

Now a grand event happened in 1893 in Frederick. The three companies I mentioned were truly the forefathers of this organization, and they gathered in 1892 along with the Guardian Hose Company of Thurmont to talk about, possibly, what we can do to strengthen our volunteer service in Maryland, bring our companies together. Mr. J Roger McSherry took the lead and suggested that in 1893, the Independent Hose Company’s 75th Anniversary, thousands of firefighters would descend upon Frederick. That’s the time. That’s the time to bring us together; which they did June 7th and 8th, 1893 in downtown Frederick. You’ll find that Mr. Charles T. Holloway, as mentioned in the following video and the beautiful hose carriage that Independent owned, was built by Mr. Holloway in 1893 in honor of a great Maryland State Firemen’s Association and their first President, Mr. J. Roger McSherry of Independence. Ladies and gentlemen welcome to the 125th convention of a Maryland State Firemen’s Association and please enjoy this history video (Applause).

(Video and Music) The history of the Maryland Fire Service is no doubt as old as the first landing at St. Mary City in 1634. Many of the early communities in Maryland had at least some form of organized fire protection from the early settlements. The City of Annapolis purchased the first engine in 1755, as the first City in Maryland documented, to have formal fire protection. One of the first known organizations to provide fire protection was the ancient and honorable Mechanical Company of Baltimore City. This organization still exists today and was formed in 1763 to protect life and property of the
city of Baltimore. The organization not only provided fire protection but also the duties needed for the government of the town. Its policing, magisterial functions, in addition acted as firemen. According to the company historian George Double McCreary, the Mechanical Fire Company #1 of Baltimore City was part of a parent organization and became the Baltimore City Fire Department. Today it is Engine Company #4 upon being absorbed into the Baltimore City Fire Department 1860.

First hose of Hagerstown can trace routes to 1815 with the formation of a community bucket brigade. The Easton Fire Department was organized in 1808; however, had several years of non-consecutive service. The Independent Hose Company #1 of Frederick is the oldest continuously operating fire company in the state of Maryland. It was in Frederick the location of the Independent Hose Company #1 that the Maryland State Firemen’s Association was organized. The assemble consisted not only of delegates from many organized fire companies of the day, but also representatives of the Veterans Volunteer Fireman’s Association of Baltimore. The first meeting was held in the city Opera House in Frederick, on June 7th and 8th 1893. Mr. J. Roger McSherry of the Independent Hose Company was elected the first President and upon calling the meeting to order, remarked this meeting should be a cause of self-congratulation to the firemen of Maryland because it emphasizes the fact, and announces to the world, that volunteer firemen of our state are awaken to the necessity of a more thorough and complete organization. And understanding this necessity, have realized that to promote and increase their efficiency as firemen, to encourage a fraternal feeling amongst them, one another, and to secure sufficient protection as a class, such an organization is essential. The first committee on credentials reported the following: as the initial organizing members: from the city of Baltimore, the Veteran Volunteer Firemen’s Association; from Frederick, the Independent Hose Company #1, the Junior Steam Fire Engine Company #2, and the United Steel Fire Engine Company #3; from Frostburg, the Frostburg Fire Department #1; from Hagerstown, First Hagerstown Hose Company, the Independent Junior Fire Company, Western Enterprise of Hagerstown, and the Pioneer Hook and Ladder Company; the Water Witch Fire Company of Port Deposit; the Union Bridge Fire Company; and the Westminster Fire Engine and Hose Company #1. Initially the Mechanics Town Fire Company, Guardian Hose Company, today of Thurmont was part of the organization, but did not actually join as a charter member, and did not join the MSFA until 1918.

Mr. J. Roger McSherry of the Independent Hose Company #1 was elected the first President. McSherry was an attorney and his brother, the Honorable Jim McSherry, was Chief Justice of the Maryland Court of Appeals. Today members of the McSherry family continue to carry on the family tradition of legal counsel. Both the Senior Vice-President, Mr. Charles T Holloway, and Vice President, Mr. Edward Israel were members of the Veteran’s Firemen Association of Baltimore City. Mr. Holloway was noted throughout Maryland for his fire service experience. In 1850 he organized the First Hook and Ladder Company in Baltimore City, the Pioneer Hook and Ladder. In
1855 he encouraged the purchase of the first steam pumper in Baltimore. And in 1858 and 59 he was appointed the first Chief of the Baltimore City paid Fire Department. He was credited with being one of the first Fire Chiefs to keep statistical data to justify apparatus and staffing and from 1868 to 1894 he served as a fire inspector for the Baltimore City Fire. In 1882 he was appointed the First Chief of the Baltimore County Fire Department and he also helped organize the Baltimore City Salvage Corps.


It should be noted that the Union Bridge Fire Company and Pioneer Hook-and-Ladder of Hagerstown were original members that did not report credentials, and thus did not have a Vice President. The Maryland State Firemen’s Association has been involved in legislative issues. At the first convention there was a resolution that was passed that directed the Congress of the United States regarding the lack of available property insurance. The two committees appointed at the first convention where the legislative committee and the transportation committee.

Romeo the ornate 1893 hose carriage was unveiled at the MSFA convention in Frederick was built by Mr. Charles T Holloway. He built the hose carriage as a very ornate unit, so as much for display as practicality. It has bells and mirrors, and colorful designs, it was a hallmark. The reels were mounted for a post hose deployment, and it was mostly pulled by hand rather than horses. A mammoth parade and tournament was held to celebrate the first convention. Units attended from the District of Columbia, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware and even New Jersey, and New York. It was reported approximately 5,000 were in the line of March. The state association still celebrates the end of a successful convention by conducting large firemen’s parade to salute the incoming officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the Ladies Auxiliary. In the tournament displaying various firefighting capabilities, companies from both within Maryland, and surrounding states competed.

The Columbia Steam Fire Engine Company #4 of Alexandria Virginia won the steam fire engine contest, while the Baltimore Veteran’s Association won the competition using hand pumers. The hose race running 200 yards to a hydrant pulling 150 feet of hose was won by the First Hose Company of Hagerstown in 53.25 seconds. The Water Witch Fire Company of Annapolis won the ladder raising contest in 51.25 seconds. And the drill marching was won by the Junior Steam Fire Engine Company of Reading, Pennsylvania.
As more and more companies were organized throughout the state, the MSFA continued to grow in numbers and influence. One of the original standing committees of MSFA was the legislative committee, a committee that still plays a critical role, being active during each session of the Maryland General Assembly.

Since that momentous occasion in Frederick annual conventions have been held to allow all members companies to participate in the business of the Association. These conventions are required by the Constitution and Bylaws and have been held every year except in 1945, at which time all conventions were suspended due to World War II. Conventions have been held in many cities and towns throughout Maryland. Even the city of Baltimore hosted six conventions. In 1967 the convention was held in Frederick honoring President Bill Moore of the Citizens Truck Company and the United Fire Company. Since then all conventions have been held in Ocean City.

The conventions have dramatically changed by nature by becoming more focused toward training, information sharing, and promoting new equipment and apparatus. The annual convention and conference conducts an annual election and business meeting, providing an opportunity for all member companies to be recognized, and participate. In addition to the educational seminars, certain speakers, family activities, are also a positive change to keep members up-to-date with the latest technology and training.

MSFA has always considered fire service training a priority. In 1929 Chief Jesse Fischer of the Annapolis Fire Department recommended the establishment of a committee to explore the possibility of a fire college and training program. Chief Fischer was appointed the chairman of the Special Fire College Committee. These first attempts to provide the highest level of training to the Maryland Fire Service were the foundation of a Fire Service Extension of the University of Maryland, ultimately becoming what we know today as the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute.

Another momentous occasion in the history of the MSFA was the organization of the Ladies Auxiliary. This organization has undertaken many worthy projects since its inception in 1932. But the most familiar project is the support of those firefighters sick or injured is the Bessie Marshall fund. The Maryland State Firemen’s Association had many officers that held elective office, even Governor of the State of Maryland. J. Millard Tawes, was elected President of MSFA in 1936 as a member of the Crisfield Fire Department. He served as the Governor of the State of Maryland from 1959 to 1967, always maintaining a close relationship with the Volunteer Fire Service. The late Louis L. Goldstein, the popular Comptroller of the State of Maryland, was an active member of the Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department.

Today the Maryland State Fire Association is a vibrant organization representing over 370 volunteer companies in every county in Maryland. The Association is very active in legislative matters that pertain to the volunteer fire service - both on the state and
national level. The Association is also in the forefront of promoting fire safety and public fire education programs. Congratulations to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association for 125 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Maryland. (Applause)

Tom Mattingly, PP: Well, welcome to the 125th Anniversary Convention and Conference of the MSFA. And we hope that you and your families have a safe and enjoyable time in Ocean City. This is our 68th year at the beach for our convention and our 50th consecutive convention at Maryland’s ocean playground.

As a result of several years of planning and many meetings of the Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Committee, we are proud of our past year’s activities and want to thank our host, the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Company, The Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, Junior Fire Company #2, and the Water Witch Volunteer Fire Company for hosting our regional events. I’m sure that this year’s annual convention in Ocean City will be memorable and full of opportunities for fellowship, education and celebration as we move into our next quarter of century serving the citizens of Maryland.

I want to thank all of those who attended one or all of our regional celebrations during the past year. And the committee hopes that you enjoyed your trip back through the creation, history, and growth of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. It is your Association and one that each of you has played a role in a success. For those of you that could not attend, you missed a great opportunity to enjoy the hospitality of our host companies, see old friends and make new ones. Some of the celebration events were an opportunity to visit a few of our Charter Member Companies and see how they have grown and prospered while preserving much of the history and equipment of their organizations. And at others we had a chance to visit the Fire Museum of Maryland and enjoy vintage equipment and historical displays of the growth of Maryland’s Fire Service, or a visit to historic St. Mary’s City, Maryland’s first Capitol, where we honored our Fallen Fire and EMS personnel, as well as the former leadership of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association in a very moving memorial program on the banks of the St. Mary’s River.

We enjoyed a visit to historic towns that were part of our origin. In Frederick, the site of our first meetings of the Association and a wonderful gala evening organized by the Frederick Volunteers. Finally, our last celebration before coming to Ocean City and to complete our journey around the State, was a visit to historic Port Deposit.

We’ll just take a break here second, you ladies you and gentlemen on stage can retire if you would like. It’s been a long time standing and I know you want to retire. Come this way, can we have a hand down front while we pause for just a second? We should be back to my remarks.

Finally, as our celebration comes to Ocean City and we complete our journey around the state, our last visit was at historic Port Deposit home of Charter Member Company,
Water Witch Volunteer Fire Company located on the beautiful Susquehanna River. The event was included a hospitality evening, a welcome by Mayor Tome, concluding with the parade, fireworks, and a social evening along the river. The rain may have dampened the evening, but certainly not our spirits. And our host is to be commended for all of the great work.

Here at Ocean City for our 50th consecutive year, we will complete our anniversary journey enjoying the hospitality of the mayor, city council, and residents of the city. We have attempted to recreate an atmosphere of conventions in the past, as you’ve seen with a lot of red, white, and blue. Our historic highway arch, out front, at the entrance of the Convention Center, and some restored equipment of years gone by. And there may be a few more surprises along the way yet.

In closing there are many challenges that we’ll face, in the future, both on the fire ground and off. But there are none that we cannot accomplish if we continue to work together as a team and educate our new members of the importance of a unified statewide voice representing the volunteer system that Maryland Fire and EMS has enjoyed. The MSFA has that voice and you are the messengers.

Now for a commercial message: I would remind you that the commemorative coin sets that we have, the five coins and the mounting block for them, are available down in D Hall at the rear of the Convention Center. There were only 250 of those sets made. And also as you sat down today there was a commemorative book of the history of the MSFA. There’s actually a five book collection. The other books, the other four books, that were available throughout the year, are available also down in D Hall, so please stop by if you would like to get a full collection of those. Each book has a 25 year block of the history of the MSFA and the host company that hosted one of the regional celebrations. So there were only a thousand of those printed, so please help yourself to those, but you know, don’t take an armful. Take what you need so everybody can get an opportunity for those. In closing I would like to recognize the members of the 125th anniversary committee and ask that you give them a nice round of applause after I read their names: Ken Bush, Bill Barnard, Chip Jewell, Johnie Roth, Bob Jacobs, Wayne Powell, Danny Davis, Susan Proles, Mike Davis, Doyle Cox, Elaine Huttenloch, Teresa Chrisman, Jenny Whilite, Bill Hinton, Jenny McClellan, herself, the books, she prepared all the history books, Lynn Hawkins, Donna Clark, Jim Seavey, Barbara Sue Nelson, Doug Simpsons, Simpkins, myself and Richard Yinger were subcommittee Chairmen, and our Chairman Ron Siarnicki of the convention, overall chair. So we’d like to thank all of them. And also there’s been an enormous amount of work that went into all the decorating for this year’s celebration. And I certainly want to thank all of the people that were involved in that. It’s just hundreds of people that have been here working since Friday to get the celebration underway. So thank you and enjoy the rest of the convention. (Applause) You all can exit stage right stage right. I’m sorry I did miss one thing. We have a video, so we have a video of some of the celebrations that
we had. So we’ll show that video now at two different regional celebrations. (Music/Video),(Music/Video) (Applause)

(Band plays as they exit.)

**Richard Brooks:** Please be seated. (Balloons popping) That’s it let him go.

While you’re all enjoying the balloons, what a wonderful job was done by Chip Jewell. Could you all give Chip a great round of applause? (Applause) He is absolutely amazing. Also let’s have a big hand for all our folks who appeared in costumes up here earlier. (Applause) And our one special person in costume is fine, all right. Also we want to recognize the Westminster Municipal Band for their outstanding performance again this morning. (Applause)


**Mark Bilger V. P.:** It is my pleasure to introduce a great friend of this association and all firemen, the Mayor of Ocean City, Mayor Meehan. Give it up for Mayor Meehan (Applause)

**Mayor Meehan:** Morning everybody. Well I don’t know if I can top the balloon drop. It’s amazing what a few balloons can incite up in all of us, isn’t it. I think that looks like the most fun I’ve seen people having this room in a long time. So we’re going to have to do that more, yeah, still going to have to do it more often.

On behalf of the mayor and city council and all the citizens of Ocean City, I’m here again to welcome you to the town of Ocean City and for your convention here for but 67 years that you’ve been coming here to Ocean City, we want to thank you so much. You know I’m a product of the 1960s in Ocean City and I know that there’s a lot of talk about the different official starts of the summer season, but I remember very clearly and very well that, yes it was Memorial Day weekend, but we knew that the summer
officially started when the Maryland State Firemen’s Association came to Ocean City, and I still feel that way, and I want to thank you for officially starting the summer season here in Ocean City. (Applause) And you’re particularly welcome as every year, but we’ve had a little bit of a rocky start with some different issues this year, in Ocean City, to see all your friendly faces, it really is special this year.

I know this is a special year for your organization a hundred and twenty-five years. It’s quite an accomplishment. I don’t know if you looked at it or not, but in 1893 Grover Cleveland was a President of the United States. He was the 24th President, and things have changed dramatically. Not just in your organization, but in the world around us. There were no TVs back then, no fast-food locations, no internet and no cell phones. Can you imagine the world has changed, but during those changes, one thing has been consistent and constant, and that’s the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

It’s unbelievable that this organization started with just 12 companies and the ceremony that you just viewed really illustrated how this organization started and was a tremendous ceremony. But now there’s over 365 volunteer fire and rescue units in the state of Maryland. For 125 years Marylanders have been looking to your volunteer organization to be there in a time of need and you’ve always been there to respond. You’ve created a great tradition of service and dedication that continues today and all Marylanders thank you. We join with you to celebrate this special anniversary. I know how important the Volunteer Fire Department is here in Ocean City, to our history, and to helping us to be where we are today, and we wouldn’t have been here and been as successful without them, and I know your communities feel the same way. I know you’re looking forward to a great convention and your committee has been working very hard and I think that’s very evident by the ceremony that you witnessed before I stood up to this podium today. It was wonderful and they work diligently in order to make sure this is the best convention each and every year.

I know this is an opportunity for you to attend seminars experience training and view all the exhibits in the vision exhibit hall. And it’s also an opportunity to speak with other members to discuss important issues that face your departments, such as safety, and of course the ever challenging issue of recruitment. I commend you, on making your convention a family-friendly event and offering the different activities that you do at the Jolly Roger, in Frontier Town to not only allow members to experience the convention, but to encourage them to bring their family and join in and be part of the great, of the activities of this great organization. Your families are your support group, they’re your support system, they always have been, and we want to thank your families for supporting your volunteer service.

While you’re here I hope you enjoy the amenities of Ocean City, of course the beach and the boardwalk, but also some of the free events we offer, the new event 100 nights of lights downtown on a boardwalk every night at 9 o’clock, the fireworks, all the restaurants, all the different things that we offer, of course the businesses are
hoping you go out and spend a few dollars while you’re here, and we know you will. I look forward to the annual parade on Wednesday. It’s always a great event, another tradition, and you know sometimes traditions are lost in this country, and we need to preserve traditions like the Maryland State Firemen’s parade here in Ocean City.

I personally want to thank all of you for your continued services to the state of Maryland and to all of our citizens. I urge you that while you’re here, not only enjoy this time and enjoy the time with your families, but also be safe. Please remember the same message I give everybody, I know safety is your primary concern, use of crosswalks, take advantage of the bus service, and if you run into any of the stray graduates, please avoid them at all costs. (Applause) If you happen to recognize any of them and they look lost, please take them home with you, we’re done. So, but it’s a great time at Ocean City. It’s great to have you here and I truly want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you do and for being here in Ocean City. Thank you all very much. (Applause)

I would like to make a couple presentations if I may. I’m a thank you for joining me, okay, just on cue. You know these conventions and everything that happens during the course of the year wouldn’t happen without good leadership and the Maryland State Firemen’s Association has always been blessed with good leadership, and you were reintroduced to many of your previous leaders here just a few minutes ago, and this year is no exception. Events like this don’t just happen. There, they’re a result of extensive planning, hard work and dedication, and these two individuals have certainly demonstrated that to your organization, so to recognize that, from the town of Ocean City, first for Mike Davis President Maryland State Firemen’s Association, I want to present to him from the citizens of Ocean City and really from all of us, a key to the town of Ocean City, in appreciation for everything he has done for your organization, Mike. (Applause) And also, of course the backbone and support group of any organizations the Ladies Auxiliary, and we want to recognize Barbara Nelson again for her contributions during the past year, and I know on both of their cases, for many years prior to, and certainly many years into the future, with a key to the city in recognition of everything she has done for the Ladies Auxiliary and your Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Barbara. (Applause) Thank you, thank you, want to get a picture? Photo-op one minute. (Applause)

Now, I have a very special presentation to make in honor of the 125th anniversary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. The town of Ocean City would like to present to you this cake and all the cupcakes that accompany it, to recognize your service, your organization and everything you’ve done for the State of Maryland. (Applause) This is a gift to you from the town of Ocean City. We would ask that you don’t attack that like you did the balloons, but I have been told that shortly after noon in some area, this cake will be out there and available for everybody to enjoy, and the cupcakes, and again it’s a small token of appreciation for everything you do, have done, and will continue to
President Davis: Mayor Meehan, on behalf of the MSFA and I have to be honest, it's not us so much, yes we were the leadership, however; the folks of the 125th folks, we as you know we come down here three, four, five, six, eight, ten times a year, as many times as we can. I come as often as I can. I have a place you know, down here, I'm going to use that key. I'm going to keep that in my pocket when I come down. It's always a pleasure to come down here and see you guys, your offices, and everyone is so wonderful to us too. And I present to you our convention mug for a hundred twenty-five years, and Barbara Sue has something for you too. (Applause)

President Nelson LAMSFA: I also have a candy jar for you from me. (Applause)

Mayor Meheen: Well thank you all again, I've been dismissed. Thank you all again, enjoy your week in Ocean City. (Applause)

President Davis: And now we're going to find out if we're going to have sunshine, the great Senator Mathias is here. Sir, we welcome you.

Senator Mathias: Come on, let me hear you make some noise! MSFA, yeah yeah, yeah. Where's our friends from Western Maryland? Come on, let me hear you out there. How about my friends in Southern Maryland? Come on now! Let me hear you. Where's those DC suburbs? Come on, many here, make some noise. I'm at Central Maryland, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Howard County let me hear you, alright now, how about that Eastern Shore? Come on now. Do we love Maryland, and let me hear you, make some noise MSFA, happy 125th. We love you and I got one thing to say; the sun will shine on parade day, we ready to do some parading? Absolutely we love you.

I just want to say I am so proud to be here with you today. MSFA, Ladies Auxiliary, our Past Presidents, our members. I am so proud Madam President to be here on the 125th, I'm getting your recipe. I'm only 65 and look at me, 125 you look marvelous, my dear. So you and Michael take up who's what, but I want to tell you, you're the greatest. And I want to thank the Mayor and the council here in Ocean City for continuing to be here for you, and with you, and just take a look around this facility, the Roland D. Powell facility. Not only a former mayor, but most importantly a former Fire Chief. A Fire Chief that answered the call like you answer the call, and certainly we have our former Chief Roger Steger right here, and he, in Y2K, Mr. President, was the President that brought in our new era of time, but together they all made this happen. If you recall, they triple expanded this facility with you.

I'm happy to stand here on 125th, and I'm asking you personally to continue to be here as we continue to go forward and write the rich history of the Maryland MSFA and the Ladies Auxiliary because you do the work back in our communities. I thank you and
all. You rallied, Richard and Steve Cox were there every day when I get ready to go to work in Annapolis. I’m walking across, some of the very first people I see is them. Our Fire Marshals here with us, in the front row. We’ve saved lives with carbon monoxide detectors in hotel properties, rental properties and the like, and we thank you. Some of those decisions are tough, like sprinklers and residential homes, but you know what it’s the right thing to do, not only to protect the occupants, but to protect you. And I thank you, because you get to come answer the call, and we afford you legislatively what you need, the tools to go home safe. I thank you not only will the Sun Shine on parade day, but I hear tonight around 9 o’clock, the beer is going to continue to be cold down at the Cork Bar, that the crabs are hot, the ocean is great, who got to see that air show? Put your hand up in the air. What, do we live in the greatest country in the world? Come on let me hear it for the USA. And God bless you. I know, I know when that call comes, that you and yours will answer that call, to keep us the greatest country, the greatest state, the greatest community, and the greatest people. God bless you. I’ll see you at the parade. Thanks for being here. Happy 125th. (Applause)

**President Davis:** We can’t let you get out of here without our 125th anniversary mug and a convention bag. We had a little beach party, you might have heard about, for these officers.

**Senator Mathais:** He told me I’m ready to get down to the Cork Bar tonight, fill this thing up, and crack some of those crabs, and join you, and have a great time. God bless you. Thank you Mr. President, Madam President.

**President Davis:** Now brings me great pleasure to introduce General Song Casey of the Maryland National Guard.

**General Casey:** Thank you. Well that’s a couple of tough acts to follow. I said it last year and I’ll say it again, in my job I am fortunate to travel around the country, and around the world, and I’ve never seen such a neat podium as what you guys have here. So it’s an honor to stand here and talk.

Thank You mayor Meehan, Senator Mathias for those great words. Mr. President, Madam President, thank you for having me today. I bring you greetings from our Commander in Chief, Governor Larry Hogan, and from our Adjutant General, Major General Linda Singh, and all the soldiers, airmen and civilians of the Maryland Military Department. I’m honored today to speak to the members of this great Association and all who have served this great state and nation. Your association mission to serve, promote, advocate, and represent the interests of all volunteer fire rescue and emergency medical services companies or departments of Maryland, and the individuals who serve, is quite an admirable one.

I’d like to start by honoring Charles Rick Gentilcore, a Montgomery County firefighter who died while on duty at the Burtonsville fire station. We owe him and all who make
the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty, our unending debt of gratitude, and our promise to do what we can to support. I’m often dismayed these days at the inappropriate use of the term hero. We hear the label attached to professional athletes, musicians, and actors. Merriam-Webster defines a hero as a person who is admired for greater brave acts or fine qualities. I will also add a hero will risk their own safety for the safety of others. In my opinion, professional athletes, musicians, and actors do not meet the standards of hero. But you do. Every day you commit to risk your personal safety for the welfare of others.

As 2017 marks the Association’s 125th anniversary, I congratulate you on the accomplishments and effectiveness of your program. The Maryland Military Department is pleased to partner with the Association to administer the Amos Fund and the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund. In 2016 we closed 20 loans and 2 grants totaling over $8,500,000.00. In 2017 we project closing 11 loans and 2 grants totaling over $6,300,000.00. As of today, the fund has just over $10,000,000.00 available for future loans. We share your commitment to public safety, as NEMA is a part of our department, and we in the Guard serve our State and Country with pride. We have a common link to, and the many who serve in the Guard, are also volunteer emergency personnel. The Maryland National Guard has 64 firefighters, 31 of them paid, and 33 volunteers, and 32 EMTs, 23 paid, and 9 volunteers, and our ranks, those of us in military uniform, particularly the National Guard, share common bonds with you as volunteers, and local responders. We share the desire to serve, share the willingness to sacrifice for others, and share that ours is a profession we are committed to be part of something bigger than us. We have committed to achieve and maintain certain standards. Most of all, we are committed to hold ourselves to higher standard of performance, behavior, and ethics than the average citizen, to always support our State and Nation. Again on behalf of Major General Singh, all the soldiers, airmen, and civilians in the Maryland Military Department, thank you for what you do to protect our citizens of the great state of Maryland, and we look forward to another successful year together. I wish you a very successful convention and a great time in Ocean City. May God bless the first responders especially the volunteer firefighters, rescuers, and emergency medical volunteers who answer the call to serve? May God bless you and continue to bless our Great State and Nation you. (Applause)
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my Company and also hers, ladies, and her company, and County, and our names are around the edges, a little unique present to thank you. (Applause)

Now is my pleasure to introduce Colonel William Pelosi, the Secretary of the Maryland State Police.

Colonel Pelosi: Good morning everyone. You know as the leader of an organization, the Maryland State Police, I like to say we have a proud past and a bright future, but we’re only 96 years old. So it’s a little hard compared to 125 years old. So we truly are living in challenging times for everybody in emergency services, law enforcement, firefighters, EMS, the military as well. And as I tell troopers all the time, it’s a we thing, not a me thing. So on behalf of the more than 2,400 members the Maryland State Police it is truly my honor and privilege to be here. I thank you for what you do, in helping law enforcement, particularly the troopers. I know, I saw some Prince George’s County Chief and some others here today. You know last year I heard people talk about safety, and safety, something we all preached last year. I had 38 troopers hit on the side of the road, another 20 cars struck. I mean I know in many of those scenes after that happens, your fire apparatus arrives and helps make it safer for all of us, so we truly appreciate that. So on behalf of the State Police and as superintendent, is truly my honor to present the Maryland Firemen’s Association with the Superintendent Salute which is the highest award I can present honoring your 125 years of service to the citizens of Maryland. Thank you very much. (Applause)

President Davis: And as well I have a mug for you as well, and convention bag, and I also will present you Colonel with my coin as well. We cannot say enough about our one of our many good partners, yourselves included, the EMS pact and Maryland State Police aviation command. We’ve all helped each other out tremendously and obviously many of us in here are very thankful for the service and the citizens don’t even realize the services you provide, how great they are, and we are very appreciative of that, me especially. I love aviation. I fly too, so Godspeed to you guys and thank you for coming. I appreciate it. (Applause)

And it’s now my pleasure to present to you Pete Peterson from Pepco, our big sponsor.

Pete Peterson: Good morning. I’m here to represent Potomac Electric Power Company, Pepco. We have a long-standing partnership with our first responders, and as well as Delmarva Power, and we just wanted to make a little presentation today to some of the dedicated men and women of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service, and Prince George’s County Fire and EMS Departments. Before I do that, I want to welcome John Patito with the Delmarva Power. He has a few words to say.

John Patito: Thank You Pete. Good morning everyone. Just want to mention about what Delmarva power and a partnership with the fire services has done for the past 17 years. We’ve donated over a million dollars to the our partners in Delaware and
Maryland and we’ve also donated over 19 alarms, regular and 460 special need smoke alarms, and we’re looking forward to moving forward with this great partnership in the future, and I’ll turn it back over to Pete. Thank you. (Applause)

**Pete Peterson:** As John mentioned, this is a long-standing partnership. Just to give you an idea, with today’s donation, we’ll be making 1500 smoke alarms each, to Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service and the Prince George’s County Fire and EMS Departments. In the more than 15 years since we began the program, that brings our total to nearly 50,000 smoke alarms, regular and hearing impaired, and we want to continue to do that partnership, it’s a vital piece of our efforts to support our first responders. So with that I’d like to welcome Montgomery County Fire Chief Hines, and Prince George’s County Fire Chief Barksdale, up to receive their smoke alarms.

**Chief Hines:** Thank You Pete, this relationship with Pepco has been a fantastic relationship. Over the years these smoke alarms have saved the lives of our citizens, and on behalf of Ike Leggett our County Executive, Scott Goldstein our Fire Chief, all the men and women, career and volunteer professionals that make up our service, and the over 1 million citizens that work live and play in Montgomery County Maryland. We can’t say thank you enough. Our safety in the neighborhood program, and our online home fire safety inspection programs, will benefit greatly from these donations of these smoke detectors and with the new law, with the ten year detectors going into place, in valuable. Your commitment to our community is unbelievable, thank you so much.

**Chief Barksdale:** Yes, as well, on behalf of all the residents and citizens of Prince George County, we thank you, and we have really enjoy the partnership that we’ve had over the last 15 years, and as chief just said I’m sure that these alarms will save lives, and it’s great to have a partner like you that are willing to step up and to keep Prince George County safe, so thank you.

**Pete Peterson:** Thank you all very much. Have a safe and happy 125th conference, appreciate it. (Applause)

**President Davis:** Thank you gentlemen very much we do appreciate the support that you guys provide to the fire service, it’s obviously invaluable. Pleasure, thank you chief.

My pleasure to introduce the following out-of-state guests: with us from the DelMarVa, excuse me, this is Delaware Volunteer Fire Association, we have President Ted Wallace, Vice President Richard Furillo, Vice President Bill Betts, Secretary Mr. Elmer Steele, Director Charles Arnold, Executive Manager Warren Jones, Out-of-State Coordinator and does everything else in between Mr. Steve Austin. (Applause)

From Pennsylvania we have Mr. Alan Steel, Past President. Thank you sir, it’s a pleasure
having you here every year. (Applause)

I’m sorry I’m having an acronym issue, from the DSFC, State Chiefs, oh Delaware, Delaware State Fire Chiefs, thank you. There’s too many acronyms in the fire service. I work in a phone company. You want to talk about acronyms, I get them all mixed up, they have the same ones. I don’t know what people are talking about sometimes.

Sorry, from the Delaware State Fire Chiefs Mr. Jester, and then we have the Vice President Mr. Andy Hall. Thank you. (Applause)

And then from Virginia State Firemen’s Association we have Mr. Jeff Flippo, thank you. Jeff. Pleasure seeing you. (Applause)

And from West Virginia Fire Association Mr. John Hall Vice President. Thank you very much. Sorry about the confusion. (Applause)

Okay, now at this time the ladies may be released and they could start their session, and the call to order. Thank you very much for helping festivities.

President Nelson: Thank you all very much. Happy 125th to all of you and until we meet again. (Applause)

President Davis: Okay, just some general announcements here. Caucus rooms; room 208 Harford Cecil Counties in room 208, Howard County you have room 216, Howard Counties room 216, that is a revised new location. Southern Maryland the room 205 that meets at 11:30. This is a change, okay. So Southern Maryland room 205 at 11:30 hours. Eastern Shore 203 mezzanine that’s the mezzanine level, that’s that level right there. You’ll get it from this elevator around the backside here. So 203 Mezzanine for Eastern Shore. 201 Mezzanine for Baltimore County, 204 Mezzanine PG County, 204 for PG County, and Carroll County meets in the back and the north foyer, which is this north end here in the foyer room where the memorabilia was for the Performing Arts Center for Carroll County.

And also we have in-service training seminar today that starts at 1430 hours, that’s going to be here in the convention hall. We have the bag bingo tonight and the bay front ballroom. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Also have the Monday Night Family Event at Jolly Roger Amusement Park that starts tonight at 6:30 p.m. Tickets for that are located downstairs in the in the D room and or along the hallway. I can’t remember which, so that make you walk around and look through stuff there, either in the D Hall, or along that main hallway entrance.

There’s various events for sale in different places and also the exhibits open today at 10:00 a.m. the 4:30 p.m. and we do appreciate you taking the time to visit and the support the vendors the vendors are what a big chunk of what supports us. We appreciate you supporting them and taking the time to peruse and check things out.
And a special note new this year, you guys have seen this, I’ll mention this Mr. Mike Furman, he does “Flash Max”, is here with a big booth. His fire prevention techniques, I think are phenomenal. My two boys have, all the time about flash max, so if you got young ones, or grandkids I suggest checking this stuff out. Is a great new approach to fire safety for the home and the kids, it’s, I strongly suggest you check it out. And he’ll be presenting out tomorrow as well. Bear with us just a minute and we’ll have the rest of the program going.

Now I need to call for a motion to accept the minutes for the 2016 convention in conference. I have a motion on the floor by Dave Lewis, seconded by Bobby Balta. All in favor? Opposed? Hearing none.

Now would present Mr. Rick Hemphill for credentials.

Rick Hemphill: Thank you, Mr. President. The registration of companies and individuals having appeared and registered this convention as of 10:00 hours this date; 23 Past Presidents, 226 companies in good standing. Each Past President is eligible to cast one vote. Each registered company is eligible to cast five votes, times 226 registered companies to exercise their privilege to vote for a total of 1130 eligible company votes, total votes eligibly cast 1153. Thank you, Mr. President, respectfully submitted.

President Davis: He’s making his way here, but next we’re going to have Mr. Gary Rains to report on the Memorial Foundation.

We’re going to step it up now out of order a little bit. We’re going to do VCAF with Joe Antoszewski for you.

Joe Antoszewski: Good morning, the VCAF has had a very successful year. I’d like to thank all my committee members, the Executive Committee for their support. Just recently Bay District in St. Mary’s County has settled theirs, Hancock Rescue has settled for their new squad in Washington County, and Bay District as I said earlier. And I hand-delivered Morningside’s booklet on Friday before I came down to the Department of Military. Our next meeting will be July 30th at Hollywood at 12 noon. And one last announcement Mr. Joe Robison, Past President is retiring from VCAF. He is the last original member of the VCAF committee, so he is retiring this year and we want to wish Joe all the success that he’s had and thank you for all your help, assistance, and guidance over the years. Thank you very much Joe. (Applause)

President Davis: Thank you Joe. Thanks for your help for all the years too and appreciate it. Next we have Mr. James Seavey for the NVFC report.

Jim Seavey: Thank you Mr. President. I hope you all enjoyed that 125th kickoff as much as I did. My protégé Past President Dave Lewis is coming up to join me. We’re going to give you a brief update on what we’re doing for you and to help this country and its volunteer fire service through the National Volunteer Fire Council. Our entire
Dave currently represents you on four committees. He’s on the Health Safety and Training Committee, he’s the Vice Chair of the Homeland Security Committee, he’s on the Recruitment and Retention Committee, and the Standard and Code Committee.

I serve on the Volunteer Advocacy Committee that deals with the rights of volunteers and protecting those rights, especially the volunteers who serve as career people. I’m the Vice Chair of that. I’m the Co-Chair of the Cancer Subcommittee under the Health and Safety and training committee. I’m on the National Volunteer Fire Council Foundation, and the Conference and Education Committee.

Our spring meeting was just in April and we had a wonderful presentation by the new Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly, and he has promised to and work to his end to guarantee our AFG and SAFER monies for the years to come. Also the current issues that we’re going to be working on is a list of five. The Board of the National Volunteer Fire Council, which Dave and I both sit on, adopted a diabetes position statement that advocates for firefighter physical education and support. They approved an expanded physical state, statement that outlines options for departments to consider when developing a firefighter medical assessment program. The Health and Safety and Training Committee created an officer training task force, specific to junior and mid-level company officers, and that’ll be rolling out this year. They voted to support the National Highway Safety Transportation Association’s rulemaking action regarding vehicle to vehicle technology. And the Legislative Committee added AFG Safer Reauthorization and the LOSAP cap for taxation to the list of legislative priorities.

We had elections on the council and Chief Kevin Quinn from Rhode Island was re-elected as the Chairman. And I just want to highlight a couple cancer initiatives that we’re working on, on your behalf. We’re going to have a sub website under the NVFC website that will provide you support information and current protection and prevention information on cancer. The NFPA has also established a firefighter cancer study team, and we have two representatives on that group. And the first National Fire Service Cancer Symposium, that is open to every firefighter in this country, is going to be held in Phoenix on September 7th and 8th and you can get that information if you go to the Fallen Firefighter Foundation website, as they are the facilitators of the National Alliance on occupational cancer within the fire service. I’m going to turn it over to Dave. He’s involved in several things including the Make Me A Firefighter program, and he’ll have a few comments. Thank you very much for your support. We are here to serve you and if you have anything for us, please just grab us in the hall, and we’d be glad to talk to you, Dave.

Dave Lewis: Thank you, Jim. As Jim noted there’s a lot of activity within the NVFC and Jim and I are both heavily involved with it, one of the benefits of having NVFC
headquartered in Greenbelt, its right in our back yard. One of the side things is, they often call upon us to assist them with other things, which were we’re glad to do, and proud to do, represent not only NVFC, but the Maryland fire service as well. I’ve also had a few opportunities to travel across the country on behalf of NVFC promoting the message. There are a number of things that are there. I would encourage you to stop by the booth and visit Meg Goldberg who’s here in booth 2123 right next to the MSFA Recruitment Retention booth which is in 2124. A lot of information there that we’ve asked Meg to bring down relative to some of the programs and activities of the NVFC.

One of the things of course is that understanding the challenges that we all have with recruitment retention, the make me a firefighter program, and all the tools that are available to you in order to do that. And we have a very close relationship with the MSFA Recruitment Committee in order to tie those two efforts together, and Joe Chornock can talk to you more about that, and how we’re tying actually the mdvolunteer.org with the make me a firefighter stuff.

Two of the key things that I’ve had the honor to work with in the Health and Safety arena are two problems that we face in the fire service that is increase in our maybe unofficial line of duty deaths, but certainly I would consider them line of duty deaths; that’s cancer and suicide. You’re going to hear more about that throughout the programs. I would encourage you, kind of a few program notes, Scott Geiselhart and Mike Healy will be here on the program this afternoon, at about one o’clock, to hear Scott’s story, and if you never heard Scott’s story, I’ve heard it at least four times. I know what’s coming next, and it’s still throughout the runs, it’s running the chill right through me, right now, to hear Scott’s story. Scott will be here.

Inside your packet in the delegate packet is the May, is the help letter that we publish, brand new off the press, it just came off the press about a week ago. There’s a poster inside for the share of the load program. I challenge each and every fire department. I want to make sure as I go around this state, that that poster is hanging in each and every fire station. If somebody needs help, you and they need to know where to reach out to. That number the 1-888-7345 help number is on that poster, and something that you could call. And you never know when the simplest thing may happen. I had a story that was shared with me yesterday, if you indulge me just a minute. Somebody told me that just recently, I potentially saved somebody’s life and didn’t even know about it. And I said, how did that occur? Says well, it’s as simple as this, and I’m going to change the facts to kind of protect a privacy some individuals. I was out in Indianapolis for FDIC. I got the Indianapolis, I had a direct flight back to Baltimore. They were looking for people to bump. I said okay; what’s, what’s, you’re not going to drag me off the airplane, right! No, that’s United. You know, but they said, they will, refund the cost of your ticket to you, if you take a voluntary bump. We’ll put you on the next flight. We’ll send you down from Indianapolis to Florida, and then Florida to Baltimore, okay, so I’m going to lose a few hours, but the price was worth it. That’s it. Okay, I’ll
do it, says well get on the airplane, if we need you we'll call you. I got on the airplane. A few minutes later they come over the loudspeaker, Dave Lewis we need you. I got off and gladly took the check, I walk across, walked across the aisle, got on, took a trip down to Florida, and then back up to Baltimore. No big deal. I found out later that the person that took my seat sat next to the individual that told me that I saved this other than his life, and he started talking about this. This was a chief from another state that says you know, I had a bad experience a few months ago, and it's really bothered me, what's that? So the young child ran out in front of my Chief's vehicle. I struck the child and killed the child, and I know, I can't cope with that. It really bothered me, and quite honestly, I'm having dark thoughts, and the individual sitting next to him, who again shared the story with me says, have you heard of the share of the load program? No, what is that? So he explained it to him while he was on the flight, about to share a little old program. He saw that individual just last week at another conference and that individual says, I want you to know that I called that number and they've given me so much help, I feel so much relief because quite honestly, I thought it was the end. I honestly had suicidal thoughts. So that individual called me says, you know what, by you giving up your seat to that individual, and that individual by circumstance talking to me possibly saved his life. And that's the kind of things that we try to do, so please take the time. Scott and Mike will be here at one o'clock and then they're going to, they're going to be in room 204, right thereafter to kind of talk about how you can take advantage of the resources of the share the load program.

Cancer, Jimmy is very active in the cancer program; but again, I had the opportunity to be up in New York last year to hear Donna Loose McDonald give her story. She will be on the program tomorrow at, tomorrow morning at 9:30, kind of right in the middle of the award ceremony, to tell her story. Again a very compelling story how she went through the effects of cancer and then she will do a presentation at 1:30 along with Trey Kelso who is our representative to the Firefighter Cancer Support Network. They, the Cancer Support Network is in 1042, our own Maryland MSFA cancer support network is in 1043, so we're working those issues through the NVFC. Those are two critical issues a facing the fire service and if we put cancer and suicide in the line of duty death category, and I’m not be surprised if you see that happen, our numbers are going to skyrocket because it’s a terrible thing happened in the nation’s Fire Service.

Last year when we went to Emmitsburg, we put 24 names on the wall from people that died from cancer from 911 and FDNY. That number is already I think, at least doubled, there will be more names added this year because again with PSOB you have to you have to call the reason that a firefighter dies in the line of duty has to be equated to a single incident. 911 was a single incident, but I think that definition will expand when it comes to cancer. So it’s a pleasure for Jim and I to serve you. Please stop by the booth and see Meg. Please stop Jim and I to kind of talk about some of the programs. Please hang that poster in your firehouse, take care of yourselves to take care of each other, thank you sir. (Applause)
President Davis: Thank You Jimmy and Dave, appreciate it. And now Mr. Gary Raines from the Memorial Foundation.

Gary Rains: Good morning. From the very beginning, it’s been about honoring and remembering. There have been places on the heart of one man a need. This need quickly became his dream and he freely shared his dream with others, and soon it was a dream shared by many. And in 1997 these many dreamers became the Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation. The need that had been placed on Chief Don Mooney’s heart, that became his dream, was for that Maryland had a memorial honoring those from public safety and emergency services, whose lives were lost while serving the citizens of Maryland. So he freely and frequently shared his dream with others throughout the great state of Maryland and he brought together a diverse team of multi-talented individuals, who shared his dream.

An all volunteer team, made up of dedicated men and women from all over the state, representing multiple state agencies; including MFRI, MIEMSS, Fire Marshal, Maryland Forestry, career and volunteer fire departments, fire companies and ladies auxiliary, MSP, IAFF locals, National Fallen Firefighters, Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Ladies Auxiliary to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, survivors of Maryland fallen heroes, along with individuals from a variety of other entities, affiliations, and organizations.

In 1997 this all-volunteer team of dreamers officially became the Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation, a nonprofit, whose purpose and mission, to design, construct, and maintain, a unique living memorial dedicated to members of Maryland’s fire rescue and emergency medical community, who have given their lives in the performance of their duties. They knew the foundation’s purpose. They knew the Foundation’s mission and with Don Mooney leading the way as a foundation President, they rolled up the sleeves and got to work, and that one man was made their leader, and together they worked, and they worked, and they worked for the next eight years.

As the news of the foundation and his mission spread more dedicated dreamers joined the team. Chairman of the board Mooney and members of the foundation continued as promoters, advocates, and they would invest countless hours researching, planning, preparing, hiring, acquiring, and eventually fundraising for this dream they all shared.

And they worked and they worked, until their shared dream became a reality in June of 2006. A memorial constructed of brick, mortar, and bronze embraced by brick pathways, flowers, trees, and shrubs. A living memorial; designed, built, and dedicated, to volunteer and career men and women from Maryland’s Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical community, whose lives were lost while serving the citizens of Maryland.

On dedication day Chief Mooney said the following and I paraphrase “today is celebrate the lives into honor the sacrifice of the men and women whose names are inscribed
on the wall of honor. They were mothers, and fathers, husbands, and wives, sisters, brothers, neighbors, and friends. Fellow workers both career and volunteer, fire and EMS, and MSP medevac personnel. They all had one thing in common. They gave their lives doing what they loved to do, helping other people.” He concluded his dedication speech with the following; and I quote, “today is not an end, but the beginning of a new era. We are now obligated not only to maintain this magnificent memorial site, but to enhance it in the coming years, and to gather here once a year, hopefully not to add names, but to continue to remember those whose names are inscribed here.”

From the very beginning it’s been about honoring and remembering, next slide. I invite you to visit room 208 when you have a few minutes to spare, and see the pictorial wall of Honor, honoring and remembering our 415 Maryland Fallen Heroes. While working on the project it was realized that approximately 240 of our line of duty death directory profiles had no photo of the fallen hero, so a little over a year ago, another project was launched. Next slide, finding a face for a hero. It is our most earnest hope that someday there will be a picture of each Maryland Fallen Hero to be displayed alongside their name. Until then if a picture of the hero has yet to be located, then displayed alongside their name, will be a picture of the heroes actual helmet. A picture of the hero’s badge, or appropriate collar pins, or a picture representing the heroes Fire Company or Fire Department. Over the past year of those 240 missing, a 113 photos of Maryland fallen heroes have been recovered, are being processed, and would be placed alongside each hero’s name. And the search will continue.

Since dedication day, indeed we have met at 101 Calvert Street in Annapolis each year, the first Sunday of every June, where we have a memorial service to honor and remember our fallen, and sadly add names to the Wall of Honor. This past June, the names of five fallen heroes were added. And now the Wall Honor displays the names of 415 Maryland Fallen Heroes.

To design, construct, and maintain, a unique living memorial as the Foundation, under the leadership President Gene Worthington, continues to assure that the yearly perpetual care and maintenance needs of the memorial are met, we ask for your continued support by participating in the memorial service each June, and by supporting our annual fundraising efforts. From the very beginning, and over the last 20 years, it’s been about honoring and remembering, and it always will be. Thank you. (Applause)

President Davis: Thank you for that report - appreciate it. And I next to Mr. Harve Woods for the Constitution of Bylaws report.

Harve Woods: Thank You Mr. President. Good morning. There is one item on the ballot this year for a change for the Constitution and Bylaws. Article K section 26 would be amended for the purpose of removing the penalties against a member company, for failing to complete a statistical report. The committee, the executive committee, the officers, urge everyone to vote for this amendment, thank you.
President Davis: Are there any other special committees or reports to be had? No other committees or reports? All right, now we'll move on to the reports of the officers.

For myself short and sweet, page 53 is my report of the accomplishments of the year. We’re running a little behind here, so, but I can’t thank everyone enough for the support over the many years. And especially to the 125th committee for putting all this together like they have. It’s been a great time running around the state, and I’m still going to be around doing whatever I can for you. If you ever done anything, you know where to find me. Remember they always got to look for a pass for the future, and try let’s try to bridge that gap, and the generation gap in the fire service, get our younger folks involved, bring them out the meetings, take them out, get them in administrative positions, and bring them out to the conventions. We all want to see them out there. And now with that we’ll have First Vice President report, Mr. Mark Bilger.

Mark Bilger: Hello welcome again to Ocean City. I want to thank President Davis for his successful year. I want to thank Rick Blair for his work this year also. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year. I want to thank all of you for the hard work and dedication that you provide to this organization. Without your support, and your efforts, we would not be able to accomplish the things we have done, and what we will do. Thank you very much. (Applause)

Rick Blair: Good morning. President Davis, President Bilger, Officers, Members, and Guests. You can find my report on page 57 of the book. At this time I would like to thank my wife, Rosalynn, my family, my friends, my colleagues, from around the state for their support this past year. A special thanks goes to the membership of the Western Enterprise Fire Company, Clear Spring Fire Company, Clear Spring Ambulance, the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association, and its companies for all the help and support that they gave me this past year.

I’ve had the opportunity to work with some very dedicated members and people from across the state this year. I’ve served on many committees, and as your Second Vice President I will continue to move forward when I’m an elected First Vice President this coming, tomorrow rather. Well that’s it, thanks. (Applause)

Doyle Cox: Good morning. Thank you, goodbye, okay. First of all you’ll find copy of the report on page 59, it outlined the accomplishments the Secretary’s Office had this year, but, the office has been very busy, but it hasn’t been myself doing all the work. The assistant Secretaries, Shirley Copado, Diane Gunther, Nancy Cox, Nancy Scott, and Tom Scott. They’re the ones that’s done the work. They’re the ones that needs the credit. Again, thank you for your support and look forward to in the years to come, thank you. (Applause)

Mitch Vocke: Good morning everyone. My report can be found on page 61 for the financial team. I want to thank my Assistant Financial Secretary Bobby Aaron. Her
responsibilities include keeping all the inventory of all the personal property of the Association, and that must be submitted to the auditors each year, and that is a daunting task to keep that updated. As far as dues go, I’m happy to stand up here for once and say all member companies, associate, and sustaining organizations, have paid their 2017 dues so I don’t have to go check them, and find them today. Again a reminder to please use the P O Box when you send your dues in. We still have 10 or 11 companies that are mailing their checks to the P O Box in Timonium. That has been closed for six years. Sometimes I get to check, a lot of times they just get lost into the Postal Service. So have a safe and enjoyable conference and convention, thank you. (Applause)

Ron Siarnicki: So good morning. Ron Siarnicki, Treasure, Maryland State Firemen’s Association. It gives me a pleasure to bring greetings from the financial team. The treasurer’s report is on page 61 of the program book. So, I’m not going to go through any of the numbers. The biggest piece that I would like to extend to the Association, is that we have finished our financial review by the Certified Public Accountants of Fite Connor & Associates, which is a company that we hire to do the annual review. We have been issued a financial report as of June 30th for 2016, and there are no findings in the audit at all, no elements within the management letter, and we are happy to report that. They are very comfortable with our conversion to using QuickBooks by both the MSFA and the LAMSFA, and all of our financial records for the Association. So that’s been a two-year task of doing that conversion from Ledger’s and checkbooks. That is all completed and this would be the first review that was done under the new system, and we came through without any findings whatsoever. It’s a pleasure to serve as your Treasurer. I am up for re-election today, so hopefully you think I’ve done enough to warrant your support for another term. I am running and I really look forward to serving the Association in a variety of fashions for the next couple of years.

So now I’m going to change hats as the convention chairman. So what’d you think of the opening? Pretty cool, we, we’ve been working with our committee and our Chairman Tommy Mattingly for a while to try and figure out how to make the 125th special. We wanted to do confetti. The convention center said no, so I said, okay, we’ll do balloons and indoor fireworks, and they still got confetti on the floor to clean up. So it’s going to work out for us and them.

We wanted to make sure that we brought some of the traditions of the MSFA back to the convention. We spent a lot of time at the archives up in Pasadena looking through old pictures, convention books, proceedings books, to capture the flavor of what it was like back in the 1800s and early 1900s when the MSFA would gather, and this is this is what we put. All of the counties represented, our state, our nation, and as Tommy said, Tommy Mattingly the more red, white, and blue bunting we can have in a building, the better he would be, and the better we would be.

I got to thank Water Witch for constructing the arch. That’s something that was a
pretty significant tradition back in those early days. They built that arch, we had it transported from Water Witch here to Ocean City, and I have to say that the town of Ocean City helped in the construction of it, and there is some interest for it to be used at both Spring Fest and Summer Fest as part of the activities on the boardwalk. So it’s part of that continued collaboration with the town in Ocean City, so a lot of activities happening.

I know that at some point Roger Steger will give a report on future convention dates that has to be accomplished. We do have dates for the next four years, which we’ve been able to work out on a contract, so Roger will take care of that at another point in the program. But I just want to thank all of you for the support you’ve given to the Convention Committee and we hope that we have met your expectations. Thank you, be safe and have a great time at the beach.

Dan Carpenter: Good morning, I’m C. Dan Carpenter III, Chairman MSFA Board of Trustees. My report is in the convention book so I’m not going to go over that. The most important thing I want to get out there, and stress is, if you have a member that’s injured in the line of duty, or a death, please contact one of the trustees. You can go on the msfa.org website, top of the page, trustees, click on that, you’ll see the trustees manuals, you’ll see it the trustees names, we’ll be glad to help you fill out the forms and go over everything, thank you. (Applause)

President Davis: I now call for the nominations officers, opening office for the nominations of President. I recognize Mr. Charlie Simpson.

Charlie Simpson: Thank You Mr. President. President Davis, Officers, Members of this great Association, my fellow Delegates and Alternate, Clergy, Distinguished Guests. I am Charles J. Simpson Jr., a life member of the Pleasant Valley Community Fire Company, a life member of the Westminster Fire Engine and Hose Company. I’m a Past President of the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association, and the Carroll County Volunteer Ambulance Association, a member of the MSFA Training Committee, the MSFA EMS Committee and the MSFA Strategic Planning Committee. I currently serve as Vice Chair of the MSFA Executive Committee. I stand before you today to nominate Mark Bilger for the Office of President.

Mark is an active member of the Hampstead Volunteer Fire Engine and Hose Company. Since joining the company, has served in various elected and appointed positions to include: Delegate to the County and State Conventions and Conferences. Mark is a Past President of the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association, and he continues to serve that association as Co-Chair of the Past Presidents Committee. In 1992 Mark was asked to serve as an MSFA Training Committee member. He served that committee until night, excuse me till 2015. Mark chaired the MSFA Fire Laws Book Committee from 1994 through 2015. In 2005 Mark was Chair of the MSFA Statistical Committee and in 2009 Mark was asked to represent the Volunteers of Carroll and
Howard Counties on the MSFA Executive Committee. Mark is also a member of the MSFA Hall Fame.

Mark had a 20-year career with the Office of the State Fire Marshal. In 1993 Mark joined the Office of the Fire Marshal as a sworn Deputy State Fire Marshal. He served a five-county region. He conducted fire and life safety inspections, focusing on business, and corporate facilities. He performed fire, criminal, and other investigate type situations. He was the lead investigator on 13 fire investigations, involving fatalities. He also led efforts to improve operations and information sharing between the State Fire Marshal’s Office and local fire and EMS companies. In 2000 he was promoted to the position of Deputy State, or Deputy Chief, State Fire Marshal, or Regional Commander. Mark led all operations for a four County region, of one of the nation’s largest and most comprehensive fire marshal agencies. Mark served as a member of the State Fire Marshal Office senior staff. He led an office of ten employees, including sworn and civilian personnel, developing the group into one of the most efficient teams in the State Fire Marshal’s Office. He’s provided oversight to fire and arson investigations, inspections, compliance, interagency coordination, and support for the local and Fire EMS law enforcement agencies. He conducted 424 origin and cause fire investigations, into multiple occupancy, commercial, residential, multi-use, fires and suspected arsons. Mark served as the State Fire Marshal Representative to the Maryland Emergency Management Agency. He assumed the lead role in managing agency resources in the state 911 center any time of disaster, researched revised, and changes to policies, procedures, and operations, for the purpose of improving coordination and efficiency to the agency. Routinely he served as the State Fire Marshal public affairs officer and developed the first State Fire Marshal Office college intern program in 2013. Mark retired from the State Fire Marshal’s Office to pursue other opportunities in public service in 2016.

Marc joined the Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute as a Regional Coordinator. Mark is responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the Upper Eastern Shore Regional Office and training center, and the coordination of emergency services training programs in Kent, Queen Anne’s, Caroline, Talbot, and Anne Arundel County. Mark’s position requires him to have a working knowledge of emergency services and training coordination as a regional coordinator. Mark serves as a resource not only to the Institute, but also to the local fire and law enforcement jurisdictions in his region.

I truly believe that Mark’s work as a volunteer in his home company, his County and with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association along with his leadership roles with the Office of the Fire Marshal, and the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute has provided him the skills needed to lead this organization. One last thing I want to mention about Mark, for the past 26 years he has been a loving and devoted husband to Nancy, the pretty young lady, who stands on the stage with him. Ladies and gentlemen, I respectfully request that you cast your vote for Mark A. Bilger, the next President of this great Association.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Thank you. (Applause)

Kenny Ruby: Good morning, my name is Kenny Ruby and I am current President of the Hampstead Volunteer Fire Engine and Hose Company #1, Inc. I’m here today to second the nomination of Mark A. Bilger for the Office of President. Joining me in seconding the nomination are the following MSFA Past Presidents: C. Oscar Baker, Robert Cumberland Jr., Joseph A. Robison, Thomas A. Mattingly Sr., Richard Yinger, Fred I’m sorry George A. Fred Cross, Stephan D. Cox, Danny Davis, Robert Knippenburg, Carl Edelin Jr., Phil Hurlock, Roger Steger, Gene Worthington, Terry Thompson, Robert W. Jacobs, Bobby Balta, Paul Sterling, Frank Underwood, Doyle Cox, I’m sorry Doyle Cox, sorry, Dave Lewis, John Denver, Jackie Olson, Dave Keller, Johnie Roth, Roger Powell, Bernie Smith. Trustees Chairman Danny Carpenter, Vice Chairman Doug Alexander, Secretary-Treasurer Jeff Thompson, Ben Kurtz, Past President Terry Thompson, Executive Committee Vice Chairman Charles Simpson Jr., Rick Hemphill, Tim Dayton, John Fisher, James Seavey, Richard Smith, Dan Stevens, Wayne Tome, Justin Towles, Chuck Walker, Committee Chairs: Rusty Leftwich, Jay Tucker, Ed Woods, Wally Donaldson, Ken Bush, Laura Woods, Bill Hildebrand, Teresa Ann Chrisman, Steve Berry, Ron Watkins, I’m sorry, Joseph Chornock, Michael LeCompte, Dale Fishack Jr., Dale Fishack Sr., Lou Jonske. Others; Dave Hall Past President Allegheny County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, Eric Smothers President Frederick County Maryland Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, Robin Hahn President Cecil County Association. Thank you.

President Davis: All right, can we strike up the band? (Music) ([Music]) (Music)

Are there any other nominations for the Office of President? Any other nominations for the Office of President. Motion to close the nominations? The second? All in favor. So moved.

We now open up nominations for the Office of First Vice President. Recognize Mr. Dale Hill.

Dale Hill: Thank you Mr. President and welcome to all the member companies of our great association. My name is Dale Hill I am the current and First Vice President and immediate Past President of the Washington County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association. I am also a Past President of the Funkstown Volunteer Fire Company, located in Washington County. I am very humbled and excited to stand before you today to offer the nomination of Mr. Richard Blair, for the position of First Vice-President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. At this time I would ask Rick and his wife to come to the stage, but they’ve already come out, so thank you for doing that for me. Last year I stood before this great organization and nominated Rick for the office of Second Vice President. At that time, I provided information of the many accomplishments, credentials, and experience, Rick brought with him for being a leader within his own member companies, positions the Washington County Volunteer
Fire and Rescue Association, within the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, and by serving capacities with other allied organizations. Some of the many positions Rick has held, has been as a Chief, President, Captain, Treasurer, Board Member, and as a member of numerous committees on the local, county, state, and federal levels.

Rick possesses all the qualifications of a true volunteer in the fire, EMS, and rescue services, of our great state, along with great pride, honesty, commitment, and dedication. I could stand today, I can state today, with the utmost confidence that Rick has fulfilled his obligation and duties as the Second Vice President behind all expectations. He has done so with great pride, dignity, honesty, respect, with all-out commitment, and will continue to serve each of you to the best of his ability. Rick has traveled all across our great state, far and wide, logging more than 22,000 miles and spent countless hours attending meetings, fundraisers, memorial services, various member company functions, and other activities, as your Second Vice President. This also does not take account for many hours of communications required either by telephone, or by electronic mail. Accompanying Rick many times while he was attending these many functions, was his lovely wife Rosalynn, who also understands the commitment needed to succeed as the First Vice President.

Everything Rick has been involved with, has been for the benefit of Fire Rescue and EMS services of our state, and for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. He has spent countless hours lobbying for our membership in Annapolis, and throughout the remainder of the state there shall be no doubt that Rick will continue to provide great leadership to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, and continue to monitor what will be in the best interests of our member companies, and the Volunteer Fire EMS and Rescue Service in the state of Maryland. I firmly believe in, know that Rick has the commitment, the knowledge to continue to lead our great organization by listening to the needs and the other recommendations of our membership. This along with the great work of our committees and their input will all work collectively to continue to develop a long-range plan for the future of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and ultimately for the benefit of our member companies. All of this cannot be accomplished without quality leadership at the top of the organization. Rick has those qualities. It is with great pride that I stand before you today to nominate Mr. Richard Blair for the Office of the First Vice President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Thank you for your consideration and hopefully for unanimous support. At this time I would like to call on Miss Hannah Dobbins to second the nomination. (Applause)

Hannah Dobbins: Thank you Dale. Good morning everyone my name is Hanna Dobbins. I am the Executive Administrator for Western Enterprise Fire Company in Hagerstown Maryland. It is my honor and privilege to second the nomination of Richard C. Blair for First Vice President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Rosalynn Levine, Rick’s wife, joins me in seconding the nomination of Richard C. Blair for First Vice President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association
I have quite a list of individuals who also join us in seconding the nomination. If you are in the room, please make your way up to the stage if you are able. Past Presidents: Roberts Cumberland Jr., Daniel C. Davis Jr., John Denver, David W. Lewis, Paul H. Sterling Jr., Frank J. Underwood, Gene Worthington, Roger Steger, Robert Knippenburg, Joseph Robison, Philip Hurlock. Roger Powell, Terry Thompson, Gene Worthington, Jacqueline Olson, David Keller III, Robert Jacobs, Stephan Cox, L. King, Bernard J. Smith, Johnie Roth, Oscar Baker, Robert Balta, Doyle Cox, Fred Cross, Carl Edelin, Thomas Mattingly Sr., Richard Yinger, Leonard King.

Heather Erica Palladino, Rose Connote, Becky Soteal, Adam Similar, Annetet Similar, Brian Stallings, Krysta Stallings, Kitty Bow, Red Carroll Missoula, and anyone else I might have missed, please join us. Oh okay, this is my opportunity. Band master, strike up the band. (Music) (Music) (Music) (Applause)

President Davis: Are there any other nominations for the office of First Vice-President? Are there any other nominations for the office of First Vice President? Hearing none, I hear motion all nominations be closed. I have a second? Nomination is by Ronald Block and the second by Mr. Roger Powell to close.

Now open the floor for nominations for Office of Second Vice President, Oh sorry, I need a motion, we did it. We need a vote on it, I’m sorry. All those in favor? Opposed? Thank you.

Now for the Office of Second Vice President, Robby Blackiston.

Robby Blackiston: Good morning, my name is Robby Blackiston, the current President of the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company in Queen Anne’s County. On behalf of the Officers and members of the Fire Company, we’re going to, like to, nominate Mike Faust for Second Vice President.

Mike Faust is a life member of the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company. In addition to being a fourth generation firefighter within the department. Held suppression and administrative offices during his 30 year tenure. At the state levels held the Office of Assistant Financial Secretary and is currently on the Executive Committee, on his fourth term. Also co-chair of the Marketing Committee, highly involved with the SAFR Grant, and worked on other community and, other committees, including recruitment and retention, and the safety committees on a regular basis.

We think it’s an honor and privilege to have Mike running for this office and please cast your vote tomorrow.

Steve Cox: Good morning, Steve Cox. I second the nomination of Mike Faust for Second Vice President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and with me is his lovely wife Stacy. She also seconds along with Fred Cross.

Fred Cross: I’d like to read the names of the following people that are also seconding Mike. Past Presidents Bobby Balta, Doyle Cox, Bob Cumberland, C. Daniel Davis, John Denver, Philip Hurlock, Bobby Jacobs, Leonard King, Robert Knippenburg, Dave Lewis, Tom Mattingly, Jackie Olson, Roger Powell, Johnny Roth, Richard Smith, Paul Sterling, Bernie Smith, Frank Underwood, Gene Worthington, Joe Robison, Carl Edelin. From the trustees, from the trustees Dan Carpenter, Jeff Thompson, Ben Kurtz. Other officers; Michael Davis, Marc Bilger, Rick Blair, Ron Siarnicki, Wylie Donaldson, Mitch Vocke, Michael Farlow, John long, Skip Mahan, Nancy Cox, Shirley Copado. From the Executive Committee Doug Simpkins, Charlie Simpson, Richard Smith, Tim Dayton,
John Fisher, Jim Seavey, Rick Hemphill, Dan Stevens, Wayne Tome, Justin Towles and Chuck Walker definitely endorsing and unfortunately he can’t be here, but we need him, we need you to put him in your prayers.

Steve Cox: Also the following counties have endorsed Mike; Queen Anne’s County Fire and EMS Commission, Billy Faust, Kent Queen Association Doug Quare, Cecil County, Prince George’s County, Allegheny County, Garrett County, Baltimore County, Montgomery County, Anne Arundel County, Talbot County, Dorchester County, and at this time I’d like all the members of Sudlersville Fire Company to come join us because they also second the nomination of Mike Faust for Second Vice President. Thank You Mr. President. (Applause) (Music)(Music)(Music)

President Davis: You don’t have any hair. Are there any other nominations for the Office of Second Vice President? Are there any other nominations for the Office of Second Vice President? Nominations moved by Mr. Knippenburg, seconded by Ron Watkins. All in favor? Any opposed? Sorry I can’t, say your name today.

Now we open nominations for the Office of Secretary. Present Mr. Danny Davis. President Davis, Officers, Delegates, Alternates and Honored Guests. It’s my pleasure to stand before you today to again nominate Doyle Cox for the Office of Secretary. Doyle has served this Association as President, Executive Committee Chairman twice, and on numerous committees and he’s currently serving as your Secretary. He is a member of the MSFA and Southern Maryland Hall of Fame. He’s a friend and I ask for your support and vote, electing Doyle Cox as Secretary. Seconding his nomination is Shirley Copado.

Shirley Copado: Oh good morning, afternoon. Shirley Copado, Past President Leonardtown Rescue Squad, Past President of the Southern Maryland Firemen’s Association. I’ve worked for Doyle in the capacity of Assistant Secretary for five years and I’d like to second his nomination, thank you.

President Davis: Any other nominations for the Office of Secretary? Any other nominations for the Office of Secretary. Move nominations be closed. All in favor say aye, opposed?

Office of the Treasurer, we now open nominations for the Office of the Treasurer. Will present you Mr. Bobby Jacobs.

Bobby Jacobs: Thank You Mr. President. Good morning everyone. I guess it’s still morning, it is. President Davis, Vice Presidents Bilger and Blair, MSFA Officers, Delegates and members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. This is a privilege and honor to place before you, be placed before this body, my associate Ronald J. Siarnicki for the Office of Treasurer. Ron has served as Treasurer of this great association since 2005. Through his enormous talents determination, and demonstration, in maintaining
the physical affairs of this organization to its fullest is beyond words. Through his leadership as an officer and in addition to chairing the convention committee, once again provides this organization the strong structure today, and in the future. Of course you heard his report this morning on how well the financial reports were with the CPA firm.

Ron in another role is the Executive Director the National Fallen Firefighter Foundation providing a dynamic insight for our organization and by assisting in keeping the MSFA informed on both local and national affairs. As you know, he has established multiple checks and balances through his leadership in association with the MSFA financial team, as a whole and by doing so, he works diligently as he has shown great expertise in maintaining the physical affairs of this organization, and will continue to do so in the future to ensure that all federal and state regulations, and mandates, are met, ensuring that this organization is in compliance, accordingly.

Ron's Fire Service commitment exceeds well over 40 years as a volunteer, career firefighter, retiring as the Chief of the Prince George’s Fire EMS Department and currently serving as a President of the United Communities Volunteer Fire Company in Stevensville. From this short bio, it’s, it easily identifies his commitment, knowledge, and talents that are difficult to challenge. Please join me by reelecting Ronald J Siarnicki to the Office of Treasurer of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association for another two year term. Thank you and please join me by extending a warm MSFA applause and supporting his nomination and for a job well done. (Applause)

Fred Cross: Yea, still morning we’re safe. I’d like to second the nomination Ron Siarnicki for Treasurer and following groups would also like to second him: the Financial Team, complete Financial Team, the Trustees, the Budget Committee, and the Executive Committee. Anyone want to come out, just to make it short and sweet. I guess that’s it, thank you.

President Davis: Any other nominations for the Office of Treasurer? Any other nominations for the Office of Treasurer? Motion by Johnie Roth, second by Ron Watkins. All those in favor say aye, opposed. So moved.

Now we open the office nominations for Chief Chaplain. I present Mr. Jay Olson.

Jay Olson: Morning, my name’s Jay Olson, Chief of the Ferndale Fire Company, Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company takes great pride in submitting the name of Reverend John F. Long for the Office of Chief Chaplain of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. John has held this office since being elected in 2005 and has performed the duties associated with the office to the best of his ability. As one of our certified pump operators John is dedicated to staffing the station every Thursday night through Friday afternoon. And, he has 42 years of fire service experience and has held every line officer position. It is with great pride that the Ferndale Volunteer Fire Company
nominates Reverend John F. Long for the Office of Chief Chaplain, thank you.

**Steve Cox:** I second the nomination for John Long, Chief Chaplain of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, thank you.

**President Davis:** Any other nominations for the Office of Chaplain? Any other nominations for the Office of Chief Chaplain. Moved to be closed. All these, second. All those in favor aye, opposed? Thank you.

Now open, yes sir. We’re not done yet. Oh sure, we now open for nominations for Trustee. So Mr. Doug Alexander.

**Doug Alexander:** I’ve been doing less. Good morning Mr. President, Officers, Delegates, Alternates, Past Presidents, and guests. I’m honored to stand before you today to nominate Mr. Terry E. Thompson for the Office of Trustee of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Terry is a husband, father, grandfather, and dedicated emergency services volunteer, who has served the citizens of Howard County, and the State of Maryland for over 45 years.

Terry has served the citizens of Howard County through both the Fifth District and the Savage Volunteer Fire Companies. He has served in both administrative and operational officer positions including; President of the County Firemen’s Association, Fire Chief at the 5th District, and President of the Savage Volunteer Fire Department, and President of the Maryland Fire Chiefs. During his tenure with the Howard County Fire Service, his service to the MSFA has been nothing less than exemplary. Terry has served as President the MSFA and on the MSFA Executive Committee, serving a year as Chair as well. He was the representative for Carroll and Howard counties. He has also served on several other MSFA committees and is a member of the MSFA Hall of Fame. Terry is truly an outstanding and dedicated leader in the emergency services community. Today I ask you to help the future of the MSFA by joining the Savage Volunteer Fire Company, and the Howard County Volunteer Fireman’s Association in supporting the candidacy, excuse me, of Terry Thompson for re-election to the MSFA Board of Trustees, thanks. Seconding the nomination will be Paul Sterling, Past President.

**Paul Sterling:** Thank you Doug. You already heard a lot of things about Terry. I just want to say that he has served his local department, county, and state with a great honor, and distinction. More importantly Terry has continued to look out for the best welfare of our injured, and firefighters killed in the line of duty, and he will continue to do that and be a great trustee for this organization. I’m proud to second his nomination for Trustee, thank you.

**President Davis:** Gentlemen any other nominations for the office of Trustee? Any other nominations for the Office of Trustee. Move to close nominations. Second by Mr. Robison. All the favor say aye, any opposed. So move.
You guys can stop with the balloons, please? I cannot hear. I need to be able to hear. Gunshots shots fired. I’ll show you shots fired, yeah. Take that off, strike that from the record.

Now we did, for the locate, nominations the location of the 2022 convention.

**Roger Steger:** Roger Steger, Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company. I’d like to make a motion that we have the 2022 convention in Ocean City. Thank you.

**President Davis:** Need a second. A second. All those in favor? Opposed, okay. Now motions from the floor, Mr. Powell. On Mr. Powell’s motion to, repeated; he moved that we cast a ballot, unanimous ballot for all offices, except for the office of secretary, and also and that myself cast a ballot for the secretary. All in favor. Any opposed. So have it.

Okay, the appointment of the judges and tellers. We have Mr. Charles Simpson, Cherry Heiser, and Robbie Blackiston, don’t excuse me, yes teller, teller, Robbie Blackiston judge, Ken Whelan, teller, Doug Dwyer. Nothing further from the floor. We will recess the convention for one hour until 12:45 reconvened sessions closed for morning, thank you.
President Michael Davis: At this time I’d like to call to order the second session of the 125th Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. At this time I’ll call on Director Edwards for the MFRI report.

Director Steve Edwards: I’d like to begin acknowledging the MSFA Executive Committee who have worked with MFRI throughout the year. They are strong supporters of training education as you know and we worked together very well throughout this year. I think we made some improvements in our system. I’d like to also thank the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute the faculty staff and field instructors. They worked very hard day in and day out last year. We conducted 1720 programs training at 33,893 students. It takes a lot of work, a lot of coordination day in and day out, to make it happen, and they do it on a regular basis.

So I will just cover a couple things that are going on within the Institute. As many as you know we’re working to develop a new learning management system. That system will allow for a lot of new opportunities for our students, and new opportunities for instructors. We quite frankly, will be able out more in a digital environment. We currently have our registration system totally online. This new system will allow us to be online from the students first day first class all the way through their entire career in the fire service and it gives a lot of additional features, a lot of features with regard to blending learning technology, where our programs you’ll see in the future will have more and more distance education components, at all levels allowing students that have the opportunity during a class to take part of that class at their own schedule, at their own time, through a computer learning environment. So that’s on schedule. There actually will be training for our faculty staff and field instructors over the next several months and we’re looking for a full implementation on that in the fall this year.

We’ve also worked with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. They had a request for us, and particularly the recruitment and retention committee, wanted to be able to know what new fire department members are coming through training programs, and if we could get their contact information, their email, age, address, and things like that. We could give that to them and the University System stated we cannot do that unless the student agrees to it so. When you have a new class now, new
students enrolled in a class, they can check a box; do you want your information sent to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. They check that box, most of them do, once a month, we download a computer file from our systems to the recruitment and retention committee. They then can follow up with these new members and give benefit information, make them aware of opportunities that are available to them, and so on and so forth. So that that’s worked very well.

We’ve talked a lot about emergency medical training over the last several years. We made substantial revisions to our programs in that regard and a success has been very good. Maryland continues to be both at the first attempt of the pass of the EMT exam and the EMR exam and a third attempt, we exceed the national averages in all cases. So there was a lot, a bit of difficulty to get there, a lot of people worked on this issue, but I think we’re, and I’m not saying this system is perfect, I’m saying where it needs to be totally. But at least regard with the educational aspects of that program, it’s going very well, and I said we are above the national average.

We’re implementing a change in July first with regard to our textbook policy. MFRI spends anywhere from $400,000 to $600,000 per year in textbooks. We give a textbook to every student for every class. And I just said it, said before we have over 33,000 students. The student at the end of class either returns a book in good condition or they are allowed the opportunity to purchase a book at 70% off list price. We’ve been having trouble in some cases catching up with people to either get the book or the fee to the tune and we wrote over $48,000. Right now in our budget. So we’re going to have a system, and the system will work like this: and it’s actually the same system the University of Maryland uses if you don’t pay your parking fines. If you don’t pay your dining-room bill, if you don’t do anything for the university guess what, you don’t get a diploma. You don’t graduate. Well we’re going to do that effective July 1st is at the end conclusion of the class, the student will return the book, or the student can purchase a book at 75% off. If they don’t do step A or B, we will not release that grade for that class until they make that square. So I think it’ll be a better system. If you have difficulties, we have trouble, we’ll be able to address it right up front, resolve it at that in time right. Now we’re trying to catch these things several months after the fact. That’s just not working. So that would be a change. But it’d be a small change in that regard.

We’re also coming out in July with a new Emergency Medical Officer program. We’ve been working with the National Emergency Medical Services Managers Association. They’ve developed a three tier program for EMS officer training. Before we took, we had an EMS officer program here for many years. We basically took Fire Officer 1 and made it to an EMS Officer program. This new program is directly, specifically designed for Emergency Medical Service Officers. The first level, and there’s three levels, one is supervisor, one is manager, one is executive. The first level program that we currently have is 48 hours. The new program will be 30 hours. So to be 30 hours
at the supervisor level and then over the next several months we’ll bring on both the Manager and Executive. With that, we will be the first accredited program in the United States that be able to teach this program. So I think that’s a big step forward too. We have a lot of new curriculum, a lot of new work, we want to go on. Again as I said, where technology and things for the students and I wanted to just quickly highlight that.

One last thing, as most of you know, I did make a decision regarding my future. In the last few years, last few months actually. I worked for the Prince George’s County Fire Department 25 years. I’ve been the Director of the Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute for 25 years. Fifty years a pretty long time, even though it seemed to go by pretty fast. I will say this, over my 50-year career, I’ve enjoyed going to work every day, and a lot of people can’t say that, I’ve been proud of that. I’ve worked for two great organizations. The pressure of just County Fire and EMS Department, the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute, I have been very fortunate. I’ve worked for 25 MSFA Presidents, 25, MSFA Executive Committees over a lot of issues throughout the years. I think we’ve had a great partnership. I think we’ve worked well together. We respected each other, and what are the pluses, are one of the pleasures of this position, and is being able to work with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I know when we need help we need assistance that Association is always there to help.

So, I won’t be leaving till January. I’m not making a retirement speech. I’m just letting you know that, the reason I announced it now to give the University six months to select a new Director. There’ll be a search and selection process for that out of the University President’s Office and it will take place over the next several months. So let’s close my report, let me just end with a sincere thank you to each of you and continue on as you have for the next fifty years. Thank you. (Applause)

**President Davis:** Well Steve I can’t thank you enough for the partnership and everything. This is one of our best partners we have. All our partners our valuable my free especially and what’s more even special besides to present you with 125th anniversary mug. Steven is going to be retiring next year with over 50 years of service in the fire service. In general 25 of MFRI and his experience and service to fire service was just unfounded and we sincerely appreciate that. We wish him well. I’m sure you’ll probably be out in the water or something enjoyable, I’m sure so thank you.

Now I’ll call for the report of the Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission by Lynn D. Gilroy, Vice Chairman.

**Lynn Gilroy:** President Davis, Vice President Bilger and Blair, honored guests and delegates on behalf of Secretary of Higher Education James D. Fielder Jr. and Chairman Michael J. Clemens I bring you greetings.

Over the last year the Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Commission has met numerous
times to discuss issues that have affected the fire service training needs of this great state. The commission continues to monitor the funding to implement the Charles W. Riley Scholarship Program. We are happy to announce that we have 174 applicants for the 2017-2018 award year. This is up from the previous year of 138 applicants. We encourage you to advise your members to go onto the Maryland Higher Education website for the application and rules for the Riley Scholarship Program.

We are still planning meetings with the Secretary to develop a more meaningful dialogue of the roles and responsibilities of this Commission. Each year the Commission prepares a yearly report that is submitted to the Secretary of Higher Education and the Governor. Over the last few years we have been unable to provide each department with a copy of that report due to budget constraints. This year is no different. You can find that report on the Higher Education Commission web site.

In closing we look forward to working with President Bilger and the other officers of the MSFA in the coming year. We wish President Davis well as he finishes his term of office and we wish all of you success in balance of your convention.

President Davis: Thank you. Now for the MFSPQB report by Mike Robinson.

Mike Robinson Thank: You Mr. President. Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Officers of the MSFA, and honored guests. It is an honor and a privilege for me to stand before you today and provide to you the annual report for the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board. In 1986 leaders of the Maryland Fire Service including career and volunteer members, and representatives from each of the jurisdictions, each county, and the major cities got together at the Annapolis State House based on recommendations made by the Maryland Fire Rescue education training commission in a 1982 report. That recommendation was to establish a certification system in the state of Maryland. I’m pleased to announce here today that that system was not only created, but it remains very stable, and it continues to prosper. By the end of this summer we will be reaching a milestone with our 150, 150 thousandth certification. That’s 150 thousand certificates that we’ve issued during our 31 years of existence. Everything from Firefighter I to Fire Officer IV and any of the NFPA technical standards in between, as well as some uniquely Maryland standards, including EMS Officer I and II, and Burn Technician, and Burn Instructor. We’re very proud of that accomplishment, but the most significant thing that we’ve done is we’ve created all of this without state control, without state involvement. We formed ourselves as a nonprofit corporation and we do this without any mandate as most states do, and we do it voluntarily. And today you can travel from Oakland to Ocean City and in every fire station in Maryland you will see people that are going out and getting credentialed, getting their certifications, whether it be the entry-level firefighter, or whether it be the person who becomes the Fire Chief.
Our standards have become the standards for the Maryland State Fire Service and it’s because of all of you. I’d like to recognize at this time all those people who may be in the audience who serve as members of the board either as jurisdictional representatives or alternates. Please stand. One of them is in the back. Ok, they’re at doing certification work, that’s why they couldn’t make it here. But we thank the Maryland Fire Service for all of their assistance and again we’re on target this summer to hit our 150th, 150,000 certification. We continue to be strong.

We are going to be receiving next month an accreditation site visit from the National Pro Board and we hope that we will be successful in that and be accredited to certify for another five years. A great part of our success is due to the Maryland volunteer fire service and those of you across the state who have not only become certified, but have also become involved in our board. And I’d like to acknowledge the work of President Davis and all the officers and members of the organization for their continued support. So, with that it’s a testimony to our success I’d like to call upon President Davis out here, and I want to give him a copy of our annual report and a small token of appreciation from the board thank you. (Applause)

President Davis: Thank You Chief. Now Terry Thompson from MEMA.

Terry Thompson: Good afternoon, I bring you greetings on behalf of Executive Director Russ Strickland, who is out of the country presenting at a seminar this week. MEMA is agency of state government with primary responsibility and authority for emergency preparedness policy, and for coordinating. In order to meet our responsibilities, and provide efficient coordination, the agency is now organized into four major sections, under the executive leadership: First is the Chief of Staff and the regional programs; then we have the Administration; the Operations and just brought up the Risk Reduction and Strategy Section.

We are now establishing the Maryland Emergency Management System with some changes that will be coming forth. We’re continued to get back to the basics in emergency management to ensure readiness when time comes. We’re trying to take the budget and the Matt grant management unit, and look for efficiencies, as well as ways to continue to improve grant monitoring, and it’s tied to our budget. One of the things that we’ve also been working on with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, along with the Maryland Fire Chiefs, and the Military Department, is we’re working on a system for swift water rescue and boat rescue. We’re finalizing that right now and hope when the Executive Director gets back, that we can get the final draft report to him for his approval.

The big thing that we’ve been involved in and I’m sure most of you have heard, is that the Governor declared a State of Emergency on March the 1st of this year, in reference to the heroin and opioids situation here in the state. It was the first state to declare a
state of emergency and this is being led by the Executive Director Clay Stamp for this opioid and heroin operation. We’re leading the coordination of this up at MEMA where they’ve located the command center, in facilities so they’re there on a daily basis, and working there. We’ve also been supporting the local emergency management offices that are facilitating the local actions to combat the heroin and opioid crisis. I’m sure you’ll be hearing more about that and be reaching out to the fire service. We’ve been doing that through MIEMSS, and everything, and that will continue, and we want to thank you for all your support. Thank you very much.

President Davis: Thank You Terry and now Monte Mitchell from DNR.

Monte Mitchell: Thank You President Davis. Good afternoon Officers, Past Presidents, Delegates, Members, and Guests. I’m glad to be with you this afternoon to give an update on activities from the Maryland Forest Service.

During 2016 the Maryland Forest Service responded to 121 wildfires that burned just 242 acres. That’s a significant reduction from our ten-year average. In acres, the leading cause of wildfires in Maryland continues to be debris burning and arson, which accounts for almost two-thirds of our fires. Also in 2016 the agency and partners conducted 41 prescribed burns for hazardous fuel reduction on eleven hundred and twenty acres. So far in 2017 the agencies responded 77 wildfires burning 2,123 acres. Maryland continues to support our national mobilization of wildland firefighters across the country. Last year we dispatched 12 single resource individuals, three of our 20 person crews, one type IV wildland fire crew, one of our type IV wildland engines, and three of our type six wildland engines. Also we dispatched a strike team of equipment to assist the Pennsylvania Division of Forestry. These firefighters assisted on incidents across the country including; California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Montana, West Virginia, and Wyoming. So we get folks all over where there is a need. There have been some significant changes in our out-of-state fire program this year from the U S Forest Service, and any participants that are not full-time DNR employees will now be sponsored through the Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia. However; with an agreement we’ve worked out with them, the Maryland Forest Service will continue to train, red card, and dispatch, all the Maryland personnel on assignments.

The 2016 volunteer fire assistance program, the grants were awarded to 39 fire departments across the state, in 12 different counties. We had another successful year, all 39 of those departments, completed their approved grants and we’re reimbursed eighty-six thousand seven hundred and eighty-five dollars. The VFA grants are 50/50 match grants that help the Volunteer Fire Department’s enhance wildfire protection in their local communities. The 2017 VFA grant application period is currently open and we are accepting applications. Also we’ve just received a funding enhancement for
the program from the US Forest Service and we will have ninety eight thousand dollars in funding available this year. So, we have 50/50 match grants available up to three thousand dollars to a department, with six thousand dollars in qualifying expenses. These applications are available online through our website. Just go to the Maryland Forest Service website click on wildland fire and you’ll get to our homepage and you can download the application from there or you can contact one of our fire staff members. The application deadline this year is July the 17th so you still got several weeks to get an application in. Once all the applications are received they’ll be reviewed and ranked and then the Grand Award should be announced by the end of September. So, we certainly encourage all the departments out there to apply for a grant this year.

In early 2016 the Maryland Forest Service completed MOU with USDA Forest Service to participate in the DOD Federal Firefighter Property Program (FFP). It’s new to Maryland and participating in this program, and it gives us access to a higher level of screening for DOD property. In the first year, or beginning of this program, we acquired over $1 million dollars worth of equipment that came to Maryland at no cost. We also continued to participate in the federal excess property program and we acquired an additional four hundred and seventy four thousand dollars worth of property through that program in 2016. Again all of the properties acquired at no cost to our agency and can either be utilized by the Forest Service ourselves or we can assign it through cooperative agreements to volunteer fire departments out there. If you have questions on the program, you can see our guys down at our display booth and they would certainly give you some more information on that. We have a total now of both programs, we have 367 items of property in the state that have an original acquisition value to the federal government of over 7.7 million dollars. So it’s a great program that’s helping get some good equipment in the state.

Also the Forest Service was awarded one hundred and fifty thousand dollar wildfire risk reduction grant this year. It’s called fire adapted communities on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. This grant is going to help us continue to fund our Fire Wise Maryland program here on the Eastern Shore for the next two years. Previous year’s funding, we got a grant last year, and that is helping to continue the Wildland, the Fire Wise Maryland Program, in the rest of the state. The Fire Wise Maryland Program helps us to develop community wildfire protection plans. Those are response plans that are developed in conjunction with volunteer fire departments and recommend activities that communities can take to make their homes and communities safer from wildfires. Currently we have 66 of those plans in place across the state that cover a thousand and sixty four communities.

Finally I’d like to say to everyone to enjoy the convention and the events of your 125th MSFA convention. Thank you to the leadership of the Presidents, Officers and the member companies out there. You as volunteers are the critical folks that assist our agency in our mission of wildfire suppression and prevention, so for that I say thank
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

you. (Applause)

President Davis: Thank You Monte we appreciate everything you guys do as always and of course for you, we have 125th mug as well and our convention bag. Again we can’t we can’t thank you enough for all that you do.

Okay next our feature speaker today introduce Mr. Chief Mike Healey. He’s going to introduce Mr. Scott Geiselhart. If you haven’t seen his presentation I encourage you to hit your friends up, come in here and see this. I got to see, I had the pleasure of seeing Scott give his presentation. I was down at Florida last year for the VIFC, VCOs section, Volunteer Combination Officer Section. A very informative great program focused on health, mental health, for the firefighters and safety of them. So, please welcome Mr. Mike Healy, Chief Mike Healy. (Applause)

Chief Healy: Folks as the president just said my name is Mike Healy, Chief of the Central Nyack Fire Department and about 10 miles north of New York City. About five years ago I got involved in a program with the National Volunteer Fire Council called share the load. For those of you who don’t know about the program, I used to be the clinical director of the New York City Transit Authority and about eight years ago I retired.

When I retired I went to a friend of mine who also worked in that field. We put together, I always wanted a place for firefighters with behavioral health programs in this country, to have a place to call. We got together with the National Volunteer Fire Council and this friend of mine Mike Blackburn has a retired Battalion Chief from Providence Rhode Island. We started this program, you may have seen some of the information on it. The fire line number is 888- 873-3473 which means fire and we started the program. We answer about a thousand calls a year. The calls come directly to me. If I don’t pick up they go to Mike Blackburn.

Along the way we’ve run into some pretty serious things. The other night I received a call from the captain in in New Jersey. Some of you may have seen it. His crew was sent out to respond to an EMS call and it turned out it was their chief. And their chief had committed suicide. The stuff that we go through, Scott and I, today are doing a presentation in room 203 at 2:45. The name of the presentation is called the Price We Pay. We go out there day and night seven days a week, 52 weeks a year and we’re always running into what everybody else is running away from. Eventually we have to pay a toll. In July of 2014 my co-presenter today called that number. He was severely traumatized from his time in the fire service. He does a fantastic presentation. He’s going to do a very fast presentation today because we have a very limited amount of time. So, if you see me going like this, telling him he’s got five minutes left, it’s either that, or I’ll just throw this at him and we’ll get him done. But with that I’d like to introduce a man who has an extreme amount of courage, as you’re about to see, and
Chief Geiselhart: Thanks Mike. As Mike said my name is Scott Geiselhart. I'm a firefighter from Frazee Minnesota. I've been a firefighter for 21 years. When I first got on the fire department we didn't do any auto extrication. We didn't do any drownings, any ice water rescues. We had a fire department close to us that came and did all the rescues. What we noticed was, it was taken about 15 20 minutes for that truck to come through our town. And as you well know the golden hour is pretty important when it comes to auto extrication. We have to get them to the hospital in an hour to make a big difference. So, we decided we're going to put a put together an auto extrication rig, and low on funds, we took a one-ton pickup, put the jaws of life in it, Gumby suits, ice water rescue stuff, I mean we overloaded this truck and started doing auto extrication. We got good at it. We trained very hard. We had some mechanics on our fire department, we trained really hard, and we got good. We started going on calls and we had some bad runs. We had a lot of fatalities. As a firefighter, I kept telling myself hey, we're there to make things better. We're not causing these accidents. We're there to make them better. They're not my fault. We're doing the best we can.

Well that started to build on me and I didn't realize it. I started to get angry, started to have some nightmares. I started to drink a lot, started to stay away from my family, go to the bars, and I didn't realize what was going on in my life. I started yelling at my kids, yelling at my ex-girlfriend. And in 2010 after this building, and building, and building, we had a car accident. It was a in a small town like Frazee at 1,300 population. We know a lot of people. We're going to these accident scenes with, or through ice water rescues.

In 2010 we had a bad accident was a high school kid, rolled over in a swamp, and we got there in ten minutes. He was underwater for ten minutes. We got him out. Everything was picture-perfect. We did as awesome rescue. They revived him, got him to Fargo North Dakota which is about an hour away from where we cut them out or where we took them out, and he was doing great. Everything was going good. Things went south and he died. He passed away from a lung infection.

The basket was full. That one put me over the edge. I killed him. I was in the water with a Gumby suit on. I pulled him out of that vehicle. I pulled him through the water, got him to shore. I told myself I did something wrong. I put something in his mouth. I gave him that lung infection. I didn't do the rescue right. I started blaming myself for his death. I started blaming myself for every other car accident and drowning that we went on, that we lost people. I told myself I was jinxed. I started really isolating myself and I was in the meth. After that I was doing a line of meth a day, minimum, I mean, I was doing meth all the time. And the anger was out of control. The isolation, I started pulling away from my family. I owned a repair shop. I started staying down there 20 hours a day. The nightmares got to the point where I didn't want to sleep.
anymore, and in 2012 after my girlfriend left me, I started doing a line of meth an hour to stay awake stay awake. I decided I wasn’t going to sleep until I was dead. I wanted to die. I didn’t want to be alive anymore because of nightmares and the flashbacks. The anger that I didn’t understand what was going on. I mean, I was the guy that didn’t have to step on a Lego when he walked in the house. I just blew up over nothing. When my ex-girlfriend moved out, I had an empty hull. She took the kids with her. She moved into an apartment building and I started to drive my car home from work put it in the parking lot, put in my driveway, and I had my lights on timers in my house. They’d go off at ten o’clock. My car would be in the driveway. I’d walk back to work and work all night long. I wouldn’t work I’d actually just be there staying away from people. I couldn’t be around people anymore. The nightmares you know, because of the nightmares, I didn’t want to sleep. The meth, they were delivering the meth right straight to my shop. I was buying it by the ounce, over a line an hour. In 2012, I’m sorry 2014, I went over to my ex-girlfriend’s apartment to talk to the kids, and the same thing happened, it happened every time I was around them. They didn’t have to do anything. I just got mad. I took it out on them. I yelled at them. I knew something was wrong with me. I figured I had a split personality. There was something that was eating me up so bad that I thought I was going to go off the handle and kill somebody or hurt somebody. I decided to go down to my shop. I went into my office, sat down on my desk, reached in the drawer, pulled out my 44 Magnum, put it to my head and I pulled the trigger. It clicked. You know anything about a revolver? The hammer comes down. It has to hit something to make it click. I slammed that gun down on the desk, terrified, not understanding why that gun didn’t go off. I chose it for a reason. It was my favorite gun. I knew it was going to do the job.

I literally climbed the desk behind me in my office. I was up on my desk against the wall staring at that gun, wondering what was going on, why it didn’t go off. I finally got down and I reached for the gun. I unloaded it and when I went to set it down on the desk, the cylinder wanted to close. I had to put a pen in the cylinder so the cylinder wouldn’t close. I was so scared that that gun was still going to go off, even when all six rounds were laying on the desk. Nothing was making sense. I sat down on my desk and my computer was in front of me, my keyboard was free in front of me, and I started typing on the keyboard on a Google search. I started typing in nightmares, flashbacks, anger, drugs, and I hit enter on a Google search and PTSD lit the screen up. I’ve never been in the military. I thought PTSD was a military thing. I didn’t know what PTSD even stood for post-traumatic stress disorder. I did research on it trying to figure out why I got PTSD and I found it when I did that Google search. When I opened up the mail site, it showed all the symptoms, every one of the symptoms I had. It was like looking in a mirror. I couldn’t understand why somebody didn’t warn me about PTSD. I, like I said, studied it and I found out there was therapy, there was treatments, there was a way to get out of this. It’s not a death sentence; it’s not a lifetime sentence. I can get some help. I studied it all night and at 8 o’clock in the morning I went over to my ex-girlfriend’s apartment and knocked on the door. When she opened up the door
I stormed into the room. I was so excited that I had PTSD and I wasn't going crazy. I didn't have a split person and my life, the anger, it all made sense; it was things I've gone through. When I stormed into that room, and started yelling, I was yelling, a passion on my face, and everything that you know, I found out it was PTSD.

My ex-girlfriend had my two sons behind her backing them down the hallway in the apartment and my sons were looking around her with fear their eyes that I was there to hurt them. They thought I lost my mind. I left that apartment, went back down to the shop and the gun was still laying there, and the rounds are still laying there, and that's when I noticed that none of the rounds had a dimple on the primers. I just, I'm so confused. I just didn’t know what was going on. I actually thought about loading that gun and putting it to my head and start clicking until it went off, because this doesn’t make sense. I thought it was a mistake, that I was alive.

Instead I sat down at my desk. I had collected some phone numbers over the years and I started calling them. I called a suicide hotline 12 times and nobody answered. I called three other phone numbers that my chief had given me five years prior. Three phone numbers, four firefighters that need to talk to somebody, need help, they’re helplines, and all of them were disconnected, all three of them I called. A police officer friend, I asked him if he’d go over and talk to my ex-girlfriend. Tell her what PTSD is. Tell her I can get help. Tell her I can pull out of this thing. He told me he was going to come get me, take me to the hospital, they were going to lock me up, and that’s not the answer I wanted to hear. I wasn’t going to be locked up when I just found out I had PTSD and I found the answer to why I was acting the way I was acting. I hung the phone up after telling him that if the next two phone numbers don’t work, I’ll call him back.

The next phone number was to a local crisis line and it was for a gal that we were supposed to talk to. The first responders were supposed to talk to her and she was going to help us. I called it; got ahold of her, told her I just tried to kill myself. I said I think I got PTSD, I need some help. She made an appointment for a week and a half out. I made the appointment for a week and a half out hanging the phone up.

No one I was going to be dead by sunset there’s no way I could make it a week and a half I’d be lucky if I made it till sunset the last phone number I got was texted to me by my assistant chief and I’m not sure if I asked for it or asked for help or if you just seen it I’m pretty sure he just sent it but it was a shared a load program National Volunteer Fire Council To Share The Load program phone number and I called it and I wasn’t expecting much you know with 17 phone calls earlier none of them worked this is my last call and I was looking at that gun thinking this was it.

When I called it rang twice and they answered the phone. I told him I tried to kill myself I need help. I begged him and he said Scout we’ve got you. It was like the two
of them held out their hands and they had me. They talked me down from the place I was at. They told me they’re going to be through there with me, help me through it. We’re going to get there together. And they were. They told me about something called EMDR Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing and it helped me make the appointment. I had to call. I made the appointment in Fargo North Dakota which is about an hour from us.

The next morning I went to start the process. It was amazing. The first two times we just talked about things. Just like the second counseling session. And then the third time about a week later I went back, only this time, like I did every hour, on the hour, except this time I did three lines of meth in the parking lot because I knew what they were going to do. At least I thought they did. I thought I did. What they did was, they did the light session type thing with me, where they put vibrating pads on my legs, and they had a light bar up in front of me that went back and forth, and when we were talking they thought it was a girlfriend or something that hurt me along the lines. And they were going to find out you know who was and work through it, because I never had any emotions. I never loved anybody. I never I couldn’t feel. I was just numb. And when we started the light session, and we started talking about my ex-girlfriends, and all sudden, it was like my mind went into the REM mode of sleep, and all hell busted loose. The nightmares came alive. The car accidents, I started to see them. I never talked about them. We didn’t do debriefings. I never discussed the car accidents with anybody. I had no support at home to talk to, anybody at home, couldn’t talk about in the bars. We were told not to. volunteer fire departments, we go home after putting the trucks away. We never talked to anybody. We never debriefed. The accidents came alive. I was seeing the faces, the cars, how smelling the exhaust I’ve smelling the antifreeze. I was reliving them. I was talking my way through it and it was amazing because as I was doing that, it felt almost like a weight was coming off me. I was coming back alive. I started to feel again.

After about three sessions or actually, was after about the second session, I started seeing in color again. I couldn’t see in color before. I could tell you what color something was, but it wasn’t bright like I see the colors now. It was all shadowy, and dark, and gray, and it wasn’t nice, and it was numb. When I started seeing colors it was amazing because, it was not, like I said was an hour drive home. After these sessions I was starting to see things I never seen for years. Cars I mean houses I didn’t even know were there, that were there for 20 years.

In fact after the after the shit, after the about six sessions, I was feeling so good that when I went in the therapist was there and he was trying to dig out more, trying to find out what more was in there, in my head that was holding back, and it was amazing because I couldn’t stop smiling. He said that he has never had somebody come in and do therapy, he’s never had somebody make him feel better after the therapy than before. I went in there like I said, couldn’t stop smiling. I was cracking jokes and it just
felt like it was free again. The peace that came over me was amazing.

I went home after my last session. I was in my driveway and my sons were with me in the car. And when I was 18 years old I used to jump picnic tables over in the city park across from where we lived. I felt so good at 46 years old, I told my sons to watch this. Famous last words. I went and tried to jump the picnic table and I almost made it, came down pretty bad, twist, didn’t twist my ankle, but it hurt, and I didn’t know how I didn’t break my leg. I hobbled back and my sons are right there to say hey dad that was pretty awesome. Know how to do it again? My neighbors were all in the yard. They thought I lost my mind again. Two weeks later I stretched out and I jumped that picnic table at 46 years old. That’s how good I felt and there wasn’t it wasn’t a single neighbor out in the yard. My kids weren’t around. There wasn’t even a dog to see me jump it but I’m fine with that, I know I did it. And I’m not going to try it again. I’ll call it good.

This business is dangerous. We see things that normal people are not; we’re not supposed to see this stuff. I mean we’re not built for this. Like I said before, we didn’t do any debriefings. I held it all in my head. I was this tough guy. I was a training officer. I was, I was rescue captain. I was teaching all these guys how to do auto extrication and ice water rescues. They looked at me, they had me up on a pedestal and they looked at me like I was the tough guy. Man Scott, Scott’s got this together. I was a mess, addicted to meth. When I did those three lines right before I went into that light session of the MDR, that’s the last three lines of meth I’ve done.

My son in December of 2014, when we’re in Fargo Christmas shopping, he was 13 years old, he was sitting beside me, and we were taking a quarter, and I’ll never forget it, because I looked over at him and told him. I said I’m so glad that that gun didn’t go off and he looked at me and said, dad the gun did go off, it killed the bad dad. And I realized I haven’t been angry. I haven’t had a nightmare and I haven’t done meth since August of 2014. Before that I was doing a line of meth an hour. I couldn’t live without it. The nightmares were every time I close my eyes. I see my kids falling out of the sky on fire, landing in the water still burning. I couldn’t help them because I was paralyzed. The Jaws of Life wouldn’t work. I couldn’t get to them. Every time I close my eyes I was having nightmares like that.

Now I have dreams. I can sleep. I sleep awesome maybe too well. It just feels so, it’s so incredible what’s happened now. I’m in Maryland, Ocean City, Maryland and when I speak I don’t even get nervous. I couldn’t even speak in front of my own Fire Department. I had to have like a huddle. I couldn’t have them out in the room, you know it would be a like a half-assed huddle. And now I stand in front of hundreds and hundreds of firefighters. I was in New York for cripes sakes a few days ago talking to New York firefighters about feelings. Wow, and I didn’t get shot or anything. Sorry Mike.
But yeah, it’s just so important for us to reach out. The warning signs are there a lot of the time. We’ve got a watch and train, educate each other. You know there was just a couple suicides this last week, firefighter suicides. There’s more firefighters taking their own lives than dying in line-of-duty deaths and yet we don’t educate. We don’t train on mental health suicide and PTSD. That’s like sending our guys into a house fire without having an air pack on. We can’t do that anymore. I guess I just want you guys to take care of each other and watch out, listen to your spouses when they say you know you’ve changed and listen. They’re going to see it first. It’s a dangerous business and we got to watch out for each other. I think we got a class coming up later today - 2:45 if anybody wants to come. I’ll be talking a lot more in depth on it. I’ll be speaking a little bit more, but thanks for having me. I love the Maryland tan. (Applause)

Chief Healy: Thanks Scott just a quick idea of what’s available, as you can understand what Scott just mentioned. Anytime you have a problem with behavior help of any type. Substance abuse, anxiety, depression, give us a call. We’ll do the best we can to help you out. Scott mentioned you know, the New York firefighters, when he went up to New York, he said what’s, what’s the deal with this with the crosswalks in New York? He said you know anywhere else in the country, I step out in a crosswalk, and cars start that slow down. I said New York you step in the crosswalk you’re nothing but a target. You know, it’s off, so again I thank him for his courage and I’ll give it back to the President.

President Davis: Yes, I’m very thankful for you preaching your story. I can’t say enough about it and for being here today you guys get away with a 125th anniversary convention mug, also I’m presenting you with my challenge coin, it’s actually a joint coin, both sides you know, myself and also ladies President Barbara Nelson. (Applause)

And now introduce our State Fire Marshal Mr. Brian Geraci.

Fire Marshal Geraci: Hey good afternoon everybody. Hope everybody’s doing well, having a good time. Great opening ceremony today wasn’t it? Man it was really nice. They’ve done a really nice job for the hundred twenty-fifth anniversary, so. I want to bring you greetings from Governor Larry Hogan and Lieutenant Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, and Colonel William Pallozzi. He was here today, this morning. Hope everybody got to see the superintendent up here. It’s great for him to come down. He’s very supportive of our office and all that we do, and we have a great relationship with him and the senior staff within the State Police. So, it’s great to have the Colonel come down and address you all this morning. So, we were very happy about that.

On behalf of the entire staff the office of State Fire Marshal I want to congratulate your Association Presidents Mike Davis and Barbara Sue Nelson. Your terms in office have been extremely productive and your service to your members is one your entire association should be very proud of. In just a short while I’ll be reviewing the fight
state’s fire statistics for last year. But please know that the fire statistics cannot capture
the pain or the devastation that ensues or the thoughts of the survivors as they watch
it hard as flames engulf their home knowing that no one else has escaped.

For those of you saw the movie “Manchester by the Sea” you saw the very real,
painful and long-term effect fire can have on an individual, a family and the community
because behind every fire statistic is a story of a family - those who are taken and
those who are left behind. But what the movie failed to show was a danger of
complacency towards fire and how we need to change this behavior. This continues
to be our greatest challenge that we face in trying to prevent that 911 call. We must
place more emphasis on public education and community Risk Reduction to overcome
the complacency within all our communities across the state and change as unsafe
behaviors so I’m asking all of you today to help me accomplish that.

It’s my distinct privilege to present to you with a report from the Office of the State
Fire Marshal. You know the Maryland Fire Incident Reporting System is an extremely
valuable tool for us to collect valuable resources and data. This evaluation reporting
again thanks everybody here, is that a hundred percent last year. So we’re happy
that all the departments have stepped up and continue to get those reports in on
time, so we can capture the data, so we’re able to report that to you each year. An
example of some of the data compiled last year. In 2016 we had a total of 17,390 fires
reported. Out of those 1,897 were structure fires, we had a 149 civilian fire injuries
were reported which is a 22% decrease in a number of reported injuries in 2015.
Unfortunately we had 441 fire service injuries which is a 60% over the 275 injuries
reported in 2015; obviously the statistic that we need to really look at and focus on
in the coming years to bring that number down. I don’t know why the numbers have
gotten so high and we have a 60% increase over one year, but we need to look at that
and be just speaking out to some of those fire chiefs here later about that. We had
three unfortunately, we had three firefighter line-of-duty deaths occurred in 2016. One
as a result of gunshot wounds, occupational cancer, and the result of a fall during a fire
department activity. The total estimated property damage for fire loss last year in the
state was $142,607,005.

In 2016 the state of Maryland saw the number of fire deaths increased by 7.9% when
compared to 2015. The total number of fire deaths for 2016 was 68 as indicated
above, represented an increase, and 63 fire deaths that we suffered in 2015. Twelve
fatal residential structure fires occurred where smoke alarms were known to have
functioned at the time of the incident; however, we still lost 12 lives in those fires.
It should be noted that last year though we had over a hundred individuals that
were saved by the activation of residential sprinklers and over 200 folks saved did
the activation of smoke alarms. So, again I talked about those failures against their
many successes. There’s a great success story there with lives saved by residential
sprinklers and smoke alarms.
During 2016 residential fire fatalities accounted for 77 percent of all fire fatalities. 16% of the victims in residential fatal fires involved ages, adults age 70 and older. This is a slight decrease when compared to 2015 when we had 13 victims perished. At that same age range three fatal fires occurred with victims aged 90 or older in 2016. And 12 victims under the age of 18 died in eight fires in 2016, accounting for 18% of the fire deaths.

Baltimore City reported 16 fire deaths in 2016 which represented almost 11% decrease to the 18 fire deaths reported in 2015 and unfortunately, I can tell you right now, Baltimore city’s at 19 and we’re not even six months into the year yet. They’re already at 19 fire deaths in Baltimore City. Montgomery County experienced six fire deaths compared to two in 2015. Prince George’s County reported 11 fire deaths in 2016 as compared to 6 fire deaths in 2015. Additionally Baltimore County experienced 6 fire deaths and Cecil, Charles, Harford, and Somerset County experienced three deaths. Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, and Wicomico had 2 fire deaths each; and Caroline Dorchester, Garrett, Howard, Queen Anne’s, and Washington counties had one fire death each.

Sadly the five-year average for fire deaths of Maryland is 64 per year. Although better than a 1975 to 1988 when a fire deaths remained over 100 each year, we still have a lot of work to do in our efforts to reach zero fire deaths.

In comparison to previous years, 2016 showed a decrease in the total number of multiple fatality fires which was seven fires or 12.5% of the 56 total fires for last year. During 2015, the percentage of multi-fatality fires was at 18.4% of the total fires for that year, and at 12.7% for the total fires for the year in 2014. The months of January, August, October, and December 2016 resulted in one multi-fatality fire for each of the four months. Even the only one multiple-fatality fire was reported in January in August, it was a two months that claimed the most multiple deaths and one incident both months each claimed four lives in those two separate incidents. In 2016 similar to multi-fires, the number of multi-deaths in fatal fires slightly decreased in comparison to the prior year 19 deaths or 27.9% of the 68 fire deaths reported last year. Multiple deaths in fatal fires in 2015 recorded 23 deaths or 36.5 % of the 63 total deaths and in 2014 were recorded at 16 deaths or 25% of the 64 total deaths.

Twenty six employees the Office of State Fire Marshal and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms National Response Team assisted Montgomery County Fire and Rescue with its investigation of the three-story apartment explosion and fire in Silver Spring that killed five adults and two children. The National Transportation Safety Board continues to follow up in its investigation for the gas pipes going into the building and the meter. Washington Gas also had private investigators on the scene to secure gas meters, piping, and other equipment for analysis. An eyewitness reported an odor of gas right before the explosion, which continues to be the focus of the investigation.
As we've all known, and I spoke about it before, we continue to speak about it. Hoarding can present hazards which can result in catastrophic fire related events to jeopardize the safety of all concern including, but not limited to the occupants but also to you emergency responders. The Office of the State Fire Marshal continues to educate the public regarding the dangers of hoarding. Last year we had seven deaths resulted from seven hoarding related fires which is almost 13% of the total fires reported for the entire year representing an increase in comparison to the previous years. The following is a report summarizing the fire that related deaths they were complicated by conditions of hoarding in a reporting year 2016.

An undetermined dwelling fire claimed the life of 67 year old male victim who became and trapped in his home after it collapsed. Firefighters on the scene were initially able to locate the 67 year old victim in a second-floor bedroom but however due to rapidly degree conditions rescuers were forced to evacuate the burning structure prior extricating the victim from the home. A 63 year old female was rescued by first responders subsequent calling 9-1-1 and reporting a fire inside her townhome. The victim was transported to a local Medical Center and then transferred to a burn center where she later succumbs to her injuries during treatment. The fire cause remains undetermined, but smoking while on home oxygen is suspected. An undetermined fire in a two-story townhome resulted in demise of a 66 year-old female. The victims escape may have been hampered by her physical disability as she used the assistance of a walker. A firefighter was treated and released as a result of non-life-threatening injuries sustained while battling the blaze. A 63 year old female victim’s body was located in the garage area of her single-family dwelling, but only after the blaze had been completely extinguished. Firefighters made multiple attempts to search the home; however, the unsafe conditions prevented a rescue. A firefighter was treated and released for non-life threatening injuries and the cause of the fire remains undetermined. An incendiary fire set in a residential dwelling resulted in the death of a 42 year old male who committed suicide. A 74 year old female was rescued by firefighters for a burning home was transferred to a burn center. Unfortunately the 74 year old victim succumbed to her injuries a few days later An undetermined dwelling fire resulted in demise of a 73 year old male who was found by firefighters in a kitchen in the home, and was confirmed deceased on the scene.

The office of State Fire Marshal extends congratulations to each fire department and local jurisdiction that suffered no fire deaths or experienced decreases in a number of deaths last year. Five counties experienced no fire fatalities; these include Calvert, Kent, St. Mary’s, Talbot, and Worcester.

As always, the State Fire Marshal followed the 2017 session of the Maryland General Assembly. The MSFA is to be commended for their leadership, diligence and continued support in working with the Office of the State Fire Marshal and other members of the Maryland Fire Service. The Maryland State Firemen’s Association Legislative
Committee Chairman Steve Cox and his entire committee continue to be vigilant on key issues, share information on important topics, and communicate with key legislators. I can tell you this is a great partnership that we have. The legislative committee, we work very closely with them in Annapolis all throughout the year, and they do a tremendous job for your association. So, when you see Steve or Richard or one of those folks that were on that committee, you should thank them, because they do a tremendous job for you all in getting the things that you need here in the state.

The defeat of House Bill 19 in 2016 was again a tremendous effort, adding to successes for Marylanders and retained the requirement for the installation of residential sprinklers in all new homes. The MSFA Fire Sprinkler Committee is also to be commended for their efforts in performing live side-by-side burned demonstrations before elected officials, the public, and members of the fire service.

As the State Fire Marshal I wholeheartedly appreciate the partnerships our agencies share with local, state governments, as well private industry. These partnerships help us secure resources, disseminate information and lastly be more effective at accomplishing a task in pursuing fire life safety. I think you saw that this morning when PEPCO came out and presented Montgomery and Prince George’s County with those smoke alarms. Again they had that partnership for many years. It’s over the past 15 years we’ve had a private public-private partnership with PEPCO and the Delmarva Power and it has enabled the distribution of well over 23,850 smoke alarms. Statewide initiatives advocating the installation, maintenance, and testing of smoke alarms coupled with developing and practicing home fire escape plans continues to help communities reduce fire deaths and injuries. As a reminder please take part in a community risk reduction weekends offered each year for the fire departments throughout the state to enter their respective communities and offer installations and smoke alarms and provide fire and life safety information.

The next statewide community risk reduction weekend is scheduled for October 21st and 22nd. I’m asking that all Maryland fire departments use this opportunity to go out and check and/or install life-saving smoke alarms in their homes or the citizens they serve and I’m sworn to protect from the effects of fires. Ladies and gentlemen this continues to be an outstanding program. It is saving lives as you saw. Last year over 200 folks were saved with smoke alarm activations, so I encourage all the departments take advantage of that weekend and go out and do that. Install smoke alarms and talk to your folks in your community.

The Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference celebrated his 57th year Anniversary on September 27th 2016 the theme last year was “Campaign for Prevention”. Originally, billed as the Governor’s Fire Prevention Conference began in August of 1959 when then Governor Tawes saw the need for a Statewide Conference on Fire Prevention. Fifty-seven years later the Mid Atlantic Life Safety conference means one of the four
most conferences of its kind in the nation conference was well attended by over 200 participants.

During that conference Jim Resnick of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service received the Public Fire Safety Educator of the Year Award. He has shown a true dedication to public fire safety education and as an asset to it both his department and the citizens of Maryland. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, September 26, 2017 for yet another well prepared conference. Please go to the FABCCOM.ORG website and fill out your application to attend this well rounded conference designed for you and your peers. Just a little side story about Chief Resnick who’s a retired Battalion Chief from Montgomery County; both his aunt and uncle were killed in the Coconut Grove fire in Boston, so he has a passion. His father was supposed to meet his brother there that night and for some reason didn’t go. So, he has a reason for what he does and what he does, he does very well, and working with the senior population in Montgomery County he does an outstanding job. I thought I’d share that story with you.

The Office of State Fire Marshal participated in the Maryland Association Realtors conference in Ocean City last year with a booth and a continuing education accredited workshop on smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, and residential fire sprinklers. Fifty participants attended and there was great feedback by the attendees. The Maryland and Realtors were opponents to residential sprinklers but the workshop provided a good opportunity to educate them on these life-saving devices.

On Saturday March 19th the public fire life safety educator’s seminar, titled “Practical Tips for Fire and Life Safety Programs” was held at the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute in College Park. Over 60 motivated personnel attended in this year inning event where provided timely and topical information. This year was even a bigger turnout so we’re looking forward to even more folks next year to come to that one-day event which really provides great information. If you’re out there in the community and doing public fire safety education please plan on being there next year in March.

During the past year the Office of State Fire Marshal experienced a few staffing changes, Ken Bush was promoted to the Chief Fire Protection Engineer, Deputy State Fire Marshal Brad Childress and John Griffin graduated from the Southern Maryland police academy, and senior Deputy State Fire Marshal’s John Nelson and K9 Zorro and Melissa Decker and K9 Sky completed training at Front Royal with a ATF K9 accelerant detection program. With the addition of the two canines, Melissa’s dog is new and John got a second dog because Charlie retired. That brings us now to four for across the state. So we have a great resource in our K9 program. They do an outstanding job. Steve Hatchets here, he oversees the K9 program. He does a great job with that and we do really appreciate all that they do for us.

Additionally, Fire Safety Inspectors Michael Matthews, Edward Gotthardt, and Pamela
Trainor joined the ranks and are effectively working to save lives throughout the state. Please join us in supporting their successes that they served the citizens of Maryland.

Special Assistant State Fire Marshal Terry Gearhart of the Western Regional Office of the State Fire Marshal received the Community Partnership Award from Washington County Department of Social Services for the high quality fire and life safety education he provides to foster care parents. Deputy State Fire Marshal Cara Whitman out of our Western Regional officers also received a life-saving award from Maryland State Police for his assistance in providing CPR to a cardiac patient at the Hagerstown, Md.

Bomb detection K9, CeCe retired after several for serving nine great years alongside, Master Deputy State Fire Marshal Steve Hatchet as they worked out of the bomb squad office together. We sincerely appraised CeCe’s work to ensure the safety of all Marylanders and communities throughout the United States. Steve and CeCe traveled a lot of different places, a lot of different venues, to help the FBI and ATF with their bomb detection capabilities. We were great too to have her here. She still comes to the office to keep everybody company but she did a great job.

The office of State Fire Marshal staff members performed at a very high level in 2016, the Office of the State Fire Marshal conducted over 1,100 investigations of which 709 of those were fire related and completed 12,335 fire and life safety inspections. A total 92 criminal cases were closed by arrest with 134 individuals being arrested. The agency-wide arson case closure was 26% which is well above the national average of 18%. This level of performance is outstanding in light of the increased training in fire life safety education assignments that the investigators have. State Fire Marshall Fire Protection Engineers reviewed 1,687 construction and fire protection system plans. The dedication of our personnel is evident by these numbers. Through an agency-wide commitment to fire and life safety we work for the citizens with the Maryland Fire Service, to accomplish the mission of protecting life and property.

In light of the increase in injuries to our firefighters across the state I would ask that you continue to embrace all the six firefighters 16 Life Safety Initiatives that were developed several years ago. I’m asking each you to place more inferences on fire and injury prevention, and code enforcement, and fire sprinklers. We need to continue to take every opportunity to prevent the 9-1-1 call and to get the fire safety message out into our communities. Excuse me, take time now and when you get back home from the convention, network with departments that have a proven and effective fire prevention program, and get those fire and injury prevention messages out into your community each and every day. Take any and all opportunities that interact with the public, not just during Fire Prevention Week in October. When you do have a fire incident, make it a point to get back in that area as soon as possible and to talk to people that were impacted by the event. Make sure your personnel are checking to see if smoke alarms are present on each and every response to homes within your
community. It’s very important, just takes a small amount of time once you’re in the community. Make sure they have smoke alarms in place. You don’t need to take care of it then right then, during the emergency but, get back to that home. If they don’t have that, make sure they have working smoke alarms. Promote the ten-year sealed battery smoke alarm, escape plans, get out stay out, and to close the doors while sleeping, and when evacuating during an active fire incident and immediately call 9-1-1. A simple message smoke alarms, escape plans, get out stay out, close the doors, evacuate and call 9-1-1. We always see a breakdown in one of those factors, but if the smoke alarms aren’t working, they do fail to have an escape plan, they get out and for some reason to go back inside, the doors aren’t closed, tremendous, tremendous, we’re going to have a tremendous campaign that we’re gearing up with the Fire and Life Safety Committee here of the MSFA to close the door. We’re going to be kicking that off here very shortly.

Also make plans to work with neighboring departments and the American Red Cross to establish teams to install smoke alarms in homes located in your community and conduct fire safety reviews. Just this year, I know it up in Harford County, we partnered with American Red Cross and in one day they installed over a hundred and ninety smoke alarms, so great efforts, they’re great efforts that, they’re doing up there and everywhere. The Red Cross is a great resource because they’ll come out and it provide the manpower and provide smoke alarms and help you all get out into your communities. In January of 2018, next year, the ten year-sealed battery smoke alarms will be required as a replacement for all battery only power smoke alarms. No one will be able to put in a 9-volt battery smoke alarm beginning January 1st of next year. They have to be a ten year sealed battery smoke alarm.

Continue to focus on those populations that continue to be impacted by fire, they’re very young, are elderly, and those who have disabilities all of which are factors that prevent a timely escape from fire. Please watch in the coming months as we shall introduce the “Get Alarmed Maryland” program, a campaign in an effort to provide working smoke alarms throughout State and a concentrated effort to save lives. I’m really excited about this program. It’s coming along. We’re going to be targeting individual specific areas. We’re going to be looking at demographics. We’re going to start mapping where we’re installing smoke alarms and really getting out into these communities that really need help the most. So be looking for that because we’re going to need everybody’s help and input in that, and we looking for you. When you install a smoke alarm, we’re going to have a simple app for your cell phone. You can just go right into that, punch in the location, and then Ollie goes automatically goes to a mapping system that we’ll have at our office to let us know where the smoke alarms are. Get out to the schools, day care centers, senior centers, county fairs, Christmas tree lots, and other locations where folks in your community will be located. Do you not wait for them to call you, reach out to them and ask to visit and share the information and knowledge you have on preventing fires and injuries. It takes a very little time but
the information you share will go a long way in the end and saving lives.

Also something new for us this year is the Office of State Fire Marshal blogsite is up and running for your use. The site contains news and information. Fatality and burn injury reports can now be completed securely online, we don’t have to do the papers anymore, local jurisdictions can also share smoke alarms saves and fire alarms saves, you have a save from a smoke alarm or sprinkler system and my folks aren’t there, and the local fire marshals aren’t there, please go to our blog site and enter that information. It’s very short, asks the very few questions, but again we can start tracking that information. As you saw from earlier, we had so many saves last year and that’s where we’re getting information from.

So it gives me great pleasure now I’d like to introduce our new Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal, Greg Der as he will announce the Regional Deputy State Fire Marshal of the year. Greg.

Chief Deputy Der: Thank you Fire Marshal Geraci. I come to the Fire Marshal’s Office from Howard County Police where I retired after 20 years of service. During that time I spent the bulk of my career in the fire investigation section. I’m finally getting a glimpse of what it would have been like if I would have scored two more points higher on that test twenty years ago. It also appears that the fire engine sits a little bit higher here than the police cars, because you couldn’t see me if we didn’t put something underneath me, so there’s a little technical difficulty we have. I look forward to working with each of you this year and in the future to make Maryland a safer place.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would ask you now to join me in honoring our Regional Deputy State Fire Marshal of the Year of the year for 2016:

Deputy State Fire Marshal’s:
Derek Chapman Northeast Region (Applause)
Christopher Fenzel Upper Eastern Shore Region (Applause)
Thomas Harr Lower Eastern Shore Region (Applause)
John Nelson Southern Region (Applause)
Matthew Wren from our bomb squad (Applause)

Each of these individuals represents their peers with great devotion and distinction. Each has gone above and beyond the call of duty. They come to work every day looking forward to the challenge of making Maryland a safer place to live, work, play, and raise a family. It’s important to note that each has risen to this level with the strong support of their supervision, the administration staff, and their fellow fire safety inspectors, Fire Protection Engineers, and Deputy State Fire Marshals.

As always the job of the Deputy State Fire Marshal of the Year selection committee
is extremely difficult and this year was definitely no exception. I want to thank Chief McMann for chairing this committee and all the Deputy State Fire Marshals that served on this committee. To each of you I sincerely thank you for your service and devotion. Let’s give them a hand. (Applause)

I now have the great pleasure of introducing to you the 2016 James C. Robertson Deputy State Fire Marshal of the Year during 2016. This Deputy State Fire Marshal excelled in their responsibilities involving the fire marshal profession. This deputy established himself as a thorough professional with a great deal of confidence in their ability. This deputy has consistently demonstrated that he is a self-motivated and reliable employee who is ready to offer support to his peers and always represents the Office of the State Fire Marshal in a positive manner. This deputy was cited for their many achievements in 2016 such as conducting an average of 5.6 fire safety inspections, and 2.25 fire investigations per month. He established a 50% arson closure rate when the national average is only 19%. He is credited with providing critical assistance in helping to close multiple additional cases being investigated by his peers. One such case involved an investigation of an occupied three-story apartment building in 2012 where 22 occupants had to escape the raging flames through windows as the interior egress was blocked by heat smoke and flames. Several people sustained several injuries due to jumping out of the second and third story windows. New information was developed in 2016 and upon reopening the four-year-old case an arrest and conviction was accomplished as the suspect pleaded guilty to first degree arson and nine counts of first degree assault and was sentenced to two hundred and fifty-five years imprisonment with all but 40 years suspended.

This highly respected investigator has excelled in each and every aspect of his career and is a model employee for our agency. I it is my honor to present the James C. Robertson Award recognizing the Deputy State Fire Marshal of the year for 2016 to, Master Deputy State Fire Marshal Thomas Hart, congratulations. (Applause)

Fire Marshal Geraci: Good yeah, so in closing I just want to thank all my staff for being here. A lot of staff is here today, appreciate them, coming out as always to help recognize the Deputy State Fire Marshal of the Year. It’s very well deserved today by Tommy. He did a great job last year. I also want to say to you know in closing, you know the staff members will continue to perform their duties and public safety mission with pride. With challenges come more opportunities we are always seeking potential opportunities to better perform our mission and with your support, continually move both the agency and more importantly the Maryland Fire Service forward. As an organization, the entire staff the Office of the State Fire Marshall has a clear picture of its mission. The Office of the State Fire Marshal staff members look forward to working closely with MSFA President Mark Bilger and LAMSFA President Vivian Boyd and their leadership teams. We wish them great success and know they will achieve their goals during their terms of office.
Again I must ask you to remember there are real people behind the statistics and that we need to work harder, and smarter, this year and in the future, to eliminate fire deaths and injuries within our state. Please make fire and injury prevention your most important service that your department provides and reinforce that message with your members each and every day. Thank you for your support, dedication, devotion, and keeping Maryland fire safe. Enjoy the rest of the convention and please have a safe trip home after this 125th convention.

I’d like to present to President Davis in appreciation of your 125th Anniversary a Fire Marshal coin in recognizing the association and your confidence over the last 125 years. We appreciate everything you’ve done for us this year, Mike, and the great partnership that we have with MS FA, thank you very much. (Applause)

President Davis: Thank you Brian in return I have a 125th anniversary mug and a bag and everything for you as well, and I can’t help but say anything that’s pretty much like a big family, the fire marshal’s office. We all get along together and like a regular good old family and it’s much appreciated. We do whatever we can for each other and I hope we continue a long lasting service that way and thank you, thank you very much.

Now I’d like to introduce Ms. Pat Gainer the Co-acting Director of MIEMSS.

Pat Gainer: Good afternoon everyone my name is Pat Gainer. I am the Acting Co-Executive Director at MIEMSS along with Dr. Alcorta who is not here today. He was here over the weekend but he had to head back to the office today. I’m happy to be here on behalf of MIEMSS and the State EMS Board. We’re honored to be here, particularly honored to be here to help celebrate 125th anniversary.

Over the past year we have worked with President Mike Davis, First Vice President Mark Bilger, and Second Vice President Rick Blair and we thank them for their help over the year. We look forward to working with the new officers after the election tomorrow. I also want to take a moment to recognize MSFA members who work closely with MIEMSS and the EMS Board, EMS Board member and Past President Fred Cross, former EMS board member Past President and current MIEMSS ombudsman, Phil Hurlock, and SEMSAC members Eric Smothers, and Linda Dousa. All of these individuals help the board and MIEMSS deal with the many issues that come up over the years and we thank them for their help. There’s a little bit of trouble with the slide so let me see if I can get this going. Oh, whoops, okay it is working.

I’m going to just take a few minutes to talk about what we’ve been doing over the past year. And then to get a little preview of some of the issues we see as hot issues for the next upcoming year 17 to 18. First off I want to talk a little bit about the National Registry testing. You all will recall that Maryland became a National Registry testing State for basic life supporters in 2014. Now we did not get off to a very good start. Our initial test results were below the national average. There were a lot of associated
issues with the testing. There were not enough sites for each for student candidates to go test for the National Registry. Some students felt unprepared and felt not ready to take the test, and there were confusion among Maryland protocol requirements, and what students might be tested for on the National Registry test. So what happened was that the EMS Board put together a committee on National Registry testing to look at what the issues were, get everything out on the table, and work through the problems one by one. The committee was made up of EMS board members, Fred Cross served on that committee, as well as Don DeVries the Chairman, and other board members, and the Maryland State Firemen’s Association was represented on the committee, and Johnie Roth in particular took a very active role in trying to address some of the problems. Chief Richard Brooks was also on the committee, was very helpful in working through all the issues. We had folks from MFRI, from the other educational programs, and then MIEMSS was represented as well.

What the committee did was; they conducted an in-depth review of the results from the first year of national registry testing for EMRs and EMTs. They looked at ways to improve the pass rates. They got all the problems out on the table and we had some very detailed and contentious discussions about how to address the issues. The group figured out ways to address the problem and to mitigate some of the issues we were having. And they identified changes, and made recommendations. They held meetings in 2015 and 2016, and can you all hear me? Is this better?

Some of the actions that the board took, or not the board, the EMS committee, I’m sorry the board Committee on national registry testing. Some of the actions that they took were; they directed MIEMSS to work with National Registry folks to increase the number of test sites in the state and the number of test sites went from 8 to 16. We were able to increase flexibility in test scheduling so individuals could go test at the times that they wanted to, but also groups of students could go test together, which was what the practice had been like in the past. The group directed MIEMSS to focus on students who are having difficulty passing the national registry test and we worked with Howard County to develop a National Registry test prep program that was disseminated and held throughout the states to help the students who felt they weren’t quite ready to take the National Registry test get ready to take the test.

The educational programs modified their courses and MFRI in particular did some wonderful work to focus more resources on changes in the classroom so the students could be better prepared. We also put a lot of state resources into some of these improvements. MIEMSS pays for the, at that time paid for the first test for EMTs and EMR, as we now pay for the first and second. But you’ll see up on the slide shows the cost that we have paid to date. Most of the money is going to pay for the National Registry exam. We pay for my Brady labs for students who have completed the MFRI course and need additional help. We also pay some group testing fees you can see the cost arrayed below. The grand total right now is about $275,000 so far since October
fourteenth, and we will continue to pay for the first and second national registry tests moving forward. So the big question is how well are we doing? All those resources, all that energy put into trying to rectify this problem. How well are we doing?

Oh shoot I skipped it. It’s, yeah, could somebody back up the slide? Just do one. There it is. These are the results for the National Registry testing for BLS providers. You’ll see on the left-hand side it shows the initial pass rates. These were for students coming out of the first classes that were tested by National Registry. The EMT pass rate was 56% and EMR pass rate was 51%. The intervention took place after all the work everybody did, after coming together and identifying the problems. Our current pass rates as of Friday June 15th; our EMTs are 80% pass rate and EMRs are 83% pass rate. So, we have since this work, we have remained above the national average, and you know I just want to thank the members of the MSFA, and the educational programs, and the EMS Board. Everybody came together and worked so hard to address this problem. It put Maryland back where we should be, as a leader in the nation, moving on to what we have been working on.

In addition to testing, there we go, we’ve put a lot of energy this last year into the heroin and opioid crisis. In 2016 nearly 2,100 people died in Maryland from overdoses, a 66% increase from the year before and it is a huge problem in Maryland, and it’s a huge problem for EMS responding to these overdoses. The Governor declared a state of emergency in January 2017 and he created an opioid operating command center to coordinate resources with federal local and state agencies and Clay Stamp is heading that effort up. We’ve seen and you all have seen, I’m certain an increase in EMS overdose responses and increased use of naloxone. Recently we have worked with Clay and his folks to add some additional questions to the eMEDS patient care reporting form; That when EMS providers come upon an overdose victim, they are asked to complete additional questions. These questions are geared to help us understand if bystanders are providing the naloxone. These questions just went into effect a few weeks ago and I would ask all EMS providers to make sure that they don’t skip answering those questions on the eMED form, that it’s very important we get the information, we plug it back into Clay’s group, and they can figure out ways to get more resources out in the community to address the problem. We also have been working with Clay and his group on an information card.

For some reason I went back to the beginning. Could somebody see if you can get up the crisis hotline card, please? (One more right there). Okay, thank you. We have we’re in the process of distributing cards out to the jurisdictions for EMS providers to have on the ambulance that they can leave when they come upon an overdose victim. A lot of times victims don’t want to get into the ambulance after they have been revived with the naloxone. They want to go about their business and continue on, so what we’ve done is, that we’ve worked with Clay’s group to develop a card. On one side of the card is the hotline to call for information on opioid overdose and on the other
side, (let’s see if I can get this to go, there), it’s information for the patient, the family, the friends about what to do, how to treat an opioid overdose. Again, I think we’ve printed something like 10,000 of these cards and we’re distributing them out to the jurisdictions. If you have not gotten them on your ambulances, please contact our regional administrators or stop by our desk, licensing desks down on the first floor, and we’ll see if we can get you some.

Just real briefly, I want to move to the next slide, (which isn’t happening). Could somebody advance the slides please? I want to talk about briefly, about the statewide communication system upgrade. We began an upgrade to the statewide system including SYSCOM and EMRC back in 2010. We spent the last couple years planning that out, soliciting monies, making sure we have money in the state budget. We’ve completed the renovation for SYSCOM and EMRC. We are now in the process of moving on to the upgrade of the rest of the state from analog to digital. We received proposals. We receive bid proposals in June. We’re evaluating those proposals and we will hopefully have a contract awarded in October and work on the upgrade statewide upgrade will begin then and it will last about 18 months.

I want to take a minute to talk about the transition to electronic licensure, and I, okay great, okay. During the past year we have transitioned from paper processing of licensing and certification changes and applications to electronic. We purchased a product from Image Trend. We’ve been implementing it. We still accept everything in paper but we’re encouraging folks to go electronic. It’s the way of the future. There are a lot of electronic functions that are now available. Folks can just get online and complete certain functions that in the past they would have to file papers for. (If we can have a next slide). Some of the functions that folks are now able to do, they can file for their initial and renewal applications, a change of address, extension request, card replacement, that sort of thing. We’re fine-tuning additional functions and hopefully they’ll be rolled out within the next year. You can access a system, if you can see this, but its www.miemss.org or www.miemslicense.com. We’ve used the new system for the renewal cycle, the April 30th ALS renewal cycle. We’re currently using it for the BLS renewal cycle we’re going to continue using it, expanding use. There have been some bumps in the road along the way and we are convening a group in July from all the jurisdictions, representatives from all the jurisdictions, to come together, identify problems that need to be addressed, and develop consensus on how we can make improvements so the applications that we’re using in the office can be better used out in the jurisdictions and for educational programs purposes.

Now let me just turn real quickly to hot issues for 2017 and 18. Certainly the heroin and opioid overdose crisis is going to continue unfortunately. We’ve seen some changes in the law this last year that are trying to get naloxone out into the community, you don’t have to have training anymore; If you’re just a regular citizen, if you’re not a provider, to get naloxone from the pharmacy. They’re trying to get it out to families
who have family members who are involved with heroin and opioids. We see there will be continued work in there. We’re going to be working hard to improve the licensure system with input from the jurisdictions and the educational programs. Ambulance safety continues to be a focus for us, and let me just mention that Bill and Linda Dousa have done some great work with our ambulance safety task force. Because one ambulance crash is one too many and we want to make sure our patients and our providers get to and from the hospital safely. We’re working on our communications upgrade certainly. And then I just want to mention some other developments in the health policy area that will affect EMS. The first of all is free-standing medical facilities. The Legislature passed a law a few years ago that allows hospitals to an acute care hospital to downgrade essentially from an acute care hospital, to a free-standing emergency facility without a certificate of need. Of course when that happens, the inpatient beds that the emergency patient would have moved into have gone away, and the patient needing that kind of care, needs to be transported on. We were concerned about this change because we think it will affect emergency patients and EMS as well, making it perhaps, EMS providers have to travel longer distance to go to hospitals with inpatient beds or EMS providers having to make transfers from freestanding to hospitals. We’re working on that issue now. We had thought by now we would have had one hospital make that change, it hasn’t yet happened it should be happening sometime this year, and we anticipate others will follow.

We’re also working on mobile integrated health. We have a number of jurisdictions in Maryland who are doing some great work and mobile integrated health. Queen Anne’s County led the way. They have a project that’s probably, maybe, 18 months in operation now, and they’re getting some great results. It’s targeted at frequent fliers; Patients who call 911 a lot. And trying to get them the services they need so they don’t have to call 911. One in Prince George’s County, Montgomery County, Charles County, and Frederick County. I hear Howard County is also working on developing these programs. It’s a new opportunity for EMS. It allows the EMS providers to go to the patient’s house and provide health care services when there’s not an emergency. It’s a whole new arena for us. We, MIEMSS has to provide a study to the legislature by December that talks about these programs and identifies ways to get money to these programs so they can grow. That’s one of our big areas.

Another area that we’re going to be focusing more on is emergency department overcrowding. Now that’s certainly not a new problem. It’s been around for years. We took a look at our results, our tracking of emergency department crowding over the past 10 years and each year yellow alerts have increased, so we have come to the conclusion that some of our approaches aren’t working as well as we would like to. We’re now working with an entity called the Health Services Cost Review Commission in Maryland. That’s the agency that sets rates for hospitals and provides to make sure that the hospitals get reimbursement for the care they provide. We think by partnering with them, they are the money folks, we think that hospitals will be more motivated
to work to address this problem, and we are just beginning on that effort. We again have to report to the legislature in July or December on that. We’re also waiting to see what’s going to happen in the federal government with healthcare and what changes might be made to Obamacare. So to speak on how that will affect Maryland, the big issue there is the loss of support from Medicaid funding. A lot of patients move to Medicaid funding and that might change and we’re not quite sure how that will affect healthcare and EMS in Maryland. We’re going to keep an eye on that.

That is my report and I would just like to once again thank everybody, thank all the members of the MSFA and President Davis for all your support and hard work this year. We really appreciate it. We look forward to another successful year with the MSFA thank you. (Applause)

President Davis: Ms. Pat, we can’t thank you enough. It’s a pleasure to have you as one of our key partners in the group and I do appreciate your time today and being here and with that we have 125th anniversary mug. It did up for you as well, and we also have a convention bag backstage, will give to you. Thank you for your time and your report. Thank you.

And it’s now my pleasure to present Ms. Karen Doyle, the Senior Vice President for the Shock Trauma

Karen Doyle: Good afternoon. I understand I’m the last one, so should I be thirty minutes or five minutes? Okay, all right. Well it’s always a pleasure to be here on behalf of Dr. Scalea and the entire Shock Trauma Center. It’s always a privilege to be here with the MSFA. So thank you for having us. I want to thank President Mike Davis for such a great collaborative year together and I do want to give a thank you to a team of Shock Trauma that’s been here all week. So, Terrell Carlson who is in the audience and many of you know her and then Diana Clap and Lauren Car have staffed to booth.

Let me just give you some updates on the Shock Trauma Center. Is it advancing? Let’s see, it’s just a like heck no. Tara is it advancing? How about now? Up hang tight, computer problem. There we go, okay.

All right so let me tell you about our volumes. You know nationally Trauma volumes have been trending down which is actually a very good thing due to all types of engineering and legislative roles and so we see a little bit of that as well with the trends going down, but we do continue to get the sickest of the sick which is the right thing given our protocols in the state of Maryland. I have updated all of you in the last couple of years on two innovative units that we’ve also created, which is the critical care resuscitation area, which is like a trauma resuscitation area. So we receive all types of critically ill patients from around the state of Maryland and those volumes continue to go up. As well as our lung rescue unit which is a unit devoted to lung injury and illness.
Two brand new units that are, I guess they’re early in the infancy, about two years each, and they’re the only units of its kind in the country. So again Shock Trauma remains state of the art.

We work very hard as you know to minimize our lost inter Hospital transfers, because 25% of shock traumas volumes come from inter-hospital transfer, and the only time you really see where we might lose a transfer, we always say yes, and we always accept. But based on our capacity it may take us a little bit longer And there’s certain months of the year as you know that we are incredibly busy. So we work hard not to lose inter hospital transfers. And so far we have made progress in FY17 where we have not lost as many as we did in FY16. You can see up there the number of air transports from MSP versus inter-hospital transports, our critical care transport team.

We continue our length of stay at the Shock Trauma Center is about nine days. We’re working very hard on reducing that length of stay so that we can continue to increase our capacity and accept the sickest of the sick without having any delays. Part of that decrease seeing the lengths to stay is making sure that we’re able to transfer patients to rehabilitation centers and skilled nursing facilities across the state. Our OR volume, while you might see that our trauma volume is going down, just a tad, our OR volume increases and what does that mean? That means our patients are really sick and need to get to the definitive care need, to get to the operating room, thus we’re getting the right patients to the trauma center.

Our clinic volume where we see patients. Our patients are our patients for life and so we will see them in the outpatient clinic. And because we’ve opened up one or two clinics outside of the hospital, we’re able to see patients in their community, and back in their community. As you know many patients travel three four hours to come to us so we’ve decreased the clinic volume at the mothership, but have increased it in other outpatient areas. So patients can be seen by our Shock Trauma doctors in locations close to home.

I want to tell you a little bit about the Go Team. You know the Go Team is a team of one physician, either an emergency room doctor, or an orthopedic doctor, and a nurse anesthetist. EMS is able to call Shock Trauma and ask for the go team if you find it to be a difficult extrication. We’re not called out a lot, but when we are called out, it is integral that we be there. So we partner with MSP, EMS, and MIEMSS to get our team there. So from July to March we sent nine Go Team requests. And you can see it’s all over the state and so it’s a huge service that we provide we’re able to get to the scene, usually provide some type of definitive care, whether it’s to intubate them and get an airway going, or to administer pain management, while we get the patient out of the vehicle or building or whatever it could be.

Organ and tissue donation as you know is incredibly important to all of us, but at the
Shock Trauma Center we do provide, you know, sadly we are the institution that serves the state with the largest amount of organs as well. And so organ donation range is 57% even though we’re trying to get it to 75% and we work very hard with our system to make sure that we talk about organ donation and that we get all of our citizens in the state of Maryland to become organ donors.

I’d like to highlight our global outreach. We have a trauma observation program and you can see that we get all kinds of health care providers from all over the world; Asia, North America, South America, Europe, the Middle East. In FY16 we had 127 observers and so far this year we’ve had 72 observers. Why is this important? To you, well it’s important, because what we do as the Shock Trauma Center, we highlight the system. We highlight how extraordinary we are as a system. That we have this collaborative relationship with MIEMSS, MSP, MFRI, MSFA and the Shock Trauma Center and that together is better. And so we have people from all over the world coming to see the state of Maryland. How we operate our EMS system, so kudos to all of you for helping us to be that center of excellence.

As you know prevention is part of our mission and we have thus far conducted 1,100 events this year with over 11,000 attendees. We would much rather not have, be in business, right, it would be great if we weren’t in business, but we are, and we try really hard to prevent people from getting to our facility. And we do that through trauma prevention violence prevention. We work with youth to show them opportunities for the future. And then we work with the adults remanded by the courts for DUI/DWI.

And then of course we partner our EMS outreach and education activities is critical. This is this is central to our partnership right. We have an observation program with our EMS providers. We’ve had 223 EMS providers come through the trauma resuscitation unit. Ninety-seven come through our critical care area. We do all kinds of tours, courses, and we participate in Winterfest and EMS conferences, and are delighted to do so because as you will hear us continue to say; that we are nothing without one another.

I’m just going to quickly tell you that we, for all of you, the Shock Trauma Center, the current helipad, was built in 1989. We’ve struggled refurbishing it because we’ve only had one helipad and we get 20 admissions a day. Fortunately with the expansion of the new building we have a second helipad. We are almost, we are close to finishing. We started our refurbishment in September of 16 and it will be finished in September of 17.

I won’t go through those milestones we’re almost, we’re almost completed there. We did have two events. We put in a helipad emergency response team, so that if we had, we worked very hard to not shut down our helipad, so that we could always continue to serve the citizens of the state of Maryland. We had two events where we had to launch the helicopter helipad emergency response team and we thought we were going to
have to open up our alternate landing zone which is right near BGE, and there it’s called Spring Gardens, and we have an alternate landing zone there. But fortunately we did not have to open up our alternate landing zone. We had two really great preparedness responses for this emergency response team and we can’t wait till September so that there is absolutely no need to open up that alternate landing zone, and we can continue to serve the citizens of the state of Maryland.

Ok let’s see, I want to thank MIEMSS and MSP for their incredible partnership. As we have created this alternative landing zone and the helipad emergency response team. Dr. Alcorta has been awesome and certainly MSP. We couldn’t do it without them either.

We had our Shock Trauma Gala in April of this and the slides not there. We had our Shock Trauma Gala April. Many of MSFA was there. Two tables of MSFA. We’re always delighted to have MSFA. It’s a wonderful highlight and celebration of the entire system. Our next one is April 28th 2018. So we look forward to having MSFA there.

I am completed my presentation. I do want to say one thing. Last year, I have to put this on, I was humbly nominated into the Hall of Fame by Past President Johnie Roth along with my colleague Tara Carlsen, down there sitting in the front row. I wasn’t here to receive that and Johnie surprised me at an EMS Board or some SEMSAC meeting and I just want to tell all of you what a privilege it is having this honor as a Hall-of-Famer for MSFA, and I know, I speak on behalf of Tara. And so we can’t do it without our volunteer firefighters and EMS providers. From the bottom of our hearts, we are grateful to serve you, and the citizens of the state of Maryland. I hope you have a wonderful conference. I wish the next president all the best and look forward to our collaborative relationship. Peace to all of you. (Applause)

President Davis: Don’t go too far yet. Yeah keep your head on. Okay, well I can’t say enough. Thank you. This is one of our greatest partners and working on a long lasting healthier stronger relationship than ever before. They have helped us tremendous ways. You know Shock-Trauma gets the worst, the worst out there, and in my opinion how better to treat the worst of the worst. And they get the input from Shock Trauma and how to do better things in the field and the fire and EMS service, than with their input. It’s the most valuable asset I think we have in this state, and one of the best systems in the world. Obviously, combine that with other key partners, you know we can’t go wrong. I think the state is the best for many reasons. It started here and it can still come from here, to teach the world better ways in emergency health services and volunteer fire and rescue services. So with that, I thank you for your time today and your report, and present to you our hundred twenty-fifth anniversary convention mug. You also get a bag in the back to actually exchange that for the back of the bag, and then also present you with our joint coin, I and Barbara Sue Nelson did on the coin, Ladies President for your collection. Thank you.
Thank you so much. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Okay real quick we have some again, we have in-service training seminar today in the convention hall and tomorrow. And the bag bingo is tonight in the Bayfront ballroom. The doors open at 5:00 p.m. and don’t forget Monday night family night at Jolly Roger amusement park tonight. That starts at 6:30 if you didn’t already, tickets are available downstairs for a little bit and the exhibition hall is open tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. And also don’t forget voting tomorrow morning at 800 for two hours. So starting eight o’clock tomorrow morning for two hours for voting and with that we’ll call on the reverend.

**Charles Barnhart:** Please rise for prayer. Let us pray, gracious father we give you thanks for all the events that have taken place here today and we ask you to be with us as we continue into tomorrow. We ask you to be with us this evening as we enjoy this town and the festivities that are being offered by this association, and we ask you to grant us a safe rest, and bring us back here safe tomorrow, and these things we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

**President Davis:** We will now recess until 8:30 tomorrow morning, be safe.
President Michael Davis: Good morning, it is my pleasure to call the third session the Maryland State Firemen’s Association of 125th year to session open. Invocation by Chaplain Mike Bowen.

Chaplain Bowen: Please stand if you are able for the invocation let us pray. Almighty God to whom all hearts are open and the Lord of all creation we come together today to honor you and to remind ourselves of your loving place and peace in our lives. We thank you for this time of fellowship today as we come together as our not only brothers and sisters of the Fire and Rescue Service but as a family. Make us fearless and practicing the lives and property of our fellow man, and when we answer our final alarm enroll us in your heavenly force where we will be as proud to protect the throne of God, as we have been to protect our state of Maryland. In Christ Jesus name we pray. Amen.

President Michael Davis: I’ll call on Mr. Mike LeCompte for a safety message.

Mike LeCompte: Thank You Mr. President. Good morning everyone.

President Michael Davis: Pledge to the flag. Please join me. I pledge allegiance, to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all. Now Mr. LeCompte. My man.

Mike LeCompte: Everyone thank you, for being here again I just want to say that statistic wise in the state of Maryland in the United States we’re still having issues. I will give you an example the first heart attack in America typically is at the age of 57, however; the first heart attack for firefighters as an industry whether you’re volunteer career is 46. We are way behind the national trends on weight ratio. Weight/ weight to height ratio or occupation whether your career volunteer and they look out I am cumulative we are way behind, and I am going to give you another poor statistic. You heard it last year California and Arizona are leading it in losing weight and changing your physiology as far as heart attacks, however; that’s Maryland as an example when most of the East Coast states including our sister state of Delaware are at the end of the trail; which means we are the unhealthiest. We on the Safety Committee realizes to see
firefighters having their first heart attack at age 46 is scary so we’re doing everything we can to address it. Another issue we are seeing very quickly is the tires on some of these trucks mainly like the tankers, and where they are sitting for a large amount of time, the tires are having a malfunction as a result. Oftentimes the trucks go off the roadway and over turn.

The NFPA standards say replace your tires every 7 years. From talking to the State Police is its worse for that vehicle to be sitting stationary, especially when the sun is coming in the firehouse window and trucks are not be moved. It is much more unsafe for the tire to sit than it is to be- driven up and down the road all day. So just, keep that in mind go back. It is a 7-year increment. Tire wear dictates the rotation or replacement.

We still have money, it is sad to say there as of yesterday. No department in the state of Maryland has asked for this money for the safer grant for physical exams. We have loosened our shoestrings and allowed departments that have not paid for those physical examinations in the past. The money is there. Almost no questions asked. That is how desperate we are to get rid of this money and as an example; you can go get a stage 3 physical. Its $900 in value so please come to one of our safety people, we will put you with the right people with the grants section of the MSFA and try to get that done as it relates to safety.

Today is the Safety Day if you want to take classes. We have a four-hour class presented by MIFF on real line of duty deaths. It is a four-hour class, so it starts at noontime. it’s four hours of in-depth, what’s causing our injuries to our firefighters and deaths and we’ve gotten numerous classes on falls from elevation and being struck by vehicles and on and on and on, including the classes over on your other side so today is a good day to have classes go to classes. If there is anything we can ever do for you, let us know. The Safety Committee is serious about trying to get zero ratio of losses down and as I have said it before I will say it again, respect your life and think safety and if you value safety to people around you are going to value safety. Thank you have a good day.

President Michael Davis: Thank you for that message Michael. A couple announcements quick; Voting continues this morning until 10 a.m.; Education and training seminars start at 12:30 and continue through the afternoon. Joint installation officer’s tonight is at 6:30 it’s in the Bayfront ballroom here. Ocean City Fools block party at Cowboy Coast is that Cowboy Coast the 17th Street and Philly Avenue that’s at 6:30 p.m. The prayer breakfast tomorrow morning is here 7:30 a.m. that’s at the Bayfront ballroom here on the side with by the curtain tickets available for that downstairs. Parade tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. Baltimore Avenue between 16th and 30th Street. I believe it still lines up at the inlet. Frontier town family events Thursday 1:00 p.m. again tickets downstairs. The Ladies’ Auxiliary of the Maryland State Association
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

tickled pink tickled paint art worth fundraiser is Thursday at 2 p.m. and that’s in the
center room 207 and then we have the golf tournament at Friday 8:00 a.m.
and that’s the Eagles Landing golf course and Assateague Crab House afterwards
for lunch for those who participate in that. Any questions on that you can see our
information booth for more.

And now we present the Gladhill Thompson trophy from the Gladhill the Gladhill
Thompson award trophy from Damascus fire department.

Chief Long: Good morning it’s an extreme honor for the representatives of the
Damascus volunteer fire department to be with you this morning and participate in
the Gladhill Thompson award. About a week after Chief Thompson passed away Mr.
Gladhill came to my office with a sheet of paper a bunch of things typed on it. And then
just oh it was they were turning over the Gladhill Thompson award representative from
Damascus to me. I was to be here each year, had a list of things with my responsibilities
and I was astonished because I know what this award meant to them. With that like
to call the 2016 Gladhill Thompson Award winner forward for his trophy. Dave Lewis
from Odenton. (Applause)

Now for the new recipient. I always pass on to the outgoing President of MSFA the
honor of naming the new recipient President Davis it’s all yours.

President Davis: Thank you my pleasure to announce the winner for this year’s
recipient is Mr. Richard Smith. (Applause)

We’ll now have the trustees present for the representatives of our trustees for the
Colburn Cup. It will be Mr. Doug Alexander.

Trustee Alexander: Good morning on behalf of the Board of Trustees welcome
everybody here this morning for the presentation of the Colburn Cup. I have with
me today representatives from the Princess Anne volunteer fire department; they are
the sponsors of this particular award. Let me give you a little bit of history on the
award. The Colburn Cup is named in honor of past President George W. Colburn Jr.
Dr. Colburn served the MSFA as president in 1931-1932 and had also served on many
committees of the Association and his Chairman of the Executive Committee from
1930 to 31. At the 40th annual convention in Frostburg in June of 1932 the Colburn
silver cup was presented to the MSFA by retiring president Colburn. The award was to
be presented in line of succession from year to year to a firefighter in our organization
for an outstanding act of heroism or from some act for the good of the Association.
The qualifications and awards to be made by the Board of Trustees who shall also act
as the judges. This cup is to be presented at the annual convention of the MSFA with
appropriate ceremony. That’s why we’re here today. The Princess Anne Volunteer Fire
Company, the home company of Past President Coburn houses the original Colburn
Cup since its retirement in 1958. They now provide the Colburn Cup each year which the recipient will keep.

This year we had two nominees. We had EMS lieutenant Rachel Itso, from Level Volunteer Fire Department of Harford County. If she’s in the room we’d appreciate her coming up on stage, and we had a crew of quite a few different people from the Hollywood Fire Department. If I could have one of the officers, the Hollywood Fire Department come to the stage I’d appreciate it so that we can present the award.

I’d like to read a little bit of the background of the winner. On Saturday December 17, 2016 at 2356 hours the Level Volunteer Fire Company was alerted for a motor vehicle collision with vehicle fire at the intersection of Maryland Route 136 and Route 22. Moments before the alert firefighter EMT Rachel Itso was walking into her nearby home and heard the crash followed by screams for help. She and a friend Greg Frost immediately ran approximately 300 feet to the scene and assessed the dire situation. There they found two critically injured victims inside the burning vehicle. Without hesitation firefighter Itso made the immediate decision to pull both victims from the burning vehicle. With the assistance of Mr. Frost, a former Marine and Eagle Scout they pried the doors open and pulled both victims to safety. Just seconds after the victims were pulled from the wreckage the vehicle was fully engulfed in flames.

It’s my pleasure to present the Coburn cub from the Princess Anne Volunteer Fire Company to EMS Lieutenant Rachel Itso of the Level Volunteer Fire Department. (Applause)

(Right on back this way we’re going to go get some pictures taken okay.)

President Davis: We’ll now present the Hall of Fame awards Mr. Dan Carpenter to present them.

Dan Carpenter: Thank You Mr. President. Good morning Officers, Past Presidents, Delegates and guests. The Hall of Fame Committee report is printed in the convention book without the names of the inductees. At this time, I would like to introduce the Hall of Fame Committee. I think they’re already out here on stage; Vice Chairman Ben Kurtz, member Emeritus C. Oscar Baker Past President, Charles Abrecht, George A Fred Cross Past President, John T Jack Ferguson III, David R Keller III Past President, Timothy Jones, William Bill Lay Jr., Richard Smith and Richard Yinger Past President. Keep your thought sand prayers with him. He’s in the hospital right now.

This year the committee received 24 nominations for the Hall of Fame. We can only induct ten nominees each year. If your nominee did not get selected please resubmit the name again next year before April the 15th 2018. At this time, it gives me great pride to announce the new inductees into the MSFA Hall of Fame for 2017. When
the name is called, will the individual come up on the stage to receive the award or someone from their company? If that individual is not in the audience someone please come to accept it:

Jeanne Aaron Hurlock Volunteer Fire Company (Applause)
James A. Blair Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company (Applause)
Eric N. Bernard Rockville Volunteer Fire Department (Applause)
William H Bill Lewis Jr. Odenton Volunteer Fire Department (Applause)
Brian Loman Williamsport Volunteer Fire and EMS Company (Applause)
Charles Dewayne Rodgers Sr. Odenton Volunteer Fire Company (Applause)
Russell J Strickland Singerly Volunteer Fire Company (Applause)
John R. Sullivan Trappe Volunteer Fire Company (Applause)
John W Wathen Jr. Ridge Volunteer Fire Department (Applause)
Stanley J Williams Jr. Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad (Applause)

Each year the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Hall of Fame Committee can also induct up to three special nominees. This year the committee has selected three individuals that have supported and made a significant contribution to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association at this time I would like to call President Michael A Davis out to help with this presentation we don’t you just stand over here they should have the important thing the first one is Dr. Harry E Hickey a charter member of the National Fire Heritage Center I think his daughter is here (Applause) the next one Dr. Thomas M Scalea our R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center he is not able to be here today but there was a video made of the president doing a presentation for him obviously we’re videoing this because you’re going to be on vacation we’re going to be at the beach doing this for you so you couldn’t be there to present this but we put you in the Hall of Fame and along with that I’ll read the proclamation to you so the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Hall of Fame. Currently, I’d like to call President Michael Davis to help with this presentation.

The first one is Dr. Harry E. Hickey a charter member of the National Fire Heritage Center. I think his daughter is here. (Applause)

The next one, Dr. Thomas M. Scalea, R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. He is unable to be here today but there was a video made of the President doing a presentation to him.

Dr. Thomas M Scalea has been elected to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Hall of Fame and Honor and with deep appreciation for his unselfish efforts and distinguished service. I would like to add to that as 20 years of distinguished service and present that to you 15 years ago Mr. Josh here, you saved his life and we thought it couldn’t be more fitting than for one of your own to present to you your hat and I present you with a certificate, wonderful, along with certificate you get you get a card,
you get members benefits with that and then you have a sticker for your vehicle. Oh wonderful, patch you can stick out on your coat. I’d like to see you wear that with your helmet represented you and oh yeah, the lapel pin as well. Thank you, and as always you know Josh is just one of the many thousands that are indebted to you for everything you’ve done. We can’t thank you enough. (Applause)

**Dr. Scalea:** Thank you, thank you. Josh it’s great to see you I get the hat I’m all set now. I’m deeply appreciative of the award I’m appreciative you guys were able to all get organized and drive way up here to Baltimore to present this to me. It means an awful lot to me and it trauma is the quine essential team sport, so all of this gets done because we have nearly 500 people at Shock Trauma that really believe in the dream and every day come to work so that we can do things like this. I can’t imagine a better way to spend time and I thank the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and all of the pre-hospital world in order to who were kind enough to be able to give this to me thank you. (Applause)

**Dan Carpenter:** And the third inductee in the special Hall of Fame, Nolan Scully would his family please come forward. (Applause)

**President Davis:** I’m going to try to get through this. It’s going to be tough. The least I thought we could do. Nolan brought so many people together, especially with the Cancer Committee and he’s the sweetest little boy, sorry, yeah that’s really hard. You got two kids and see someone go through something like this the same age, the same passions in life. It’s the folks of Southern Maryland they’re like family to me too. So, I thought the least we could do was honoring forever in our books in our history because he brought like I said so many people together and grew our Cancer Support Committee like a hundred-fold. Because of this little boy the Southern Maryland folks really stepped up and made our Cancer Support Group what it is today. Supporting you all and like I said that’s the least we could do and there’s anything, we are a family, especially my folks, saw them around. I feel you’re a big part of my family too. So I want to present you guys with this helmet so you can remember it forever and I and everything he’s done for us, so thank you. (Applause)

**Dan Carpenter:** I have one more presentation for the Scully family. Will the president of the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department, William Bill Mattingly come forward?

**President Mattingly:** Good morning on behalf of the members of the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department I would like to present this leather helmet to Jonathan and Ruth. This is a Nolan’s leather helmet. (Applause)

**Dan Carpenter:** All right I thank you. Will you all go down the stage straight out the door and go to room 209 to have some pictures taken. Thank you, thank you (Applause)
The MSFA Hall of Fame Committee also has a responsibility for selecting an individual for the Marbury F Gates Service Cup Award. The Marbury F Gates Service Cup is awarded to an individual to have at least 50 years of continuous and faithful years of service to the organization within the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. This year the committee received 21 nominees for a total of 1145 years of service. Everyone will receive a Governor’s Citation, an MSFA plaque the first year nominated, and any sequential years nominated, a certificate from the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. When your name is called would you please come up and line up in front of the stage or if the individual is not in the audience would somebody from their company come up to accept it? The first one is:

John’s C Allison from Bryan’s Road Volunteer Fire Department with fifty years of service. (Applause)
Clarence Smiley White Citizens Truck Company number 4, with 51 years of service. (Applause)
Richard Hooper New Windsor Fire and Hose Company number 1, 51 years of service. (Applause)
Richard Dell Manchester Fire Engine and Hose Ladder Company number 1, 50 years of service. (Applause)
Alvin Renault Manchester Fire Engine and Hook and Ladder Company number 1, 53 years of service. (Applause)
Daniel J Stevens Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department 50 years of service. (Applause)
Robert E. Buddy Boswell Baden Volunteer Fire Department 50 years of service. (Applause)
Albert W Reese Baden Volunteer Fire Department 62 years of service. (Applause)
Russell Gallon Sr. Level Volunteer Fire Company 51 years of service. (Applause)
Clarence Ross Jr. Level Volunteer Fire Company 50 years of service. (Applause)
Robert E Johnson Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department 50 years of service. (Applause)
Elwood Bannister Cockeysville Volunteer Fire Company 62 years of service. (Applause)
Douglas Elmer Northeast Fire Company 50 years of service. (Applause)
Leonard Hamilton Northeast Fire Company 51 years of service. (Applause)
William Bill Lay Sr. Joppa Magnolia Volunteer Fire Company 51 years of service. (Applause)
Ralph Dole Manchester Fire Engine and Hook and Ladder Company number 1, 54 years of service. (Applause)
Emery Elwood A. Light Hereford Volunteer Fire Company 75 years of service. (Applause)
Philip M Hurlock Past President MSFA Churchill Volunteer Fire Company 54 years of service. (Applause)
James E. Jarboe Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department 60 years of service. (Applause)
Angelo A Flora Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department 64 years of service. (Applause)
At this time, I’d like to call the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department President Eric Bernard up for some remarks and to announce the winner.

**President Bernard:** Good morning tomorrow I to have our Fire Chief Scott E. Emmons and members of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department and be on behalf of all the officers and members this year Rockville celebrated 95 years of service and this award is given in the name of Marbury F gates a charter member who served with distinction and honor for 70 years at the Rockville volunteer fire department, until he died in Rockville. Before you are very distinguished members of the Fire and Rescue Service representing over a thousand years of service. To even be nominated in Marbury’s name you need to have a minimum of 50 years of service. That means each member joined honor before 1967 when the cost of living in the United States had risen by 2.78 percent. The Dow Jones industrial hit a big 905 and the average cost of a new home in America was fourteen thousand two hundred and fifty dollars. These men and women have seen tremendous change not only in our country but in the volunteer fire service and they are all to be commended for at least 50 years of volunteer service outstanding. (Applause)

Today we are going to present the winner with their own trophy and the Marbury F Gates trophy to sit at their member company for the year. The Fire Chief will present them a certificate from the Governor and a medal for their uniform.

We are pleased to announce the 2017 winner of the Marbury F. Gates Service Cup award is Daniel J Stevens. (Applause)

**Dan Stevens:** I’m more honored but probably more surprised especially looking at the people that came up and that were nominated for this and it’s truly an honor. I’ve submitted people for this award over the years and I know what some of those folks have done and I know what some of the folks that were standing up here in front of you had done. I just like my tip of the helmet to all the folks that are up here was that were nominated for this award. I’m truly honored and certainly appreciate this and I hope I’m worthy of it. Thank you all very much. (Applause)

**Dan Carpenter:** I think thank you. Would you all go straight out the door for photographs over in room 209? Thank you.

**President Davis:** Thank you gentlemen. Congratulations on your awards very honorable. Now we’re having Mr. Doyle Cox for some special awards.

**Doyle Cox:** Thank You Mr. President. As many of you know over the years we’ve been requesting you go on line and submit the special recognition for individuals that are at
least 90 years of age and still active. Mostly in the administrative areas but we'll start off with Mr. Oscar Baker, from Mt. Airy seventy-five years of service, 94 years old and he should be coming up on the right stage. (Applause)

Mr. Donald Owens 74 years of service 90 years of age. [Applause] I'm not sure if Mr. Owens is here or not if not is there somebody from his company? Betterton here comes Buddy up.

Mr. Edwin Edie Thurston Forestville 45 years of service 93 years of age. Is Mr. Ed around? Somebody from Forestville? (Applause)

Ms. Elsie Logar 52 years of service 90 years of age. (Applause)

Mr. Emery Abe Elwood Light 76 years of service 93 years of age from Hereford. Somebody coming up upstage? (Applause)

Mr. Fritz Ensell! Forestville 73 years of service 90 years of age. (Applause)

Mr. Gene Foster from Urbana Frederick County 43 years of service 90 years of age. (Applause)

Mr. Glenn Burkert Urbana 44 years of service 100 years of age. (Applause)

Mr. Joseph Worthington Level 64 years of service 93 years of age. (Applause)

Mr. Robert Jansen Level 50 years of service 92 years of age. (Applause)

Miss Ruth Gosnell Winfield Community 24 years of service 90 years. (Applause)

Mr. Vernon D Horsmen Sr. Prince Frederick 75 years of service 90 years of age. (Applause)

Mr. William Huseman Hollywood 60 years of service 96 years of age. (Applause)

Ladies and gentlemen these are our seniors that have been here and laid a way for us. If you get a chance, go in and complete the form and for next year. Thank you. (Applause).

President Davis: Thank you. I’ll call out how Past President Bobby Jacobs for the Bob Shimer Administrator Award.

PP Jacobs: Good morning everyone. First of all, I’d like to acknowledge our committee members Danny Davis, Joe Robinson, Roger Steger, Phil Hurlock, and myself. Phil would you like to read the letter?

PP Hurlock: Okay, good morning. Just on behalf of the Shimer family I’d like to read just a little bit about the Robert H. Shimer Award. It’s a request of the Shimer family and with the endorsement the officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association an award was established to be presented annually in recognition that many years of faithful and dedicated service that was provided by Past President Robert H. Shimer to the fire rescue, I must go on the same school was the President, and emergency medical services in the state of Maryland. This prestigious award will recognize an individual for their achievements, activities and administrative positions that have they have held within their own community, county, and state. The time requirement for this award is not restricted to this past year but could be included into the accomplishments.
from prior years. The intention of the award is to honor Past President Robert H. Shimer for his 37 years of continuous service to the state of Maryland for the many different roles and responsibilities he held in his career. This award is a tribute to him for the deserved recognition that he earned as a member of the emergency services in the state of Maryland. His passion for the emergency services touched every one of them of us and his presence is surely missed. At this time Past President Danny Davis will announce this year’s recipient for the Robert H. Shimer Administrator of the Year Award.

**PP Danny Davis:** This year’s winner is Craig B. Harmon from Odenton. (Applause)

The nominees for the year were Craig Harmon, William C. Mattingly Jr., and Rich Drubasky. If those gentlemen other than Craig are in the hall, please come forward for a certificate. Thank you.

**President Davis:** Thank you gentleman. Congratulations on your work, Craig. (Applause) We will now have Mr. Bill Dousa for the Josiah Hunt EMS Award.

**Bill Dousa:** Good morning, the annual report of the EMS committee is on page 73 of the document for this year’s convention. I’d like to first thank the EMS committee for all the work that they did and any members of the EMS committee that would come up would like to come up and help present the award I’d like to have them up here with us.

It’s been a challenging year. I think as most of you know with the EMT testing as well as six other initiatives that we’ve been working on, so it’s been a good year and I’d like to again thank all the members of the committee for their hard work. The Josiah Hunt Award is presented in honor of Dr. Josiah A. Hunt who was a physician in northern Harford County. He trained with us tremendously, he also provided a lot of support on ambulances he was a wonderful mentor to many of the people in the Harford County EMS service. The award is presented to an EMS provider who is at least an EMT and has provided five or more years of service of outstanding service to Maryland EMS. My first task is to award the plaque for last year’s winner because she did bring back the trophy which is part of the award. So, if Barbara J. Wible is here we’d like to present the plaque, if not a representative from her company, if they would come forward please? She’s from Hollywood volunteer rescue. (Applause)

We had six well-qualified candidates this year. The awards committee which was a subcommittee of the EMS committee had a really difficult time selecting a winner. In fact, it was the closest voting in my seven years as EMS chair. It was a difficult job, however; we did select a winner. We’re going to recognize the following nominees with a certificate. If they or a representative will please come forward, we have certificates for them.

George L. Farrow of the Takoma Park volunteer fire department. (Applause)
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Paul L Armstrong Havre de Grace Ambulance Corp. (Applause)
Ronald Kefauver Jr. Middleton Volunteer Fire Company. (Applause)
David L. Kyle Flintstone Volunteer Fire Company. (Applause)
David Ruby of the Hampstead Volunteer Fire Company. (Applause)

Now the winner gets to take the trophy back to their company for the year and then return it at the end of the time so that we can present it again next year. They also get the bar that goes on their uniform as well as a certificate and then next year when they return the trophy, they get a plaque to go in their personal collection.

I have a few words from the letter of nomination of the winner. She volunteers 30 to 60 hours a week every week. She’s been a top 10 responder every year since she became an EMT responding to over thirteen hundred and fifty calls since 2011. She is our EMS quality coordinator and quality control officer. And one of the most critical ones in today’s environment of creating new EMTs, she trains and mentors members taking the EMT course. In 2016 she completed the paramedic program. In 2017 the Josiah Hunt Award is presented to Elizabeth Beth Larimore. I understand that she’s in the Baltimore County Academy her chief is here to accept the award for her. (Applause)

Oh, I’d like to congratulate all of our Award winners and thank them and remember to submit for next year’s winners. Thank you very much. (Applause)

President Davis: Thank you, congratulations to our Award winners quick note side note. I started in Abingdon and Bill and Linda they’re still there. They were there when I started, not that I’m that old but that was 23 years ago, and they were my mentors back then and they keep doing it and I’m very appreciative for them. They’re dedicated to EMS and it shows.

So Next our main program presentation from the firefighter Cancer Support Network presented by Miss Donna Luce McDonald. She’s the Vice President at East Region One, the State Director and cancer survivor. The Firefighter Cancer Support Network which is the FCSN is a nonprofit organization that helps firefighters and their families when diagnosed with cancer. FCSN has a mentor program made up of firefighters that are cancer survivors and an awareness and education program. The educational presentation is taught through personal experience and mistakes, the carcinogens firefighters are exposed, to the wrath of these exposures and how to protect to prevent further exposures. These presentations point firefighters in the right direction, to set up policies and fight for presumptive laws. Firefighters are three times as likely to be diagnosed with cancer it’s time to make the necessary changes and lower those numbers and here to present. (Applause)

Donna McDonald: Thank you and good morning everyone. I’m honored to be speaking here today. As he said my name is Donna McDonald. I was a firefighter in the City of Providence Rhode Island for 15 years. I’m also part of their honor guard,
our EAP program, and our peer fitness program. I’m also the State Director and the Vice President of the Firefighter Cancer Support Network. What we are is a nonprofit organization made up of all firefighters that are cancer survivors or have been touched by cancer very personally, and what we do is, we have a mentor program. We started out as a support group because that is our main goal; is supporting firefighters that have been diagnosed with cancer. So now we have a mentor program. All our mentors are firefighters that are cancer survivors from all over the country and what we do is when you’re diagnosed with cancer you would call us up or go on to our website and click on get help and then we would set you up with one of these Mentors. We try to set you up with someone that has the same type of cancer that you have and now this is an outlet for you. This person has already been through it or is going through it at the time, so they can help you navigate this. They can tell you what to expect. You can ask questions of them. Just vent to them. You can just call them up and just have a conversation. You don’t even have to talk about cancer, it’s just an outlet for you. So, we have that, we’re nationwide organization, so we have 39 states that have a state director, and we have more states that do have instructors because we have a trained their trainer program. But hopefully we’ll have a state director in all 50 states soon.

We also do an educational program which you can see later this afternoon. I will be teaching along with one of my colleagues a cancer prevention class. So, I hope you will come join us for that. And, we do awareness where we hand out information and just let firefighters know that we are there for them. Now when we teach or present, we teach through our own stories and I like to do this because then I can tell the mistakes that I made and hopefully you won’t make those same mistakes and must go through what I went through.

So, my story is: I got involved with the network because I was diagnosed 12 years ago with bone cancer. And at the time I didn’t think I had any symptoms. I worked on a very busy engine company. We do about 5,000 runs a year so it’s about a run an hour or so and, I was part of our firefighter Combat Challenge team. And at the time it was training season so between working, being busy at work, and overtraining, I thought that’s why I was feeling really tired all the time, and why I was losing a lot of weight. But, I so, I’m like my four days off I decided just to rest and not work not workout or train, just get some rest and figured it that would make me feel better. So, it did, I went back to work on my first day and about halfway through the day we went on an EMS run and I helped to assist to lift the stretcher. And when I did that I fractured my sternum. So, I go to the hospital after and they take x-rays and they say yeah, they its fractured and they sent me home with pain meds and a follow up with an orthopedic doctor. So, I go to that orthopedic doctor a week later and he says well this is a very odd injury since I didn’t get hit in the chest at all. So, they decided to do a cat scan. So, a few days later I come back for the results of that CAT scan and the doctor takes me into the office immediately and they put the scans up on the screen and the first thing he says to me was this is the sarcoma here. And I said you have the wrong
patient, I got hurt at work. I you know this can’t be me. And he says well that’s why your sternum fractured because the tumor had grown to such a large extent that just putting that little bit of pressure on it fractured right through. And they figured that the tumor had been in there for about a year and a half. So, they could tell because I had stress fractures all throughout my sternum. And the oldest one was about a year old. So, they figure it took about six months or so for it to grow to that size. So, from there it’s just kind of a whirlwind you can’t even process it. You’re just kind of wandering through, going to blood work, going to every scan you can imagine, meeting a team of doctors, and then they say, well we’re going to do a biopsy because we’re 90% sure it’s cancer, but maybe it’s just a fatty tumor. So I go in for the biopsy and you have to wait two weeks or sometimes three weeks for the results, and it’s agonizing waiting for those results. Because, they thought it was, I kind of was expecting it, but I was praying for that 10% that it was just going to be a fatty tumor. But it did come back positive. I had chondrosarcoma which is a very rare bone cancer and the spot that it was in and my sternum was new, they had never seen that before. Usually they find that type of cancer in an arm or a leg and the only cure for that is to remove the bone, because chemotherapy or radiation would not work for this type of tumor. So, they said well that’s what we’ll have to do for you we’ll have to remove the sternum. So, because I was young and active they decided to build a prosthetic in the OR. So, they built this plastic block made of a Gore-Tex plastic. They removed my old sternum. They had to cut my ribs away, so they put a bone cement in a mesh over that to hold everything together. They had to cut my pectoral muscles and then pull them together and sew them together. So, I just have one large pectoral muscle now.

So after that I’m in surgery for about eight hours. I’m in the hospital for about a week and I go home after that and I start recovering. A few months later I start physical therapy. And it was very discouraging at first because I used to be able to lift hundreds of pounds and now I can’t even lift the little pink one-pound weights, I couldn’t bench press them, because it was so much pain in my chest. But because I had been active before there was muscle memory there and I ended up getting the muscle back and within nine months of surgery nine months after surgery, I went back to full duty on my engine, but I wasn’t quite right. I couldn’t stand up straight, I couldn’t roll my shoulders back, and I had just an ache right in the middle of my chest. It wasn’t anything that prevented me from lifting, but it was just like, when you have a dull headache that won’t go away, that’s what it felt like in my chest. So, I kept going back to my doctor saying you know there’s something not right here. I can’t stand up straight, I’m still really hunched over. So, he says no it’s just your job it’s too demanding now. You’re going to have to retire. And I said no that’s not an option. At this point I only had six years on the job and I was not about to retire. So, he was just the lead doctor on my case. I had three different doctors. So, I had a reconstructive surgeon who ended up building the prosthetic and placing it in there. In this time, be in those nine months there, he had moved to Boston. And I had the original surgery in Rhode Island. So, I followed him up to Boston and I said you know can you take a look at this it doesn’t feel right. So, he
says yeah it looks a little off, so we did some scans and they found that I was rejecting the prosthetic. That’s why I was hunched over. The prosthetic was pulling out of my chest and that’s why I had that pain too. So, he says well we will remove it and we’ll replace it with a different prosthetic. We’ll take some precautions for rejection. So, I said all right well let’s do that. So, in the OR they found that there was, when they removed the old prosthetic, there was an infection behind it. And unfortunately, I didn’t show any signs I didn’t have a temp or anything. So, they didn’t realize that this infection was there, but they weren’t able to replace it with a new prosthetic. So, I had some scar tissue in there and they basically pulled my muscles back across sewed them together and that was it. I was left without a sternum now. So after in recovery he told me what happened, and he said I don’t suggest you go back to work, because now part of your heart is exposed. But now I was, once I started physical therapy, I was feeling good, I was, I was feeling great. I didn’t have any pain anymore. I could stand up straight and so I was determined to go back to work. So, I convinced him to sign me back to work so six months after that surgery. I went back full duty and I did well for about seven years. I was able to work without a sternum, wearing an air pack, carrying hose, fighting fires, doing everything I had done before. But all those years of wearing an air pack, of carrying hose, all the med bags, everything, put pressure on my shoulders, which put pressure on my collar bones, which now didn’t have that stability, or that core anymore. So, I started having little bone spurs and some pain in my collar bones. But it wasn’t enough to keep me from working.

But one time we went to an EMS run again and I was helping to assist carry a patient in a stair chair. We have three decker homes in Providence, so they have like a spiral staircase. So, as we’re coming down the staircase, we’re on the bottom. She was on the third floor, now we’re on the first floor and I’m on the bottom of the chair carrying and she starts panicking, and starts rocking the chair, grabbing on to the walls. As she’s doing this the straps lift around her neck. So, her knees slid down and landed on my chest. So, I took all her weight and it caved my chest in. It ended up knocking the wind out of me damaging or bruising my lung and fracturing my collarbone. So, I go, we managed to get her to the floor, and everything was fine. She went off to the hospital and then I followed behind. They did x-rays again, and they found that I had another tumor in my collarbone, after a bunch of scans, and it was like from the first time around. But then they said, and my whole chest was unstable now. I needed to have it all reconstructed and a new prosthetic put in.

So that was three years ago. I had that new prosthetic put in. It is a very porous material, so my own tissue can grow through it. So that helps with rejection, and I also had a chest tube in there for a while. To help with that, it’s bolted in with titanium bolts. They were able to remove the tumor and it was a benign tumor. So, I got lucky with that. We found that in time but this time. I was having a hard time getting back to work. I was, I couldn’t lift more than about 50 pounds without it feeling like it was ripping open. So, the doctor said well we removed all of the tissue from your chest because
of that tumor. We wanted to be cautious so maybe there’s just not enough padding. So, they decided to take some tissue from my legs and put it into my chest. So, they thought maybe the stem cells there would help regenerate that muscle and I would be able to get back to work. So, we did that. Now I had surgery on my legs and chest this time. But it didn’t really work. I was still having that pain. Cosmetically it looked much better. I had more padding in my chest. But it didn’t take that pain away. So, then he said, well we’ve never tried this before on someone’s chest, but we use Botox for carpal tunnel and migraines. There’s a medical grade. So, we can try that on your chest. So, at this point I was getting desperate to get back to work. So, I agreed to try Botox. So, they put 26 injections all throughout my chest and that did help. I was able to get back into the gym workout and be able to lift more than 50 pounds without pain. So, I ended up going back to work. About nine months down the road I started to have pain again. So, I went back up to the doctor on my days off and they said; well let’s try some cortisone shots into my collar bones. Because that’s where I was really having that pain, where all the bone spurs were, and the new prosthetic is bolted in. So, they did cortisone and that felt great. I went back to work. I didn’t have pain and then that would wear off within a few months. So, I’d go back again on my days off. By the third time that I did this, the doctor said; we can’t do this anymore. We can’t give you any more cortisone. It’s going to do more damage than it’s going to help. It’ll end up damaging the muscle and the bone. So, he cut me off. So that’s it. If it’s not healed, it’s not going to and that it was 2 years after surgery by this point.

So, I had to decide there. And I was also the cancer damaged my immune system. So now my immune system thinks I’m sick all the time or my body thinks I’m sick all the time. So, it’s constantly fighting me. So, I always feel like I have the flu. And then also I started growing tumors on my wrist. I had one removed two years ago another one removed last year. And then just three weeks ago today I had a third one removed. So still waiting on the results of that. Hopefully I’ll have the biopsy results next week and it’ll be nothing. But there’s still a little bit anxiety there on that. So, between that and the pain in my chest I was forced to retire, which was very difficult. This was a little over a year ago, I was forced to retire, and it hit me hard because I had worked so hard to stay on the job. I kept fighting and going through these surgeries, so I would be able to keep continue working and I wasn’t able to. And then going through all this cancer. I expected pain of surgery, I expected recovery time getting back into the gym and physical therapy. I understood all of that. What I didn’t anticipate was the emotional and mental pain that you go through.

It’s, what I went through after the second surgery when everything was great, and I was feeling good. I had no pain and I was back to work and everything was great. That’s when it all hit me. And I went through a depression after that. And I couldn’t understand why. I was angry and then I would be upset with myself, and feel guilty for feeling angry, because I’m feeling good and I’m back to work, so I couldn’t understand why I was angry. And then I would I would be at work just smiling, saying everything’s
great, and then I'd go home and cry all night, and I couldn’t understand why this was happening. So finally, I ended up talking to someone about it, and they said; well your body is kind of catching up, your brain is kind of catching up to what your body went through. You know before I was going through surgeries and scans and doctor’s appointments and I just didn’t have time to process any of that. And then we know all the dust settled that’s when I ended up processing it. And it was at the weirdest time. But then I ended, I got through that and everything was doing, I was doing well, and then I started feeling it again. When I was going through that retirement. Because you’re a firefighter, you’re supposed to be in control, and in charge all the time. And now suddenly, you’re the patient, and you’re on the other side, and that’s hard to deal with lot of times, and going through retirement. It was the same thing. I that was my identity for 15 years. I worked the job and that’s what I was. That’s who I was and now I felt a little lost, like where do I go from here.

So I’ve been having I had a hard time the past year going through that depression again. But doing this - teaching classes all over the place and all over my state has helped. Talking about my story has helped. At least I can talk about retirement without crying now. So that’s always a good thing. But we try to help everyone. I don’t want anybody to have to go through what you’re what I went through. So that’s why a lot of the mistakes I made, I didn’t always wash my gear the way I was supposed to. I didn’t always wear my mask when I was supposed to. I took it off during overhaul because I did want to stop working. I didn’t want to leave the building. I wanted to stay with my crew, so I sucked it up, took my mask off, and now I realize how bad that was, and then, where I think my exposure came from, was I went to a chemical fire once. It was in a jewelry company. It was a very small building, room and contents basically. And I was on the line that day. I was wearing full gear, except for a hood. We did not wear hoods in Providence for the longest time. We had the thinking that you needed to feel the heat on your ears. So, they didn’t believe in wearing a hood. So, we do wear them now, about five years ago, we started wearing them. But you know 12 years ago, we weren’t wearing them. But anyway, I was wearing my full gear, mask, everything. After that fire a little while later, we went on a few other runs, and I broke out in a rash all on my neck and chest. It was big red welts all over. So, I went back to the station washed up, changed my clothes. The next day, I came in, the rash went away by the end of the day. The next day I came in. I put my gear on again for a box alarm and a little while later I broke out in that same rash. And then a year and a half after that I was diagnosed with cancer right in that area. At the time I didn’t put two and two together. I didn’t think about that until later. Once I was back to work and started thinking, I wonder, you know what gave, what gave me this cancer. So, I remembered this fire the where I had that immediate reaction, and I went back through the books because we still do very old school. They have hardcover books that we keep track of every run. So I was able to go back through these books and sure enough it was a year and a half before. So, I don’t know if it was just that one fire that gave me cancer or it was just in a cumulative and that just put me over the edge, I don’t know. But I did make a lot of
mistakes there, where and maybe if I was wearing a hood that would have helped. If I had washed up right after the fire and changed all my clothes that might have helped. I should have washed my gear the first time around because I exposed myself twice to whatever chemical it was. So, I made some mistakes and now I know this I made changes after the fact, but it was a little late. Hopefully that’ll help me, so I don’t have any the reoccurrence or any other cancers in the future.

That’s why we teach this way. So hopefully I can prevent someone else coming on the job from not doing that mistake or making or having people that have been on the job for a long time, be a role model to the younger ones coming on. So that is my story. And thank you so much for listening. And if you have any questions I can answer any of that for you. But other than that, thank you very much for having me here today. (Applause) Thank you very much.

President Davis: Stay here stay right here in appreciation for coming out and giving presentation. Thank you very much it’s very informative. The Maryland State Firemen’s Association, myself, present you with 125th anniversary mug. We’ll also give you a bag in the back backstage for being here. (Applause) (Music)

Mr. Stephan Cox Past President and Richard Smith to present the Legislative Award.

Stephan Cox PP: Thank You Mr. President. One of the major initiatives of the legislative committee in conjunction with the residential sprinkler committee is residential sprinklers. And we all know that they’re very important in the efforts to save lives and property. Today we want to recognize three jurisdictions that stepped out and implemented initiatives to encourage citizens to install residential sprinklers.

Presenting the awards is the Vice Chairman of the Legislative Committee Richard Smith and Vice Chairman of the Sprinkler Committee Jamie McNeal. We’d like to recognize first the city of Frostburg. Accepting is Chief Dale Bladen and chief as you make your way up to the stage, it says special recognition awarded to, and it would be Frostburg, for service rendered at the 125th annual convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association today’s date, and it has President Mike Davis. President Davis would you assist them also, please. (Applause) And if you’ll remain on stage, please.

Next would be Allegheny county accepting is Richard Devore. (Applause)

The third would be Dorchester County. Accepting would be Commissioner Don Satterfield. (Applause)

On behalf the legislative committee and the residential sprinkler committee we want to thank each of you for your efforts and stepping out implementing initiatives to help the
citizens. We also used this in Annapolis and thank you very much. Let’s give them another round of applause. (Applause)

Next I’d like to call Mr. Tim Travers from NFPA to come forward. Tim’s been an instrumental team member for the legislative committee. Although he’s with NFPA and in Boston Massachusetts we talked to him daily. We have a little token of appreciation. Tim if you would open it and show the audience please. You really need to open it up all the way. We wanted to make sure, although you’re in Boston, that we know your hearts in Maryland. (Applause)

The Senator Amos Legislator of the Year is awarded to an individual or individuals who have helped in the legislative process. The award is sponsored by the Harford Cecil Volunteer Fireman’s Association. Present on stage, our President Joe Tolliver and Past President Robin Sheldon Hahn. We’re presenting two awards this year. Robin would you come up for the first presentation please?

Robin Hahn: Good morning it is our honor to represent the Harford Cecil Volunteer Fireman’s Association today to make these presentations. First on behalf of the Association and all, we’d like to thank Steve Cox and Richard Smith for all the work and all the committee for all they do for us down in Annapolis each year. The Senator William H. Amos Memorial Legislative Award, the first one is presented to Delegate Marvin Holmes Jr. In recognition of an individual’s contribution and determination in promoting the betterment of Maryland Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services through successful legislation and the legislative process. It is sponsored by the Harford Cecil Volunteer Fireman’s Association signed by Joseph Tolliver President.

Stephan Cox PP: Delegate Holmes couldn’t be here. If you will welcome Maggie Holmes, his wife accepting for him. (Applause)

Mrs. Holmes: Good morning it’s a pleasure to be with you this morning. Delegate Marvin Holmes my husband he was unable to be here, but he thought that this was a very significant and important moment for not only him but for the Maryland Firefighters Association. So, on behalf of Marvin, I accept this award. Thank you. (Applause)

Stephan Cox PP: The next recipient of the Senator Amos Legislator of the Year is Delegate Deborah Rae from St. Mary’s County. (Applause) Delegate Rae. As she’s making her way up, she was very instrumental in assisting us. We had a significant piece of legislation House bill 1380, and she did her homework prior to our testimony. She was bringing out points of our testimony to the committee and we certainly appreciate her efforts. Thank you and congratulations. (Applause) Thank you and congratulations.

President Davis: And we have Past President Roger Powell for the Ed Emkey Award.
Roger Powell PP: Good morning everyone. I’m here today, this morning, to present the Emkey Award to recognize the best junior or Cadet Company in the state. Based upon the those who entered, we don’t know that everyone who has a junior or cadet company, has actually entered, but we certainly urge all companies that do have a junior or cadet company to take a look at the proceedings book and convention book and look at the award and work on making sure that you enter your company, your junior or your cadet company next year because as you know the lifeblood of a fire service is recruitment and retention and one of the best ways to recruit and retain is to have a junior fire company and have the youngsters graduate into at age 16 or 18, into the fire company and stay as opposed to trying to recruit from outside. Without any background basis last year, the winner was the Williamsport Volunteer Junior Volunteer Fire Company. If there’s a representative from them here this morning I’d like to present the permanent trophy to Williamsport. (Applause)

So, I can’t emphasize enough the importance of this award and what it means to the emergency services in the state of Maryland. This year’s winner Arcadia. (Applause)

President Davis: Here the president Bruce Walz for the C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year Award.

Bruce Walz: Good morning the officers and members of the Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Company are honored to again sponsor the Past President C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year Award. This award recognizes a new member of the emergency services who has distinguished him or herself through a sustained commitment to training and service. The Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Company sees it’s fitting to honor a person beginning their Emergency Services career with an award to encourage them to reach the high level of service and dedication to our citizens that Past President C. Oscar Baker exemplifies. We are fortunate to again have Past President Baker here with us today. And as you heard he was already honored for his many years of service, but I just wanted to let you know that he will be 95 on Saturday. (Applause)

The nominees for this year’s award were: from Easton Cameron Chance, from Havre de Grace Thomas E. Parks, from Odenton Isabella Patriotus, from Manchester Andrew Eppie, from Winfield Lane Ruckman, and from Ridge Tyler Mercure. They will be receiving certificates later from the Association. The nominee for this year’s award, the winner of this year’s award. I will read briefly from the letter of nomination. This individual has completed many levels of MFRI training including EMT, rescue technician, truck company, fire ground operations, hazmat. This, the recipient was also a student in the Carroll County EST program. He was the second top responder in his department for 2016. He was also the second top responder for EMS in 2016 with the sixth in total fundraising hours with his organization. He attends many of the monthly fire department meetings and trainings. He is an active in fire prevention details at schools giving speeches on fire prevention and safety and also with showing
how various pieces of fire equipment and apparatus are used. He attended heroes’
day at a local church and spoke to the youth group about fire prevention while suited
up and putting on his turnout gear. The 2017 past president C. Oscar Baker Rookie
of the Year is Andrew P Eppie from the Manchester Fire Engine and Hook and Ladder
Company #1. (Applause)

Chief Stahl and Past President Baker will make the presentation of the plaque and
uniform ribbon. Also, they will be taking the trophy to Manchester for the year.
Congratulations again Andrew and we look forward to many years of participation in
the emergency services. Thank you (Applause) Oscar has a few words.

**Oscar Baker PP**: I just wanted to say thank you guys for being here. You know the
greatest thing that I’d get out of life is here today, coming in here and seeing so many of
our older friends as well as newer friends, because it’s at this age, in fact, I don’t know
why I’ve lived this long. My father used to say the only the good die young, so that’s
the reason I’m still here. But anyway, I think the Mt. Airy Fire Company has done, going
out of their way to make me feel good, because this award is something that I always
cherished. And I think it’s great to be able to be alive and appreciate this while you’re
alive, instead of so many times, they present to most after you go on. So, thanks a lot
people. If I don’t come back next year, you’ll know my heart cheers. Thank you very
much. (Applause) (The audience sang Happy Birthday to Oscar)

**President Davis**: Thank You for that Happy Birthday Oscar. Congratulations to the
recipient. And now we’re going to do The Firefighter of the Year Award presented by
Mr. Rusty Leftwich.

**Rusty Leftwich**: Thank You Mr. President. Good morning. I’d like to start off by
introducing the committee members. If any of you are in the audience, would you
come up please? The co-chairman Mr. Jimmy Jarboe, Dale Budnick Sr., Johnny
Gatton Sr., Malcolm Helwig, Past President Dave Keller, Bill Lay, Roger Marks, Bill
Smith. I know Jimmy Snyder’s not here. He’s been having some health problems. We
send him our best. Jeff Thompson and Jeff Ringer.

This year was another one of those years and of the 370 companies, Mr. President in
that general area, we got seven applications. So, we would really appreciate it if you
guys would, if you honor your people, send us a letter and we’ll add them to the list.
We would appreciate it.

This year’s nominees for the Firefighter of the Year. Stefan Alborsick from Middletown,
Samuel Robert Simmons from Ridge. If you come forward, please if you’re here. Jack
Pulp Jr. from Level, Anthony J Simonetti from Odenton, Patrick Reed from Cresaptown,
Lane Low Ruttman from Winfield, and Eddie Tatum from Hollywood. (Applause)
Okay, I’ll read a little a couple excerpts out of the letter for the winner. This individual evidently does more than just being a firefighter and EMS person. He takes the people under his wings, the new people trains them, helps them get oriented, and makes them feel like they’re like they’re home, and they’re a part of the fire department family. Through the year the subject took part in many training opportunities, whether being formal, through MFRI or on his own in-house stuff. Lots of hours for his LOSAP. He’s assisted the fire officers and working with some of the new members, so they can ride the apparatus, several fundraising events, meanwhile he got himself straightened out through the drivers’ program. He’s checked off to drive several of the apparatus for the for the fire company. I’m proud to announce that this year the winner of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Firefighter of the Year; Mr. Eddie Tatum from Hollywood. (Applause) Eddie, we have a few extra gifts. Your badge and your PIN for your uniform. And the Firefighter of the Year jacket. (Applause) Now Eddie, we need you to go down in the back room, so we can get some pictures once we’re finished. You like to say anything? Thank you, okay thank you all very much.

President Davis: Next we’ll have Mr. Michel LeCompte, Chairman of the safety committee for the Smith M. Stathem Safety Award along with the safety committee themselves.

Mike LeCompte: Thank You Mr. Chairman. It’s getting smaller in here. I need to make one announcement. The Don’t Fall for That class that we are doing and it’s an hour-and-a-half class, these gentlemen up front have put this class together. Obviously, they’re on stage the class was supposed to start at 10:00, is an exceptional class, very poignant about slip, trip and falls, falling off, and what we, what we’re seeing is the trends for injuries in Maryland with injuries from slip, trip and falls. So, if you can make the class, I believe its room 203, Mr. Chairman, 203 please come down. This person I would like to introduce has been a 40-year member in good standing, in Southern Maryland, with a Ridge Volunteer Fire Department. He has conducted basic health and safety training for his new membership in an orientation facet. He has developed and continues developing training with every new member. He has scheduled the man Tech’s tests for all of his new members and making sure they’re fit tested and all like that. He’s scheduled and assisted with administrative with influenza vaccinations to keep his members entire membership healthy. He monitors, and he reports safety information back as it regards to the National Fire Prevention Association standards, the Maryland occupational safety standards, and the OSHA standards as well as the FEMA. He ensures incident safety at every major call. He has been extremely active for 40 years. It gives me great pleasure on behalf of the Fire Chief Raymond Mercure of the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department to name the nomination and the name of the Safety Officer of the year, the Smith Stathem Memorial Safety Award on the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Mr. Francis J Raley. (Applause)

Don’t forget our class. Thank you, guys.
President Davis: Chief Dan Stevens for the Zembower Training Award. Dan.

Dan Stevens: Thank you good morning. I think it’s still morning. I’m Dan Stevens a co-chair of the training committee. Kingsley Poole the chairman couldn’t be here this morning. But the Zembower Fire Service Training Award was established in 1976 by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Zembower in memory of his late parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cromwell Zembower of LaVale. Cromwell was the Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and a member of the training committee for many years. The Award is based on the average number of formal training hours per active member for the fiscal year. Prior to the award there’s a trophy which hopefully will be getting up here in a minute, that the company will hold for a year; then they’ll return that trophy and we’ll give them a permanent plaque to display in the station.

So, if we could have members of my, well first off, of the two runner-up trophies. The first runner-up trophy is sponsored by myself my wife Bobbie in memory of my dad Robert Stevens who was treasurer of the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department in St. Mary’s County for years. Second runner-up is sponsored by Earleigh Heights in honor of their former Chief Herman Dill. If we could have a representative from New Market District Volunteer Fire Department who won, the award last year we have their trophy here. And if we could get Mrs. Zembower, I think she’s in the other wing, so you will be coming out on stage here. But if somebody from New Market District could come forward, a representative. And, representatives of Independent Hose Company #1, United Steam Fire Engine Company #3, and the Bethesda Chevy Chase Volunteer Rescue Squad could come forward. They all submitted, all the Frederick County, 26 companies from Frederick County were submitted for the award. And if we could have those four companies, a New Market District, Independent Hose, United Steam, the Chevy Chase come forward that would be great. And do we have New Market District? Yep okay. Peggy if you could present them the permanent award that they won last year. And that was for 127.5 hours of formal training per active member. So, congratulations that’s an awful lot of training to do and please stay up here for the other awards. Congratulations. (Applause)

Do we have a Bethesda Chevy Chase? I don’t know? Where’s Johnie? Okay the third runner-up is the Bethesda Chevy Chase. So, if representative for this. This is for this year, the third runner-up for Bethesda Chevy Chase Rescue Squad with 40.76 hours of training per active member. And that’s phenomenal when you think that they have over two hundred members, that, but they did 8315 total training hours, and for a total or an average of 40.76 per member. So, if nobody from Bethesda Chevy Chase is here we’ll make sure they get the award. They were third runner-up.

Second runner-up for the Zembower Training Award goes to United Steam Fire Engine Company #3. We have a represented here from United Steam Fire Engine #3 for second runner-up with 87.17 hours of training per active member. Okay was that that
The first runner-up for the Zembower Training Award was Independent Hose Company #1 with 87.74 hours for active member. There was less than an hour difference there between the second runner-up and the first runner-up. Anyone here from Independent Hose? Okay, Independent, okay. Good.

Now the winner of the 2016 Zembower Training Award. Remember it’s a year behind, with 104, 104.37 hours of formal training per active member, again goes to the New Market District Volunteer Fire Department for the second year in a row. Congratulations. (Applause) And your trophy is just behind you there. So, okay, let’s have a hand for everybody that put in for this award. (Applause) and I’d like to challenge all of you. We really should have 360 some companies putting in for this award. I’m sure there are companies out there that would do almost this much training, if not more. So please put in your folks or put in your company for the award next year and we’ll try to have more folks on stage.

With that we’ll go right into the Sonny Rose if that’s okay Mr. President? Okay, the Johnny Sonny Rose Memorial Training Award is sponsored by the Odenton Volunteer Fire Company and I believe Odenton is coming out here and Dave you going to do? Okay, so I’ll turn it over to them and thank you all.

Dave Lewis: Thank you Dan, my name is David Lewis. I’m the president of the Odenton Volunteer Fire Company and honored to be joined on the stage here by Bob Rose and Bill Rose two of Sonny’s brothers as our representatives of the Odenton Volunteer Fire Company. Many of you know, because many of you been touched by Sonny, Sonny gave his life to training. He probably touched each firefighter almost across the state, can be found anytime, any day, and at one corner of the state to the other. When Sonny passed away the Odenton Volunteer Fire Company chose that we wanted to do something to honor Sonny’s memory and Sonny’s dedication to train, just as many of us dedicate our time to training. So, we last year, we sponsored the award in Sonny’s name, the trophy. The trophy, the large trophy that you see here represented to Sonny. The bottom of that trophy is scripted with Sonny’s own words. These are kind of the words that he gave during his final days as he was he was suffering from the illness that eventually took his life. “I hope that something that I taught enables somebody to save a life,” those were Sonny’s words in 2015 and we’ve inscribed that as a permanent inscription at the bottom of this trophy. We encourage the members across this Maryland State Firemen’s Association to submit the names of your members who also have dedicated their time and shown the commitment to training, so that they must may help save others. And so, it’s my honor to read part of the nomination that we have for the presentation.

This year the nominee represented, nominated for the Johnny Sonny Rose Memorial
Training Award. The individual joined the fire company in 2014, immediately jumped into Firefighter 1 and Hazmat Ops to be cleared to ride and became an active responder almost immediately. Continued to train taking EMT, emergency vehicle operator, rescue training, as well as many company drills. And then again continued to be an active responder with his fire company both as a fire responder, as well as an EMS attendant. So, it’s certainly my honor and with the Rose family here and the Odenton Volunteer Fire Company to present this this award to Ty Wade Bond from the Odenton Volunteer Fire Company. We’re honored to keep that trophy home for another year. Chief Paul Gunshaw will you accepting the award on behalf of Ty Wade. (Applause)

President Davis: Mr. Dale Fishack to present the Scholarship Award.

Dale Fishack: Good morning. Gives me pleasure again to appear before you to announce the 2017 MSFA scholarship recipients. First, I must recognize those who make the scholarships possible. As you’re aware a portion of your MSFA dues go to the scholarship funds. But we also have several partner agencies. As I announce each of the partner agencies, I would ask that their representatives come out and join me in presenting the scholarships. This year we have MSFA Ladies Auxiliary, the Maryland Committee on Trauma represented by Jim Brown, Shock Trauma represented by Tara Carlson, and Delmarva Power represented by Linda Burris.

I would ask the rest of the committee to come out well just see they’re here. But we’d like to take a brief a moment before I announce this year’s recipients to remember a great supporter and leader of the scholarship committee that we lost this past year. Bill Olson was past chairman and chairman emeritus. Bill had a great drive and passion for this committee and was a great mentor to me as I rose to the position of chairman. Bill instilled in me from the day I received my scholarship on this stage in 1989 to always give back to the MSFA. It was Bill’s challenge that I stand here today as a chairman of this committee to present these scholarships each year. So please join me in a moment of silence as my committee remembers Bill. Thank you.

Now to our 2017 scholarship recipients. Several of our students are with us today. Others are continuing to work on their education over the summer semesters. So some are here and some are not, but we’re going to announce each and every one of them.

First recipient is from the Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Company. Samuel Friedman is attending the UMBC School and he is supported by MSFA, Shock Trauma, and Delmarva Power. (Applause)

Our next recipient comes from West Friendship, Ryan Huber. Ryan is attending UMBC. Ryan is supported by MSFA, Shock Trauma, and Delmarva Power. (Applause)
A third recipient this year is Theresa M. LaValley from White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company. Teresa is being supported by the Maryland Committee on Trauma. (Applause)

Our next recipient also comes from the Chestnut Ridge Volunteer Fire Company attending the UMBC School. Gregory Pearlstein supported by MSFA, MSFA Ladies Auxiliary, Delmarva Power, and Shock Trauma. Gregory’s with us today. (Applause)

And our last recipient of this year’s scholarships comes from the Lineboro Volunteer Fire Department attending UMBC School. Nathan Saurusaitis supported by the MSFA, Maryland Committee on Trauma, Shock Trauma, and Delmarva Power. (Applause)

Congratulations to all of our 2017 scholarship recipients. (Applause)

President Davis: Next we have Recruitment Retention Awards Mr. Jose Chornock Chairman.

Joe Chornock: A good morning. If any of the members of the Recruitment and Retention Committee are in the audience, please come up at this time. I’d greatly appreciate it. Also, the following individuals, our families, or representatives from their department.

The Elwin Wagner family from Manchester Volunteer Fire Department. The Richard Dell family from Manchester Volunteer Fire Department. And the Larry Gribble family from Cockeysville Volunteer Fire Department.

The family appreciation program award was to recognize the families of volunteer fire and EMS members who have sacrificed their time with their families for the good of the community. The award was open to the families of volunteer members of both fire and EMS. The recruitment and retention committee have based our selection on the following criteria. The individual, the family need to, the individual need to exhibit a consistent positive effort towards training, response to incidents, and to fundraising. An overall effort to support a team concept, and they had to be active members for five years.

This award we’ve been using for the last few years. I know the recruitment retention committee is in the process of creating a new award program to recognize the actual recruitment and retention efforts of both the individual departments and of the counties, the associations. We hope to have that award for the 2018 Convention. Based on the findings of the committee, the committee has found that a third runner-up, or third will be the Elwin Wagner family of Manchester Volunteer Fire Department. The Richard Dell family will be second. And we have selected the Larry Gribble family of Cockeysville as this year’s recipient of the Family Appreciation Award. (Applause)
President Davis: Now Mr. Larry Preston for Instructor of the Year Award. Larry pleasure.

Larry Preston: Good morning 25 years ago the Instructor of the Year Award was falling by the wayside and not getting much attention. And two individuals who were here with me, Skip and Jackie Carey decided they wanted this award to continue and they took it personally upon themselves to sponsor this award for 25 years and I just wanted to acknowledge the work they have done to keep this alive and thank them for doing so. (Applause) The award, the award has been administered by the Chesapeake Society for Fire Service Instructors and that group is now defunct. So MFRI, which I’m Assistant Director and the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board Chair, Mike Robinson here with me has decided to take over the administration the award. We volunteered to do so, and the MSFA has endorsed that idea. So we’re happy to do so. (Applause)

The recipient of this year’s award is certainly a distinguished instructor. We received his nomination from four different groups of people, Keith Fairfax and Rick Redmond the Bay District Volunteer Fire Department, Dan Stevens a previous award winner, and George Fairfax all nominated this individual. This individual as in the past year has taught pumps, aerial operations, aerial operator class, hazmat technician, emergency vehicle operator, and developed, and presented a course on Haz Mat Awareness for Rescue Squad people. During the year 2016 he conducted over a hundred and eighty hours of instruction on behalf of primarily MFRI. It’s estimated that over 75% of all rescue squad personnel in St. Mary’s County, Charles County, and Calvert County have all benefited from his hazmat technician, hazardous material awareness for Rescue Squad people. I personally know this individual and had the pleasure of following him in an assignment when he worked in Prince George’s County. One of the first things I was introduced to, was the tanker that this person put together from ground up. He’s looking, he’s recognized as an expert in water supply, pumps, aerial operators, and anything else mechanical you need to deal with. I know no one better more qualified than this individual. Please join me in congratulating Stephen G Works the recipient of the Francis L Brannigan Instructor of the Year Award for 2016. (Applause)

President Davis: We’re going to do a special President’s Award. I want to do some special presentations. If you guys look around you notice the videos and things that happened. It’s you guys shooting the cameras all the time, who never let me take their pictures. Those folks and everything that goes on behind the scenes, the whole video production, from Memorial Service, that’s all done through the folks of MIEMSS. And I thought it couldn’t be any better than to present them with some special awards because they’re all the folks behind the scenes. We see a couple of them but there’s several we don’t see. I know they may not be here but, Mr. Hurlock you can come up and receive for those as well that aren’t here. First off a special recognition of awarded to Miss Gail Acostus for the educational support services of MIEMSS in appreciation
of your support and dedicated service to Maryland State Firemen’s Association presented the 17th day of June 2017 by myself as President. It’s the least I could do. I got you guys some nice plaques. They were the ones inside the office all the time like I said doing the work. And then we also have the same thing written from Miss Letha Warmack, Miss Sue Catterton, and Mr. Brian Slack. You’re going to have to get someone to use your camera, if you’re allowed to do that. And Mr. James E Jim Brown you’re going to swap off taking pictures each other. (Applause) Thank you guys.

And our Fire Prevention Awards Miss Teresa Crisman.

**Teresa Crisman:** Hello everybody. Good morning. I would like to say first thank President Mike Davis for support and appointment of this committee. The fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee has worked very hard to help keep current on the trends and demands of fire prevention efforts in the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and its members companies. We look forward to working with President Bilger and President Blair in their support of their respective years. This year’s meetings were held in Prince George’s County at the Cranford Graves Fire Services Building, the Singerly Fire Company. The committee supported the MSFA and MFRI at Maryland weekend in Emmitsburg, MFRI College Park, the University of Maryland and Carroll County training facility. As always this committee has great people to help and support the efforts and our many messages. I would like to thank my Vice Chairs Dave Reed and Holly Tregeo and Secretary Dario Brown for all your hard work and dedicated time in the world of fire prevention and life safety. Fire Marshal Brian Geraci, I would like to thank you for all the support that you have given towards the fire prevention and Life Safety Committee, for the state this past year. We know that you had many challenges this year, but we were left we’re glad that we were able to overcome those challenges and we’re moving forward. Thank you for your support to myself and our committee and we are always ready to serve you and your staff of the Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal. To the subcommittee members I would also like to thank you for your hard work and dedication the programs that we work on. Bruce, Cindy, Lori, Bridget, Debbie, Robin, and Susan, thank you for leading the charge in your respective programs for the committee. This group would not function without your efforts and time to getting valuable information to the MSFA membership. Each program is unique to the issues and its great resources and tools that can be used to help support the messages that we work so tirelessly on. Your work is very important, and I cannot say thank you enough for all your hard work and dedication to the committee.

To Sierra and Emily, you guys did a great job this year. Your travels and working on the fire prevention and life safety efforts across the state were greatly rewarded. Thank you for your hard work and dedication and thank you for the support of the Ambassador Program. It is very seriously important that we take note of what the Fire Marshals talked about yesterday. The fire deaths in the state of Maryland are crawling higher and higher and we must actively get out there and do everything that we do.
It’s important that everybody come together, take that simple step, and go out there, and knock on the door, and ensuring that they have working smoke alarms in their community is greatly important. We have many valuable programs out there and I hope that you all take time and be able to go to the website. Look at what we have up there, and just look and see what you can do for your county and community and in return that to your citizens. That simple step of just going on there talking to someone and it’s just a glance of a time, saying hey, do you have a working smoke alarm today, do you have a carbon monoxide alarm, have you ever had your sprinkler system checked in your home? A lot many people will after they’ve had it installed do those type of checks. It’s very simple, take the first of the month, take the fifteenth of the month, take the last day of the month, to ensure that everything is working properly in a home. By just walking around looking at simple steps in your home, that you can honestly say, it is working for us today.

You know when you’re on a call, do you ever go out after you take the call placed in service? Are you knocking on the doors to the community of that street saying hey, we had an issue down the street? Were you able to check on those smoke alarms that active step just leads a better place. So, I ask you that you do those things please.

To President Barbara Sue and Chairman Rose Pandolfini and the Vice President, Vice Chairman Susan Hilton of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, thank you for your continued support in efforts also in spreading the word of fire prevention.

Each year the NFPA announces a message. This year’s message is Every Second Counts, Plan Two Ways Out. Fire Prevention Week is October 8th through the 14th of 2017. In March each year we conduct a program at MFRI and let’s just take a time to thank Steve Edwards the Director there for allowing us to overtake his facility and do so much stuff for that day. We have a good turnout. We had 89 people registered this year. We had 67 people show up and we greatly appreciate everybody that’s there. We had a full day of educational components and programs and we were able to give back to you guys as much as possible. So, please again look for those dates on the website. Again it’ll be the last week of March.

This past year I tasked the ambassadors with a project; to find a way to help promote fire prevention and life safety in programs. I asked them to create a video, a smoke alarm whiteboard video, so Chris can you please play the video?

Video plays as follows: Get ready for some alarming information. All you need to know about smoke alarms. A smoke alarm is a mechanical device that alerts you in case of fire or smoke. When the alarm sounds get low and go. Close your doors when you leave and once you’re outside stay out. Make sure you install smoke alarms on every level of the home including the basement. Also install smoke alarms outside of
each sleeping area and inside every bedroom. Always test your smoke alarm at least once a month. Don’t wait, check the date. Make sure you replace your smoke alarms every 10 years from the manufacturers date on the back of the alarm. The date on our alarm is April 2017. We need to replace this alarm by April 2027. There are two types of smoke alarms, Ionization and Photoelectric. Ionization responds better to flaming fire. Photoelectric responds better to smoldering fires. There are also smoke alarms available for those hard of hearing or hearing impaired. These alarms consist of bed shakers or bright flashing lights. Starting January 2018 Maryland law will now require all smoke alarms to have 10-year lithium-ion batteries. The 10-year lithium-ion batteries are tamper proof and cannot be removed. Only require monthly testing and replacement every 10 years from the date on the alarm. Having working smoke alarms cut your risk of dying in a fire by 50 percent. Test yours today. This video is brought to you by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency. (Applause)

To Sierra, Emily, and Susan thank you so much for putting that video together. We’re going to be able to link that to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association website and that link you will be able to put on your website or any social media that you’d like to share. So, please, once it’s up please share it it’s a valuable tool. I will be tasking this year’s ambassadors through the same thing with a different message. So, please look forward to that.

I’d also like to say special thanks to MEMA for allowing us to overtake their facility that day to do the video. We had a couple of times we were going back and forth and honestly I have to say a great thank you to Susan’s mom because she really helped us out too. I’d also like to say thank you to the sprinkler committee. They’ve done a great tremendous work on making sure that the side-by-side trailers are available and ready to go. Currently as you know that we have three in the state now. And I can’t say thank you enough to Dave and Jamie for all their hard work and dedication and secured to the committee members for completely taking them up and taking them down. We have 21 events signed up for this year so far so if you’re available and need or want to come see them, please check the MSFA calendar and it has all the links to all the dates. Sprinklers side-by-side trailers. I’m sorry there’s a question back there and I’m like answering it over here.

Again as the Fire Marshal stated on October 21st and 22nd is the side-by-side community risk watch reduction weekends. Please go out in your community and work on smoke alarm programs that weekend. Even if you don’t have the smoke alarms available, we’ll find ways to help you with that. That’s one of the things with the grant program that we were able to do again this year, was to do 30 smoke alarms for each community, a company. So, we were only able to do 50 this year. So, we hope that if you have time or need something, we’re trying to find a way. Even it was just walking your neighborhood and checking. That’s all that matters.
So, I challenge each and every one of you to expand your fire prevention and life safety programs. I challenge you to advance your knowledge and seek all the ways that ways we can inform our community. Try to help reduce the numbers of fire deaths. You know that simple conversation that you have someone if they were seeing something, leads to something. If you have a signboard outside your firehouse, please put that up there. Have you checked your smoke alarm today? And please go in and start installing the ten-year smoke alarms. It’s so important, so valuable. Again thank you to everyone and let’s see who won the awards this year.

Okay first off I like to do all the participation awards. So Class I Year Round category. This is all participation parts is Cobb Island Volunteer Fire Department. (Applause)

These are all the companies that help participate. So, also in Class I we have Single Project that goes to Cobb Island also. (Applause)

Class II, the fire departments that have participated was the Benedict Volunteer Fire Department Rescue Squad. (Applause)

Class III the Jefferson Volunteer Fire Department, Indian Head Volunteer Fire Department, and the Potomac Fire Company # 2. (Applause)

Class IV participants where the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department, District Volunteer Fire Department Rescue Squad, Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, Second District Volunteer, I’m sorry, Second District Volunteer Fire Department Incorporated, and the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department. (Applause)

Class V was Bay District Volunteer Fire Department, the Winfield Community Fire Department, Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department, La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, and the Leonardtown Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. (Applause)
And then Class VI is Junior Fire Company #1. No I’m sorry in Class VI, I’m sorry. (Applause)

In Class VII is there was no entries.

So, people that was all the Year Round programs. So, the Single Project categories, they receive our participation certificate from the state.

Class I was only entered by Cobb Island.

There was no Class II entries.

Class III was the Indian Head Volunteer Fire Department Rescue Squad.
In Class IV was the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department.

Class V entering for the single projects were La Plata, Winfield, and Mechanicsville.

Class VI again had no entry.

In Class VII had no entry. (Applause)

I like a lot of confusion. Actually I’m trying to draw a time for somebody else. Are there any other ambassadors in the room? So, if you’re an ambassador, can you come up on the stage too? You guys could go help. So, we’re going to be doing the year-round category section now.

The Year Round Class I the first-place winner was the Cobb Island Volunteer Fire Department and EMS Incorporated. (Applause)

Class II the winner is for the Year Round category is the Benedict Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. (Applause)

Class III Year Round is the Indian Head Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. (Applause)

Class IV is the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department Incorporated. (Applause)

Class VI, I’m sorry Class V is La Plata Volunteer Fire Department. (Applause)

Class VI is now the Junior Fire Company # 2. (Applause)

Class VII there was no entry.

For the Single Project categories: Class I will be going to the Cobb Island Volunteer Fire Department. (Applause)

Class II there was no entry for single project.

Class III will be going to the Indian Head Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad. (Applause)

Class IV is going to the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department. (Applause)

Class V is going to Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department. (Applause)

And then Class VI and VII had no entries.
So, for the overall winners for the 2016-2017 fire prevention book program.

The first-place winner is the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department. Year Round project. (Applause)

Each winner will be receiving a check in the mail. We have to do the finance part of it. But the first round winner wins $200, and it’ll go down from there. So look for that in the mail.

The second place is the Indian Head Volunteer Fire Department Rescue Squad. (Applause)

Year Round project third place is the Cobb Island Volunteer Fire Department EMS Incorporated. Year Round project. (Applause)

Fourth place will be going to the Winfield Community Volunteer Fire Department. Single year project. (Applause)

Fifth place is the Indian Head Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad. Single year project. (Applause)

Sixth place is going to the Cobb Island Volunteer Fire Department EMS for the single round project. (Applause)

Seventh place goes to the Junior Fire Company # 2 year round project. (Applause)

Eighth place will be the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department year round project. (Applause)

Ninth place is the Mechanicsville Volunteer Fire Department Incorporated year round project. (Applause)

In tenth place will be the Ridge Volunteer Fire Department year round project. (Applause)

Again there was only 20 entries in this whole program and there’s 376 volunteer fire companies in this state. This stage should be filled with entries. So, I challenge each and every one of you to go back, even if it’s just a simple task that you do one time a day, or whatever, go back and try to do something to support this program. You know we try to work really hard and we want to make sure that we have all the resources and tools for you guys and we really want to be there. So, again thank you all for participating. I look forward to seeing more entries. And now I’m going to turn this over so that we can do the fire prevention grant program.
Bruce Bouch: Congratulations Teresa. A great job again this year. (Applause) Well I must say it’s another great day to be among the outstanding members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I hope everyone is enjoying this celebration of our hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary, is everyone enjoying it this year? Except for the guy in the back. For those of you who do not know me, I am Senior Deputy State Fire Marshal Bruce Bouch. I serve as the director of public education and media affairs for the Office of the State Fire Marshal. One of the many outstanding MSFA activities I am proud to be involved with, is the opportunity that allows me to share life-saving products through the MSFA, a funded grants program. As the chairman for the public fire and life safety grant program, I get to work with the MSFA’s best leaders in providing support from this highly valued program. I would like to recognize two people I count on the most for this process. And that would be Teresa “Big Shirley” Chrisman. (Applause) And the current Maryland Life Safety intern Emily Reever, (Applause) without whom this program would still be a work in progress. This year the committee is proud to announce that 50 MSFA member departments are receiving 36 Kidde 10-year sealed battery only smoke alarms for use in the community risk reduction activities in their respective communities. It is well recognized that effective fire and life safety programs are one of the most effective ways to protect the lives of citizens and first responders. Injuries and deaths are greatly reduced with the implementation of community risk reduction initiatives. Is imperative that we all take that on the mindset that fire is indeed everyone’s fight. I do want to thank Neil Zipser from Kidde. As a result of yesterday’s weather they canceled flights into the airports he was going to be with us on stage he is our regional representative for Kidde. So, I do give a great big thank you to Neil for helping do some special pricing to make this program a success.

Today we get to share the opportunity to present 1800 smoke alarms and bundles of 36 individual devices that were shipped directly here from Kidde for the departments that put forth that little bit of effort and applied for this program. These departments understand the need to expand their outreach and promote fire and life safety throughout the year. I personally encourage all member companies to apply for this valued Grants Program announced each spring on the MSFA website. If you’re not already a member on there, please sign up there’s a lot of good information that’s shared on the MSFA website.

I will now call upon these departments receiving their grant awards today. I ask that one representative come up and remain on stage for the group photo. Once the photo op is completed we will adjourn to the far left corner, back there, where you give me a check for $100 made out the MSFA. We give you 36 smoke alarms to take back to your department. And then she’s going to go to the cork bar. Uh but ah, know keep in mind we want to try to do it as quietly as possible because we don’t want to disturb any of the remaining program because we do have one excellent program coming up with Mike Furman and Flash Max. So, just for the reminder of that. Now for the
companies. I asked, and I'll try to be brief with this, so I'm not going to say volunteer fire company and everything after each one: Potomac Fire Company 2, Ellerslie, Potomac Valley, LaVale, Gambrer and Community, Bowling Green, Western Enterprise, (keep coming up), Cresaptown, Funkstown Fire Company 10, Friendsville and that's Fire and Rescue, Ritchie Volunteer that's company 37, Huntingtown, Harford County Volunteer Fire EMS, Bel Aton, Lake Shore, Jessup, and Arundel County Association, New Market District Company 15, Community Fire Company Incorporated of Anne Arundel County, Delta Cardiff, Seat Pleasant, Baden, North East, La Plata, Jarrettsville Maryland City Volunteer Fire Department at station 27, Leonardtown, Volunteer Fire Department of Brandywine, Goodwill, Level, Singerly, and Cape St. Clair.

Congratulations to all 50 of these companies. (Applause) As everyone is lining up please remember the 58th Mid Atlantic Life Safety Conference, which is something else that I get blamed for, it is scheduled for September 26. Mark your calendars. It will be at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory right there in Laurel. And also the Public Life Safety Educators spring seminar is scheduled Saturday March 24th of 2018 at MFRI in College Park.

The committee members thank each of you for participating in the success of the grants award program and encourage all member companies to please apply next year. Thank you. (Applause)

Teresa Crisman: I did want to say one thing in closing. I'd like to say congratulations to the group of ambassadors that took part in Sunday's program. I was told the judging was very hard for them this year. One of the contestants scored 100 and we know who that was. Sixty percent of the ambassador's programs take part in a different section so a lot of people don't see what they do. Their programs are unique and special so if you have events please reach out to those people the people. The people took place this year or Rachel Bowles from Harford Cecil; Lauren Nicole Hill from a Harford County; Jennifer Franklin for the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association; Lydia Hill from Washington County; Emily Moyers from Montgomery County; Sarah Paul from Carroll County; Eva Van Horn from Talbot County. I would like to congratulate Sarah and Lauren and a great job and good luck for this year. Thank you.

President Davis: Thank You Teresa and appreciate that congratulations all you folks for everything. Now we'll present the Silver Hill Spring, the Silver Spring Trophy, excuse me.

President Silver Spring: Good morning or should I say early afternoon, I don't know. This is I think, like me, I'm in my fifties of years making this presentation. I want to remember Dave Gratz and my past presidents who gave me the opportunity. I consider it a great pleasure.
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Presidents, Officers, Delegates, Firefighters, Emergency Medical personnel, Auxiliary, and everyone from their respective fire companies and rescue squads across this great state of Maryland, the President and Board of Directors of the 102 year old Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department and its membership welcomes you to this 125th annual state convention. Again, I have the honor of addressing this convention recognizing the men and women as Firefighters, EMTs, Paramedics, IV Tech’s, and Auxiliary members who stand tall in our service to the citizens of our great state of Maryland.

The Silver Spring Trophy for Fire Prevention Excellence was born from the efforts of those who have come before. Some still here to guide us. And those who have gone from our physical midst and are yet remembered today for their contribution to fire prevention over the years. It recognizes the highest achievement in the field of fire prevention, as judged by one’s peers. The trophy symbolizes what we strive to do in the field of fire prevention in every community in this state.

This year 2017, the Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department was recognized by Montgomery County for installing over 1,000 smoke detectors, to residences of Silver Spring, as part of our life safety unit activities. In addition we installed CO2 detectors and safe awake units to our needy residents. The funds were made available through a government grant which we applied for. In theory Silver Spring could have applied for its own trophy, but that wouldn’t, that would be a conflict of interest. In addition two departments have participated with our installation in order to create their own life safety units.

The Silver Spring trophy singles out an outstanding member of a fire department or rescue squad and Ladies Auxiliary who deserves individual recognition for efforts in the year 2016 in fire prevention excellence. We recognize these efforts and fresh new innovative ideas which bring credit to the fire service, respect to the fire company, and give honor to our state association. For excellence in the field of fire prevention for the year 2016, it gives me great pleasure to present to this convention the winner of the Silver Spring Trophy for Fire Prevention excellence. From Frederick County Alisha Cool, Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association. (Applause) Oh, yep, special thanks to the fire prevention committee and the Maryland State Fire Marshal, his staff, and its committee for selecting today’s fire prevention winner. This personal plaque reads, the Silver Spring trophy presented to Alisha Cool, Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association Incorporated. For individual excellence in the field of fire prevention the State of Maryland the year 2016. (Applause)

There was a limited number of applicants for the Silver Spring fire prevention award and trophy this year and I hope that your companies can find the effort and the time to submit their company’s fire prevention committee representative worthy of applying for this prestigious award. Thank you all very much for your kind attention this
morning. Have a great convention and let’s have some innovative contributions for the fire prevention program in 2018, for the year 2017. Thank you very much.

**President Davis:** Thank you. Congratulations and now really doesn’t need an introduction, but I have to say something. Mr. Mike Furman volunteer of La Plata Fire Company. His message for fire safety really works. If you got two little kids like I do, they want to read flashbacks book all the time. So, if you haven’t checked out his booth yet, please do. His approach to fire safety is a unique one. I think you’re going to like his presentation. I’m going to sit out in the audience with you all and watch it. Michael.

**Mike Furman:** Morning, okay, so good morning everybody how’s everybody doing today? Good, so, my name is Mike Furman. I’m a professional firefighter in Fairfax County Virginia. I’m also a 31 year life member with the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department. I’ve come up with a fire safety superhero for children that I call Flash Max. I’m going to go through a PowerPoint presentation to introduce this to you guys today.

Okay, so I have a company, I’m a part-time artist. I have my part-time business I call Flashover Art and Productions LLC. I do anything and everything from designing t-shirts to designing superhero characters and tattoos. And this is my character. This is an actual banner for my company for Flash Max. Okay the mission statement for Flash Max is pretty simple is to spread the message of home fire safety and survival to children families through an aggressive program. Basically what I was trying to do is, you know for years we’ve all grown up with Sparky and Smokey. I wanted something to engage with the children. It’s like our message really hasn’t changed over the years, but the platform of the message delivered. Delivery really hasn’t either, so I wanted something that would really get the kids where they’re at and kids really engage with superheroes nowadays.

So a little bit about myself. I just went through that with you, but 31 years with La Plata. I do have a book out now for Flash Max. It’s called Flash Max fire safety superhero and I have, there you go, there’s one out in the audience right there. I do have my booth over here in the D Hall. You can go over there and get a signed copy over there. It’s a 32-page full-color children’s picture book and it’s doing really well. It’s being sold on Amazon where it’s getting five-star reviews, Barnes and Noble, Taylor, Baker and Taylor distributors and in bookstores. So it’s doing pretty well and the kids are really grasping to it. So, a little bit about myself. It’s an actual picture of me back in 86 when I was a junior member at La Plata, with the hair and my little brother there on the back of tanker 1 for anybody. Can’t really see if anybody’s from La Plata out there. You remember the old 79 tanker we had. There we go, okay, all right. Yep and a little bit of my family lineage. I come from a line of police and firefighters. My dad’s a retired DC cop and his brother my uncle Jimmy, was a DC firefighter. So, okay Chris if you could roll that.
(Video Plays) Hi my name’s Mike and I’m a firefighter. Now I’ve been doing this for a little over thirty years now and there are a few things that I can tell you. Fire is indiscriminate. It can happen to anyone at any place at any time. It doesn’t matter what kind of car you drive. What kind of clothes you wear. How much money you make. The other thing is out of all those home fires the majority of people that made it out alive, had working smoke alarms and practiced a home fire escape plan. If a 2:00 o’clock in the morning smoke alarm went off. Would your family know what to do?

You know a lot of people refer to firefighters as heroes. We don’t really think of ourselves as heroes. What if I were to tell you that a fire safety superhero actually exists. Hi friends I’m Flash Max your fire safety superhero and my mission is to spread the important message of home fire safety to children and families. And we’re at the fire station today. As you can see the firefighters had their personal protective equipment hanging on the gear racks, ready to go for the next alarm; helmet, coats, boots, and gloves. Firefighters have to wear this special protective equipment so that they can help you in a fire. Firefighters are also specially trained to stay low in the heat and smoke. That’s why it’s so important for you also to stay low in the heat and smoke as you’re escaping your house, according to your home fire escape plan. Stay low and go. Get out and stay out. And have a meeting place. Get to your meeting place and then have someone call a special emergency number, 911 so the firefighters can come help you. Did you know that for every minute a home fire burns that can double in size? But families who are prepared by practicing their home fire escape plans. (Music)

Okay. Hope you enjoyed that. (Applause). Special thanks to, I would like to thank my hometown volunteer fire department La Plata and all the members and officers there for their support and their continuing support in this, um, they have been behind me from day one, and this from my original vision all the way up until today. They’re providing financial support as well as logistical support. Obviously using their equipment in the station to get the message out, so thank you guys. I sincerely appreciate it. Moving right along here, okay, and just some copyright stuff there.

A little bit about my thoughts on fire prevention culture. Like I said before the message really hasn’t changed over the years. We want the kids, we want families, to get out and stay out. We want them to practice a home fire escape plan. We want them to check their smoke detectors. So, the children, this message can be kind of a little bit dry or maybe even boring subject sometimes, aside from when we go to the schools. You know we go into the school and we roll in there with all of our equipment and gear and everything and that’s very exciting to them and sometimes can be even a little intimidating to them. So, it’s a good thing we go into the schools we put our gear on show them the rigs, get them acclimated to who we are, so they’re not afraid of us when we come out to help them. It can be a hard sell to some kids though, so that’s the reason why I created Flash Max is to get on their level and have something that
they can relate to, so that they can see it and they can engage with it, and take it home. Your kids they’re like little sponges, they’re like little petri dishes, they’ll take it right home to their parents, and their brothers and sisters, and they’ll tell them about what they learned at school, and then the message spreads. To firefighters, it can be a hard thing, I mean fire prevention and fire safety. It’s something that we all know and love, but it can be hard for us to engage with because, well we’re there what, to go out and ride the rigs and fight fires, and that type of thing. Well we’re also there to prevent the 9-1-1 call and that’s what this is about. So, the thing about the tough-guy syndrome I hear it a lot of the station, uh, you know yell it, what do you want somebody dress up is sparking? You know, get back to where be the rookie, where’s that kid at? Here put, there, let him go do it. We got you know, we need to make sure that we’re engaging with the little ones, because remember, that’s our future, and not only that, but they’re going to take the message home to the family, as well.

Fire prevention in every box, every box alarm, every gas leak, and every medical local you run. Every time you go out on the rigs out the doors to somebody’s home, take that opportunity, I can’t tell you how many times as we go out to some of these calls, and we get there, and what happens, you roll up in the middle of the neighborhood, on an afternoon on Sunday, Saturday afternoon. All the families are outside playing in the yard, and you know, the doing their yard work. The kids they come right over there it’s an impromptu fire prevention visit right then and there. Take the time, have the kids come over, show them the rigs, get acclimated, introduce yourselves to them, and take the opportunity to spread the message at that point.

Okay what made me come up with this fire safety character? Well as Mike mentioned earlier I have three children of my own. My oldest is 14, she’s a freshman in high school. Time, times flying by very quickly. My two youngest our twins are in ninth, I’m sorry they’re nine years old. Three or four years ago, three years ago during a fire prevention week, during October, they came home and we were going through their Tuesday folder. Where we clean out their folder and we look, and look at their homework assignments, and you know stuff that the teacher sends home, and the local fire house had to come by, and they had sent them home with some handouts, and as we’re going through the folders they took the little impromptu drawing, it looked like a picture of Sparky and a smoke detector, and the message was good, but they threw it right in the trash along with all the other homework that we had checked from the week prior. I stopped for a second and I looked, I picked the mess, I picked the message. The piece of paper out of the trash. Hey guys what is this? The firehouse come to see you today? Uh-huh okay, what did you learn? Huh, stop drop and roll, okay well that’s what you do when your clothes are on fire. What did you learn, what’s this picture? What is this guys? The blank stare. Somebody needs to come up with something a little different you know. The message is going in the trash. You know the message isn’t quite getting there, so what can we do, you know somebody needs to come up with, like a fire safety superhero, or something you know. I know a guy that
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can draw, so I went to work, and in the next couple of weeks, I started doodling and playing around with some ideas. I came up with this guy the first prototype looked, he was kind of scary-looking, the way I draw some of my characters, he was very intimidating, extremely muscular, had a dark mask on. You could just see his eyes and I didn’t really like it.

But the first prototype that I came up with, was like I said, a little bit scary. Then I came up with this guy. And what you’re seeing right now as I go through these slides, is the actual pages of Flash Max the fire safety superhero children’s picture book coming to life. This is actually on my drafting table as I’m doing one of the pages I did in sequential order of the book itself. And this page in the book is actually Flash Max crawling down a smoky hallway, demonstrating to the kids, to what, and stay low and go. That’s what we teach them right. Feel the door the back of your hand, get out in the hallway, stay low and go, and then get out and stay out. Couple more pictures. Flash Max coming to, come into life. There’s All Arm the smoke alarm, his smoke alarm shield. I’ll tell you about him a little bit here in a second. Okay well you know that wasn’t really good enough. You know just doing just a book and everything. I wanted to be able to actually engage with the kids and actually have a costume. I wanted to bring this character to life so I went to work actually developing a costume and like I said Flash Max is going to be here live at the booth down on the D Hall. So if you have your kids or please yourself also, stop by the booth and you can see him live today, as well as tomorrow between 9:00 to 11:00 then at the parade.

But, um, so that’s that was the idea behind it. I wanted to be able to actually go out and do the school visits and actually take it to the next level. And there you go. You have, that’s the actual first costume of Flash Max at some of the various events. Now I’ve gone to churches, schools, open houses. I do all kinds of functions. I do birthday parties and when, you’d have to see the look on the kids and the parents faces, as well, when I get to where I’m going, and it it’s just undeniable that the kids really love this guy and they’re really engaged.

Flash Max needed a partner. So I went to work trying to incorporate the message, my fire safety message, and survival message into my costume and what better way than to have a superhero shield that I call Al Arm the smoke alarm. Now you’re looking at the original design of Al Arm. Okay I’ll tell you a little secret, can you, does anybody recognize what that is? Anybody? You already know what it is. That’s not fair, $5.00 trashcan lid from Lowe’s. Sprayed it with a little white Plastic Dip. Put some eyeballs on it. Put a little push button and I have a smoke alarm behind the shield. The kids come up and push the button, teaches them how to test their smoke alarm, and they’re not scared of it. They come up, they want to push the button, and they want to see work. So, and there’s Al Arm actually in some of the character designs for the book. These are all actual pictures from my when the book is being developed.
This little girl, I happened to visit the Havre de Grace Volunteer Fire Company up in, I'm sorry the Level Volunteer Fire Company up in Havre de Grace Maryland last year, and this little girl is so cute, she proclaimed that she was Flash Max's biggest fan. And so here we are having a little photo op there. But um, kids really endear themselves with the character and the shield, so it's really cool seeing the idea come to life, and my dream come to life, and putting it to work out in the, out in the communities, And here we are one of my presentations. Okay once again Al Arm and Flash Max. Okay Chris can we roll that one?

(Video) Fires, okay, so that's what we're going to talk to you today, about we're going to talk to you, about what you can do in case a fire happens in your home. Sound good. Pretty cool stuff. Okay one other element of the fire safety message, my message basically is threefold. One check your smoke alarms which we always teach, we teach. Okay, make sure that you have a home fire escape plan and of course we have to check the door with the back of our hands okay, and a lot of kids I found weren't really getting the idea behind that, they get to stop drop and roll, but what's this thing about feeling the door, and keeping the bedroom doors closed at night, and when I do my presentations, I always ask the kids how many of you sleep with your bedroom door closed at night? And they kind of look at each other and maybe a few hands go up, because you know, I think that's what he wants us to say, yeah I do. Not a lot of them do. Why, because they're afraid. Study after study have shown, whether it's NIST or Underwriters Laboratories, closed doors save lives, even when firefighters, when we go in to fight a fire, it's a way to stop the flow path and give you extra time to escape. So I went to work and built this interactive prop. I call him Zoor the Door. And just a basic garden-variety 32 inch inward opening bedroom door from Lowe's. Lowe's has made a lot of business off this Flash Max project. But there's the door coming to life. I hand-painted it and on the one side I've got the dark smoky hot, the hallway side, and on the other side is the bedroom door side, okay. What made me come up with this idea, and there it is actually in the book, you can actually see Zoor the Door holding back blaze the arch-rival of flashbacks. Okay these next couple of slides will basically tell you how I came up with the idea of Zoor the Door. A couple years ago at work early in the morning we ran a house fire about four o'clock in the morning. Wound up having one person that was reported trapped. Got there had smoke showing, had a fire on the second floor. We made entry did vent, enter search. The Engine Company stretched the lines and went in. Pretty solid fire on the second floor. This lady who was trapped in her bedroom slept with her bedroom door closed. These are pictures these are actual pictures which graphically demonstrate, of that exact bedroom door that she was behind. The one on the left is the actual outside of the bedroom door and you can see how the heat and everything was rolling around, and you can see how the how the heat up top, and the how it was clean on the bottom. The cooler air was down below, and you can see on the right, you can actually see how that door actually did its job, and held back the heat, and gave her time to escape, so we could get her down over a ground ladder. So if those pictures don't prove the
Okay, no superhero exists without an enemy. And Flash Max is no different. So I had to come up with my idea for representing fire because obviously, fire is going to be my archenemy. I had to come up with something that is not going to be scary to the children. I wanted something that they can look at, and it could be perceived as easily defeated, so I came up with this character that I called Blaze. And when I came up with Blaze, I wanted it to be something that the kids, when they looked at it, they weren’t scared, but at the same time, somebody that they want to come up and shake his hand, okay. So it was kind of tough. And this is actually Blaze. A couple of pictures from the book and is actually the Blaze character, when I introduced it, introduced him or her last year up here. So I’ve done some additions and a few improvements to the costume and I would leave this time like to thank the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation for sponsoring the project and helping us with that new costume.

So without further ado, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce to you guys the new Blaze. (Applause) Very good, now Blaze, now what my plan is with Blaze, we will go out and when I do these performances I go out and I engage with the audience, and I engage with the kids and the and the parents. I want them to be able to see fire and not so much an intimidating way that they’re scared. I don’t want the kids to be scared, but I want them to see that, I want them to feel a partnership between my messages Flash Max, because we had the same, you know, we had the same mission. We had the same goal and that’s to save lives. And I want to make sure that they see that, you know, even though blaze and I are enemies, you know, there’s a, you know, we can, we can work together to make sure that everybody’s safe. Okay. So, I would also like to just take a minute to thank my 14 year old daughter, Madison for being a very good sport today. (Applause) I had thank you honey, go get some water. Okay she’s a good sport.

Okay moving right along here. Okay, like I said before, we always preach to our public, check your smoke alarms, check your smoke alarms, check your smoke alarms, okay. That’s only half the equation. The other 50% is what you are going to do in the middle of the night if the smoke alarm goes off. Do you know what to do? Does your family know what to do? Do your kids know what to do? Don’t underestimate these kids. They’re smart, and they will practice, and they’ll heed your warning, if you tell them to practice a home fire safe plan. Tell them to make it fun. I’m working right now on actually developing a Flash Max game that’s in the works. I hope to have it finished in the next year or two. There’s a lot of I’s to dot and a lot of T’s to cross with it but stay tuned, hopefully; I’ll be up here on the stage next year. Maybe we’ll have it done by then, but we want to make it a fun game, that we practice home fire safety together.
So it’s, you know, kids love video games. You know, they’re on their iPads, they’re on YouTube. So I’m also working with making some videos, some YouTube videos, to get the message out there, as well. So stay tuned on that, but I highly advocate trying to make sure that the kids know to practice their home fire escape plan. Just like we as firefighters, you know, we got to train. We train, we train so it becomes a muscle memory. So we know what to do when, you know, bad times go down, we know what to do, right then and there. It’s the same thing with fire safety. Something else that you may use that I’ve found very effective, when I go to the schools, if I’m out there as Flash Max I’ll say, hey kids, how many of you play sports? Oh you should see the hand, all the hands go up, cause all the kids are playing sports, and then the stories, you know, okay, well that’s great. Put your hands down okay. What do you do before a game? Practice right? Yeah, well how are you going to get good at your game if you don’t practice? It’s the same thing with fire safety, right, so it’s a way to relate to them. So use that and you’d be amazed. As you know, do you see the light bulbs come on?

Okay same point. You know with the children that we’re teaching and speaking to right now, know what to do, tonight if their home caught on fire. This is a picture that an actual GoPro helmet cam picture of a fire. It was in the garage and was, they actually cut off a secondary means of escape, so it just kind of hammers home you know, have two ways out okay.

The book, this is the book, you may have it in the audience, and I’ve worked on this for about a year and a half from start to finish. And this is the front and back of it. On the back here I have some notable personalities in the fire service that endorsed it for me. Paul Hashagen retired rescue 1 driver from FDNY, also an author of several fire service books, and editor with Fire Rescue magazine, he’s a friend of mine and he was kind enough to endorse the book for me. So you’ll see that on the back. It’s getting five-star reviews on Amazon. It’s doing very well. A lot of people who see the book engage and like, engage with it, and like it. Also won the moms Choice Award, Silver Award last year. And also happened to win and actually, I’m going to tie into this. My apologies for not being here on time last year. Last year when I was supposed to do this presentation I was scheduled for 10 o’clock on Tuesday, well after the program had already been printed and mailed out and had come out, I received notification that I was going to receive a very prestigious award in the county where I work, on the same day, at the same time, and it was mandatory, because the Board of Supervisors was going to be there, the chief, had to dress up my class A’s. So I had to call like two weeks ahead of time and cancel, and so for those of you who are looking, where’s Flash Max, he’s missing in action. He’s AWOL. That was the reason why, so anyway. The book launch event went very well, and I do live public appearances. So you can stop by my booth and you can get information on that. I do have a website up now, as well as a Facebook page and various social media platforms to continually, it’s continuously engage with the audience, and get the message out to kids okay.
So this year, new for this year I was able to, and actually have a necessity, had to purchase a travel trailer. You may have seen it parked out front. I got this trailer for the purpose of transporting all my props, gear and equipment, and all my costume stuff for myself, Blaze, Zoor the Door, Al Arm, you know, all the characters around to the schools and everything, as well as being a rolling billboard for the message. A lot of people will see the website, hopefully go there, and get the message out there, but, um, just purchased it, just got it on the road. Actually this is its second really big trip, out here to Ocean City for the convention, so um, my fruit, my future plans for the trailer, in addition to carrying my props around, are that I wanted to I have a an interior maze smoke, crawl maze for the kids, that I’m designing right now, and I hope to have it done by October. I have to, a lot of work into it, but it’s a rubber gym mat type of maze where the kids will go in one side, they’ll actually go through Zoor the Door, feel the door with the back of the hand, open the door and crawl through this maze with some simulated smoke, with some sheets hanging down, and some lights, and it would be an interactive type of thing, so they’ll learn stay low and go, and get out and stay out. So hopefully had that done by the time Open House and Fire Prevention Week rolls around. Should be pretty cool and there’s a picture of it the Flash Max. It’s an eight and a half by twelve foot trailer, and like I said, it’s uh, it’s sitting out front. You’re welcome to take a look at it.

And again, I would like to thank again, the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department for their sponsorship of the graphics on the side of the trailer. So folks all of this is everything that I’ve done with this, thing’s completely come out of pocket. So it’s, um, you know, I did it depends on the support of everyone. Few of the recent events and engagements that I’ve done. Fairfax County Fourth Of July parade last year. Few personalities you may recognize there. On the left, that’s Gary Clark from the Redskins from back in the day. Any Redskins fans out there? There we go. All right. I’m not going to start that battle. I’ll just leave that one alone. In the middle, that’s Annie Yu from Fox 5 doing firehouse Friday down in La Plata last year. And who’s that guy on the right there? Anybody recognize that guy? Governor Hogan, okay. So and that’s actually last year here in Ocean City. It was hot. I’m hoping for overcast skies tomorrow during the parade. Ok the, this is a run for every child event up in DC last year. And this is the Level Volunteer Fire Company, one of the open houses I attended last year up in Havre de Grace Maryland. (Applause) Yeah, thank you so much guys if you ever have a chance to attend a really awesome, really unique open house, that’s, they have a really super star operation up there. I was honored and privileged to be a part of that last year. Great group of folks and thank you so much for the hospitality. That was awesome. Bryan’s Road Volunteer firehouse open house last year.

I’m all, Flash Max is also a member of these Superheroes of Southern Maryland. We’re a group that goes around and sees sick children, and does birthday parties, and a few things, like it’s a charity organization, so. Flash Max on top of one of the wagons from La Plata, and on top of Tower 3, from Tower 1 from Ocean City last year.
Where to from here? Basically the sky’s the limit. I have such a huge vision for this program. I have so many things that I want to do with it, the only thing that’s really limiting me right now is funding and networking, and that’s really where the networking part really just comes from you. I need the message spread out there because, I know in my heart, the more this message gets out there, kids really engaged with this. And so the more we get it out there, the more it spreads, the more we share it on social media, the more people that engage by going to the website and the new YouTube, the YouTube channel that I have up right now, the more the message will spread, and hopefully the bigger and better it will get. Hopefully it’ll be the next Sparky. Who knows? Thank you for your time today, and are there, this is a list of people that I want to thank. Maryland State Firemen’s Association, President Mike Davis, Bruce Bouch, Teresa Crisman, all of the fire prevention committee members, I just want to thank you so much for your support and your encouragement this year. It has been it’s been a year of growth for this program and hopefully each year you’ll see a little bit more and more.

Questions anybody? Yes Sir, Bruce. Oh thank you. (Applause) Appreciate it. Thanks and stop by my booth and you can get an autographed book. And come by. Bring the kids because I hear that Flash Max and Blaze might be at the booth a little bit later. Thank you very much. (Applause)

Vice President Blair: I’d like thank you for your presentation and I’d like to present this mug to you. Oh wow, 125th anniversary, very awesome. Thanks very much sir, appreciate that. Okay thank you, thank you.

President Davis: Thank you Michael, really, is really cool, watch him. If you ever need someone that, book him. Definitely attracts the kids. He’s a good fun guy. Now we have Mr. Rick Hemphill to present the election results judge’s report. Thank you.

Rick Hemphill: Thank You Mr. President here is the report of the election judges for 2017. There were total 362 companies in Good Standing as recorded by the Secretary. The credentials committee reports two hundred and seventy six of these were registered at this convention, total twenty four past presidents were also registered. The following officers were unopposed and was cast by unanimous ballot by the Office of the Secretary except for the Office of Secretary and that was cast by the President.

For President – Mark Bilger, First Vice President - Richard C Blair, Second Vice President, Mike Faust, Secretary - Doyle Cox, Treasurer - Ronald Siarnicki, Chief Chaplain - John F long Jr., Trustee - Terry Thompson.

This year we had one proposed bylaw change. The results of the voting are as follows: Question number one. Nine hundred and thirty two votes for, seventy three votes against. The amendment passed.
This concludes the report of the election judges. Thank you Mr. President.

**President Davis:** Thank You Rick. I need a motion to destroy the ballots. Motion made and second. All in favor, aye, opposed nay, so moved.

Okay real quick, just quick announcements. 1200 to 1600, excuse me, noon to 4 here, Mack truck, Mack fire truck rally, Mac’s on the bay. Out the back of the side parking lot where the helicopter used to be. I got my old Mack out there. I know there’s many prettier ones than that.

At 12:30 education and training seminars in the convention still. The exhibits closed today at 2 o’clock. Be mindful of that and then tonight at 1830 hours is the joint installation officers that will be right back here in this Convention Center Bayfront ballroom. And again, also at that time is the Ocean City fools block party at Cowboy Coast 17th Street in Philadelphia Avenue and that’s for the National Fallen Fighter Fallen Firefighters Foundation. And that features the Franklin Square Band Pipes and Drums to perform as well.

With that we’ll call Chaplin Reverend Harry Hetz for the benediction.

**Chaplain Hetz:** Thank you. Good afternoon. Just one other, well one other announcement just a reminder prayer breakfast is tomorrow morning. Get your tickets early and come on over and have a good breakfast and a good speaker.

Let us rise as we are able. Heavenly Father, as we close this session of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Father we ask that you would refresh us as we eat lunch, be with us this afternoon, be with those that are going through the seminars, be with us that are continuing other activities, be with us this evening, as we continue to conduct the business of this Association and Ladies Auxiliary. Father we lift up Chuck Walker to you. We ask for your mercies over him. We lift up Cathy long in her surgery and we just ask your mercies over her as well, and we lift up Richard Yinger Past President and we just asked for your graces and mercies over him too. Father we lift up all those that need to touch your healing hand. Surround them with your mercy. Your grace be with all those that grieve. Bring comfort to them. Be with all our fire service personnel as they go out into the communities, responding on the calls. Bring them back safely. Be with our police as they protect our communities. Be with our military as they defend our country and our way of life. Father it is into your hands we commend all things and we thank you. Amen.

**President Davis:** We’ll close the third session will be in recess until 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning, thank you. Let the record show, Mr. Kenney Bush got his done by 11:59, not even noon. We were ahead today. Thank you everyone for your time and patience.
M.C. Richard Brooks: Good evening. Thank you. Thank you all for taking time out of your Ocean City schedules to be here to support the Joint Installation of Officers for 2017-2018. This is always a historic evening for us. It’s a change of leadership, an opportunity to say farewell to the officers who have served for the past 12 months. And an opportunity to wish the very best to the officers who will assume command of our organizations for the next 12 months and support them.

We’re going to begin with the introduction of our two officers who are outgoing and it’s a pleasure to introduce them to you. As they take the center aisle, ladies and gentlemen please welcome the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association President Barbara Sue Nelson from 7th District Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary in Saint Mary’s County, escorted by her husband, John “Speedy” Nelson. (Music) (Applause) (Music) Please welcome the President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Mike Davis from the Cockeysville Volunteer Fire Company in Baltimore County, escorted by his wife, Ann Price Davis, Past President 2014-2015. (Music) (Applause) (Music)

Please welcome all the Past Presidents of the Ladies Auxiliary and the Maryland State Firemen’s Association who are in the room.

M.C. Richard Brooks: It’s now a great pleasure to introduce the appointed and elected officers of the Ladies auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and Ladies Auxiliary. Please welcome our:


Ladies Auxiliary Conference Co-chair Dorothy Rue
New Windsor Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary
From the Maryland State Firemen’s Association:
Executive Committee: Ronald A. Block
Company 19, Cape St. Clair Volunteer Fire Company Anne Arundel County

From the Ladies Auxiliary:
Bessie Marshall Chair: Marty Neal
Kentland Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary Prince George’s County Escorted by her husband, Jim Paige
Page: Candy Mitchell Past President: Carol Hayden 2013-2014
Ladies Auxiliary Color Bearer: Nancy Kay Trego  
Singerly Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary Cecil County  
Escorted by: Jim Bair  
Page: Sarah Bowles  
Past President: Nora Ryan 2001-2002

Ladies Auxiliary Color Bearer: Jennifer King  
Forestville Vol. Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary Prince George’s County  
Escorted by: Lawrence Moats  
Pages: Joanne Johnson and Marissa Stallings  
Past President: Darby Byrd 2015-2016

Executive Committee: Daniel Stevens  
Waldorf Volunteer Fire Department and EMS Charles County  
Escorted by his wife, Bobby

Ladies Auxiliary Guard: Holly Trego  
Singerly Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary Cecil County  
Escorted by: her Cousin, Harold Trego  
Page: Rachel Boles  
Past President: Robyn Sheldon Hahn 2004-2005

Historian: Joan Kramer  
Sandy Springs Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary Montgomery County  
Escorted by: Brian Andrews  
Page: Grace Acedo  
Past President: Carol Hayden 2013-2014

Executive Committee Chair: Charles J. Simpson Jr.  
Pleasant Valley Volunteer Fire Company Carroll County  
Escorted by: his wife, Bonnie

Ladies Auxiliary Vice Chaplain: Sheri Steffen  
Branchville Vol Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary Prince George’s County  
Escorted by: John Gardner  
Page: her daughter, Christy Grinder  
Past President: Elaine Huttenloch 1984-1985

Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain: Jean L. Main  
Woodsboro Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary Frederick County  
Escort: her husband, Warren  
Page: Susan Hilton  
Past President: Nora Ryan 2001-2002
Ladies Auxiliary Corresponding Secretary: Malea Daughton
Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary Harford County
Escort: Lieutenant Brittany Mann
Page: Donita Dietz
Past President: Robin Sheldon Hahn 2002-2003

Executive Committee Member: Kent Whelan
United Communities Volunteer Fire Department Queen Anne’s County
Escorted by: his wife, Donna

Ladies Auxiliary Financial Secretary: Rebecca “Becky” Wathen
The Ridge Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary St. Mary’s County
Escort: Hall of Fame recipient, Johnny Wathen
Page: Debbie Fairfax
Past President: Leone Gatton 1985-1986

Executive Committee Member: Timothy F. Dayton
Potomac Fire Company Number One Allegheny County
Escorted by: his wife, Diana

Executive Committee Member: Wayne Tome
Water Witch Fire Company Cecil County

Executive Committee Vice-Chair: Rick Hemphill
Independent Junior Fire Engine Company Frederick/Washington Counties

Ladies Auxiliary Recording Secretary: Donna Struntz
Bowling Green Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary Allegheny County
Escorted by: Lee Lutz
Page: Mary Carr
Past President: Sandi Lutz 2010-2011

MSFA Executive Committee Member: Richard Smith
Oxford Volunteer Fire Department, Talbot County
Escorted by: his wife, Cindy

Executive Committee Member: Doug Simpkins Jr.
Arbutus Volunteer Fire Company Baltimore County
Escorted by: his wife, Christine, his daughter, Melissa and his grandson Sullivan Douglas
Executive Committee Member: James P. Seavey Sr.
Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department Montgomery County
Escorted by: his wife, Mary

MSFA Treasurer: Ronald J. Siarnicki
United Communities Volunteer Fire Department Queen Anne’s County
Escort: Junior Miss Fire Prevention from Southern Maryland, Sierra Hawkins

MSFA Secretary: Doyle Cox
Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department Calvert County
Escorted by: his, wife Cathy

Ladies Auxiliary Junior Vice President: Lori Denbow
Level Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary Harford County
Escorted by: her brother, Chief Nolan Gallion Jr.
Page: her sister, Christine Deckard
Past President: Sharon Worthington 1995-1996

Second Vice President: Michael Faust
Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company Queen Anne’s County
Escorted by: his wife, Stacey

Ladies Auxiliary Senior Vice President: Marcia Roth
Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary Montgomery County
Escorted by: her husband, Johnie F. Roth Jr.
Page: her son, Eric and her daughter, Christina Allred
Past President: Patricia Deamond 2006-2007

Maryland State Firemen’s Association First Vice President: Rick Blair
Western Enterprise Fire Company Washington County
Escorted by: his wife, Rosalyn

M.C. Richard Brooks: Ladies and gentlemen would you please rise as we welcome
our incoming Officers for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and Ladies
Auxiliary. It’s a pleasure to introduce to you now the Ladies Auxiliary to the Maryland
State Firemen’s Association:

President for 2017-2018: Vivian M Boyd
Kentland Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and
Capitol Heights Volunteer Fire Department Prince George’s County
Escorted by: his husband, Ronald Boyd
Pages: Candy Mitchell, Bob Russell, her sister, Inell Morgan and cousin, Juanita
Barksdale
Past President: Sharon Worthington 1985-1986
Please welcome President Boyd (Applause) and would you please welcome:

Maryland State Firemen’s Association President for 2017-2018:
**President: Mark Bilger**
Hampstead Volunteer Fire Company Carroll County
Escorted by: his wife, Nancy

**M.C. Richard Brooks:** Please remain standing at this time as I invite the Colors from the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen’s Association Honor Guard and the Greater Baltimore Fire Brigade Pipes and Drums to present the Colors. Pipe Major at your discretion. (Music)(Music)(Music)

**M.C. Richard Brooks:** Our National Anthem will be sung by Miss Amy Dance.

**Miss Amy Dance:** “Oh say can you see by the dawn’s early light. What so proudly we hailed as the twilight’s last gleaming. Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight, o’er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming and the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air, gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. Oh say does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave o’re the land of the free and the home of the brave.

**M.C. Richard Brooks:** The Pledge of Allegiance will be conducted by President Barbara Sue Nelson.

**President Barbara Sue Nelson:** “I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands. One Nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.”

**M.C. Richard Brooks:** Deacon Charles E. Barnhart will now give the invocation.

**Deacon Charles E. Barnhart:** Let us pray. “Oh good and gracious God another year has gone by. We give thanks for Barbara Sue and for Mike Davis for the work that they’ve done as leaders of this Association for the last year. Now they’ll get to rest a little from their labors. But Lord, there’s still more work to be done. We give thanks for Vivian and Mark as they now begin their terms as leaders of this Association and Ladies Auxiliary. We ask your blessing to be upon them, and all the newly elected and appointed officers of both organizations. And now Father, we ask you to be with us during this Installation Service tonight. And may what we do and what we say be pleasing in your sight. In these things we ask, through your son our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**M.C. Richard Brooks:** Honor Guard Commander retire the colors. (Music) Please be seated. Boy and I was going to do the applause so they could hear and somebody just
close the door. It’s alright we’re going to do it anyway. Ladies and gentlemen please
join me in thanking the pipes and drums, and the honor guard, as well as Aimee Dance
for a beautiful National Anthem. (Applause)

Thank you certainly much of what we enjoy is the pageantry that we have, and our
dedication to not only our state but our nation, and it’s conducting those ceremonies
that make all of this so special.

We move now to that part of the program, the farewell side, and it’s time for our
Presidents to come to the forefront, share with you a few thoughts, and a few
memories, as they highlight their past year. It’s a pleasure to bring down to the podium
the Ladies Auxiliary President Barbara Sue Nelson for her remarks. Madam President.
(Applause) Of course.

**President Nelson:** Now good evening, of course, I haven’t written no speech but one
thank you all for coming tonight. I don’t see who’s out there. We can’t see anybody
when we’re sitting up here, but I have had a great year. It’s been a lot of fun. Most of
you heard what I said the other night at the banquet that you know I thought about what
my goal was this year, and I think my main goal was just to have fun, and to keep this
organization having fun, everybody having fun. So thank you all again and I hope I’ve
led this organization as best as I could, and I represented yawl well, I hope so. Thank
you again for coming and have fun. (Applause)

**M.C. Richard Brooks:** Barbara, before you go too far I’m going to invite Bonnie Quade
from the 7th District Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary to come out and make a
presentation.

**Bonnie Quade:** I’d like to ask Speedy to come forward and we have one auxiliary
member here our Chaplain Millie Huseman if she could make her way forward. Barbara
Sue, Speedy looking back on your adventures, the two of you spent a lot of tireless
days, but you kept on going. The projects, the travel, and making time for family, was
always maintained on both of your parts.

Speedy you were always doing behind the scenes work. No one knows how bad that
is unless you’ve done the work. You put in a lot of extra efforts, and we appreciate
everything that you did. So, on behalf of the Auxiliary of the 7th District Fire Department
we would like to present a small token of our appreciation to you and to Barbara Sue
for your outstanding services. We hope you use this towards a nice long relaxing
weekend.

And I have one proclamation here for you. I will spare the audience and I’ll present it
to you here, okay. But thank you for everything, thank you, congratulations. (Applause)
Speedy Nelson: And I have one last official duty to do before I’m done. Here you go my dear.

President Nelson: Oh, I’m sorry, I got a little blue bag with a little zipper double snap. Oh, I got my Past President ring. Thank you very much. (Applause)

M.C. Richard Brooks: Thank you all, it’s now a pleasure to bring to the podium the Maryland State Firemen’s Association President Mike Davis for his remarks, Mr. President. (Applause)

President Davis: Now I come up, thank you Richard. I can’t say enough. Thank you for the support over to several years, about four, you know it’s almost five, when you go through this all, starting off running the campaign, and get into this, as you know, and as you see, most of us stick around anyhow make sure we keep going in direction we need to go, and I think that’s what if I could say anything, echo the most we’ve all looked through the past, to get to our future. Like I’ve said, and we did that through the strategic planning. We started with Johnie, and you know, I really think that we’ve shaped that, and built our partners futures heading in the direction we need to go, as long as we keep going that direction, you know, I think we’ll keep being the great organization that we are, and providing for the volunteers like we need to be.

And I can’t thank everyone enough, especially my wife who went through the chairs, had a couple kids along the way, and has watched them whenever needed be, never a question about that, like if something came up, she was there for me. Say hey, I got a meeting I forgot about. She’s like, we’ll go, like okay. So I go and usually we take them with us, was the best part. And then you know all the folks here to my right, and even some others that aren’t even here with us tonight, you know, I can’t thank them enough.

And my Chairman, Doug Simpkins. He kept us on course, on task, he didn’t miss a beat, and neither did my chairman. They made sure that we got it done and we didn’t forget about it, and carried forward, and for the good of this association, and that’s what we’re here for. I’m glad you are here to share this with us and I can’t thank you all enough, and now figure out what to do with my time besides my grass, thank you. (Applause) Oh I’m supposed to run on the fire engine again, I was told. Yeah good, yes.

M.C. Richard Brooks: Thank You Mr. President, thank you very much. Barbara Sue what’s next? Okay what are you going to do next?

President Nelson: Mike and I are going to the beach. Mike has his hat so we’re not going to Disney, where we’re going to the beach. Anybody want to go with us.

M.C. Richard Brooks: Sometimes when you stand around being innocent you just never know, would did two of you before you go back to your seats, Mr. President,
would you just escort Madam President to the center stage, please. Obviously not over a compliment, also accomplishing their goals, they also had a wonderful time. Going to the beach is an excellent idea. Most of us never see the beach, right, for as many years as we’ve been here. That’s a great goal, but for right now, what I would ask you to do, is please acknowledge their efforts for the last year, and thank President Davis and President Nelson for a wonderful job as presidents in 2016-17. (Applause) Thank you, the two of you may be seated and enjoy the show.

And now is the time for the changing of the guard, and it’s a pleasure to invite the Ladies Auxiliary Installing Officer, Past President Darby Byrd to install the Ladies Officers with Past Presidents Sandy Lutz, ladies

Darby Byrd, P.P.: Vivian if you and your officers would please stand. Ladies please raise your right hand and say your name where I say mine. I Darby Byrd, do solemnly swear to uphold the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ladies Auxiliary Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I promise to protect and maintain, all monies records and properties, entrusted to my care, and turn same over to my duly elected successor, at the termination of my office, so help me God. Congratulations. (Applause)

Sandy Lutz P.P.: Ladies you can sit down. Vivian please stand. I have the honor of pinning Madam President. We have a long history, not just PG, a little bit of Capitol Heights, and this is for Mary Russell who is not with us any longer, but was one of our best friends, congratulations. (Applause)

M.C. Richard Brooks: Thank you ladies. Past President Barber Sue would you please return to the podium to bestow the new trappings of the office, if you would?

Barbara Sue Nelson P.P.: Vivian would you like to come up here with me. Oh she says, oh. So we have some goodies here for you. We have all the presents, we need a box. Vivian needs a box. First we have the box, oh yeah. I’ll give you this plastic for this okay. We have your President seal to hang on your wall. Yes hmm, see she really is here, you can see her. This is your seal to hang on your wall. I got it here without breaking it. Lots of bubble wrap. There’s two more pictures, yeah two more in little boxes in there, okay, yeah.

It’s here okay. We have the pin, this is a Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Past President pin. Christine Fahmuller, President 1952-1953 donated by Marie Soutar, okay, and then this is the very first, first fundraising pin for the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Bessie Marshall benefit fund, donated by Marie Soutar. So these were original very first pins, and then the gavel. I do have a gavel to pass to her tonight, it’s not the hammer, as I’ve been using all day. So Vivian here’s your gavel. Use it well. Don’t hit too hard because you will dent their little, you know, they don’t want us to hurt that yes. So here’s your gavel and I wish you luck and hope you don’t have to use it all. (Applause)
M.C. Richard Brooks: Thank you ladies. Now I’ll ask to have Past President Johnie Roth to please come forward to install the Officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. (Applause)

Johnie Roth: (Administered oath of office without microphone)

M.C. Richard Brooks: Congratulations gentlemen. At this time I’ll invite Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Tom Mattingly to come forward for a presentation to the Past President, Mr. Mattingly.

Tom Mattingly P.P. Mr. President, Okay as in the past it’s been my privilege for a number of years to present the President and the Past President and welcome in into the Past Presidents club. We hope you wear your badge and your ring with pride. You’ve done a great job this year and we certainly are looking forward to you paying for our lunch the next time we have a Past President’s lunch. So we have the ring and your Past President’s badge, and also each and every year, we for 25 years now, Noah Callis did a hand-painted logo of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association seal and I will be passing that on. We don’t have it tonight with us, but I’ll be passing that on to the new President, but we try to present the outgoing President with a framed copy of our logo, and it’s my privilege to present that to Mike. (Applause)

M.C. Richard Brooks: Thank you Tom. Past President Darby Byrd if you would please return to the podium for the Past Presidents pin. Barbara Sue if you’d come up please?

Darby Byrd P.P. Okay, Barbara Sue it’s my distinct pleasure to present you with your Past President’s pin. We’ve been together for the last 11 years and it’s been a ride. You are officially the last recipient to receive this pin from Ms. Katherine Belford who passed away this year, and for 20 years she has supported and sponsored this pin. So I’m proud to give you this. I can’t wait to get a hold of you tomorrow at the Past President’s luncheon. Oh no, I’m picking you up and driving, at least it didn’t pop. (Laughter) And you wonder what our conversations in the car have been like. (Laughter & Applause)

Barbara Sue Nelson P.P.: These are some of the cherished memories I have for the past 11 years. Thank You Darby. (Applause)

M.C. Richard Brooks: I’d love to have my way with that, but I just can’t do it, so. Well there was enough balloon popping in here yesterday. I figured that was good okay, table gents. Okay sure, let’s see, Miss Vivian, I understand you have a gift that you need to present, are you prepared for that as well. (Music)(Applause) (Vivian stands on a platform)

President Boyd: And it moves. Oh I can’t do that. Okay, Barbara Sue could you come forward please. On behalf of everyone who loves you, all of your officers, committee
chairs, Past Presidents, and all of the members, these also, we have a few little gifts to show how much we appreciate what you did this year, right, and we would like for you to open this first one, this one on top first. Barber Sue is famous throughout the state winning prizes every time you go raffles, she always wins, as always. When she walks through the door, when people see her, they just throw the tickets in the trash because Barbara Sue’s going to win. So to honor that, we have a bracelet for her, with a charm. It’s a little ticket, a raffle ticket on the back of it. It says a present to go with Barbra Sue’s year with LAMSFA. To go with her theme she gave nautical, and she gave all of us coasters, so we gave her coasters back. And we went to Delaware, and she said I got to have of one of these, if I can talk Speedy to get that. Hurry up and she never found him. And just to go with her nautical theme it’s just a nautical bracelet. I think you are going to enjoy this, especially in this room. Oh yes a knife, Richard knife? Richard Smith has one, I know a crab knife, and just a little something from all of us, it keeps you warm and cozy. (Applause)

Barbara Sue Nelson P.P. Thank all my officers. They’ve been a great group to work with, so thank you all very much.

M.C. Richard Brooks: Vivian before you sit down. Mr. President Bilger, if you would escort Madam President to the front center stage. If you would ladies and gentlemen it’s a pleasure to present our two Presidents Vivian Boyd, and Mark Bilger for the first time. It is our responsibility to support them. Please show your support, thank you. (Applause) And if you can escort Madam President back over here I’m going to ask the Ladies Auxiliary of Prince George’s County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association to please come forward for their presentations.

P.G. County Ladies Representatives: If all the ladies from the Prince George’s County Ladies Auxiliary could please stand that’s in attendance. Vivian this is just a little token from your Prince George’s County Ladies Auxiliary. We hope you can use this in your travels through the year. We’re proud of you and congratulations.(Applause)(Music)

President Boyd: Thank you. “You deserve to feel proud. Without a doubt you’ve earned the right to do something, to do something celebrating. Congratulations, best wishes from the LAPGCFRA and a $2,500.(Applause) Thank you ladies.

M.C. Richard Brooks: Thank you ma’am be careful jumping up and down on that thing. Now we’ll have a representative from the Prince George’s County honor guard, Fontella Frost.

Fontella Frost: On behalf of our commander Davey Wilson and the entire PG Fire Department honor guard we wanted to present you with the token of our love, because the entire guard could not be here due to a scheduling conflict. We pray that God anoint you, from the top of your head, to the soles of your feet, and as you go forth in leadership that’s his blessings will pour down on you abundantly.
President Boyd: A little sensing woman pot type thing, and there’s something in here to keep me warm. (Applause & Laughter)

M.C. Richard Brooks: It is not moonshine, all right. Next I’ll invite Past President Sharon Worthington to please come up. Madam Past President. (Applause)

Sharon Worthington P.P.: Ms. Vivian, it’s been a long time coming. And when we met so many years ago, both Gene and I encouraged you to run for this position. You are a lady that has a kind spirit, and a beautiful heart. You had a love for the Auxiliary that Gene and I both saw, and we’re very proud to have been a small part of your time through the chairs. I think my advice to her then, and my advice to her now, is always be yourself. Today is her special day. She after today, when we celebrate with her, she becomes, and has been for quite some time, the part of a very wonderful team. No one does it by themselves. You do it as a team, and Vivian knows that. And we’re just very proud of you, and we congratulate you, and hope you have a wonderful year. (Applause) There’s something that I wanted to give Vivian. I have worn it around my chest for about four or five years, so it’s not new, but it means something very personal to me, and I wanted to share that with her, and it’s my mantra because it says Christ, it says I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. And you’re going to need it sometimes this year. (Applause) When you travel, this is something to travel.

President Boyd: What, Vera Bradley. Thank you, thank you so much. I appreciate it, and please kiss Gene for me.

M.C. Richard Brooks: That’s pretty good. Okay you can just stay right here because we have a couple of guys from the Kentland Volunteer Fire Department off stage. They’re going to come out now and they have some presentations.

Kentland VFD: Vivian on behalf of the members and the officers of Kentland Volunteer Fire Department we got a small token here for you, and more to come.

President Boyd: Thank you so much, appreciate and I appreciate you allowing me to be with you.

M.C. Richard Brooks: There’s more, but they said no, we’re waiting because we’re family. So I’m going to bring the representatives of the family who are coming out. I’m going to bring them all and let these guys come out.

Family Representatives: Yeah everybody knows when I step up something’s going to happen. You guys think Richard is bad, if you haven’t experienced me, look out. Well Vivian and I, we go back a very long time, and of course and then I’ve got my Candy down there who tries to keep me under control. Not too successful, but she tries. But
we were trying to think what could we get from Vivian? Something special. Something that could really get her off to a good start as the new President for the Ladies Auxiliary. So we thought, and we thought, we searched the four corners of the world. I went over technical manuals. I did all kinds of brochures; finally I found an item, this high-tech thing. I’ve got for her high-tech piece of machinery, but it has to be manually operated, so I said: that’s it. We’re going to get it for her. (Laughter & Applause)

President Boyd: Thank you so much Bob, I appreciate, I really appreciate it.

Bob: This is just a little something from Candy and myself for you. All right, well I’m done with you. You could take a breather. I have to pick on Ron now. Okay Ron my friend, yeah the husband of a president. Good luck buddy. And all the guys out there who have been married to a Ladies Auxiliary President know what they got to do. And I was feeling so bad for you. So I decided I would get a little, a couple of items, to give you, while Vivian is in the meetings to keep you occupied. So, first thing is play-dough with some molds, so you could play around with that. The next item, I figure would keep you entertained for hours, is a bubble, with a bubble maker in it. There you go. And the last piece, which will definitely give you and Vivian hours of entertainment, it’s an official paddleball. Go Ron, enjoy your time, and cruise around the state. Vivian congratulations. Good luck to all the officers. We’ll be seeing you guys around.

Ron Boyd: Come on baby, he keep forgetting, we know where he lives. Well I’m here to give you a little something, for all the years you’ve given me, and I guess the more we still have planned. Oh and one other thing. The young couple who led the way out was my younger brother, David and his wife Yvonne. (Applause) Anyway, here you go love, something precious, just like you. (Applause)

M.C. Richard Brooks: Madam President if you would get your address. I’m going to put this nice, new, UL approved, NFPA approved, all right it’s good. Richard approved, I just want to make sure. I didn’t bend it. I put my life on the line, to make sure that it was good. Up here Madam President. This is all yours.

President Boyd: Okay. Good evening fellow LAMSFA and MSFA Officers, Past Presidents, members, family, friends, and guests. It is my honor to serve as President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I am so humbled and grateful tonight. I have seen the long journey to this day, and I am happy. I can now tell everyone who pushed, drove, walked, cried, laughed, and prayed with me, that I have arrived. I’ll need them even more, because now the work begins.

Tonight when I say my prayers, I would talk to my friend, Mary Russell, about this wonderful day. I’ll tell her how much I missed her, not being joined at my hip throughout this journey. And that I kept my promise. That promise I made while lying beside her as she was dying from a very rare cancer. I promised that I would finish this through. There are so many people who supported and encouraged me. Thank you
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Capitol Heights Volunteer Fire Department, Kentland Volunteer Fire Department, Prince George’s County, the Ladies Auxiliary Prince George’s County, and the Ladies Auxiliary of the MSFA and all of the members that make up the LAMSFA.

I don’t take this responsibility lightly. I promise to serve this Auxiliary to the best of my ability. I will draw on its strength, wisdom, and knowledge, of the Past Presidents, Auxiliary Officers, Committee Chairmen, and the body at large, to make this a very successful year. President Bilger, your Auxiliary is here, to help make the MSFA great. So use us.

I thank President Nelson and I thank President Davis, the Officers and the membership for their work to lay the path before us. Nothing would make me happier to know that my husband, sister, family, friends, and all of you are proud of the job I would do for this auxiliary. In closing as we settle into our work this year, please bring your thoughts and concerns to me, and we will address them together. There’s nothing we cannot do, cannot be worked out, nothing can be. I want to encourage love among us this year. By the way, love is my theme. Love, friendship, and harmony, because you know, I love you, and there’s nothing you can do about it. Thank you (Applause)

M.C. Richard Brooks: It’s always a pleasure to be master ceremonies at our events. I now have a new role. I am the valet to the ladies President. (Laughter) I am NOT embarrassed. That’s wonderful. Now in fairness, in full disclosure, Ms. Vivian and I go back quite a few years. I would say quite a few years that I had hair then, and it was in the days of the pajama parade, when I was not, right, M Cing the parade. I may or may not have been participating, that’s the end of that story, but plenty more to follow.

Ladies and gentlemen’s now a pleasure to introduce the Senior Vice President Marcia Roth to speak on behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary Officers. Madam Vice President.

Marcia Roth V.P, Good evening and welcome to tonight’s 2017 joint installation of officers. On behalf of the other officers and members of the LAMSFA I would like to congratulate our new President, Vivian Boyd. We hope that you have a good year, a productive year, and a year of good times, and good friendships. We pledge our support and look forward to your leadership, and guidance. It has taken you many years to reach this night. We vow to give you our support. I have grown over the years to consider you a good friend, and I will be there for you when you need assistance.

Mark the LAMSFA Officers wish you a great productive year. May you accomplish all of your goals? May you lead with integrity, and distinction, and may you also have fun. We will pledge our support and full cooperation. We are here for you, and your fellow officers.

To all of the LAMSFA and MSFA members, friends, and guests. Thank you for coming out tonight and supporting your new officers. Have a wonderful night and have an
enjoyable time in Ocean City. Above all, please be safe, and whatever you do, and wherever you go. Respectfully submitted. (Applause)

M.C. Richard Brooks: Thank you Madam Vice President. And now it’s a pleasure to introduce to the podium for his remarks the President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Mr. Mark Bilger. Mr. President.

President Bilger: Good evening everyone. I too want to thank you for spending time with us tonight. I would like to start by thanking my parents who are in the audience. Without them, I would not be here. (Laughter) Literally, I would not be here. I want to thank them, for at an early age, teach me the importance of service to the community, and giving something back. So again, thank you very much for everything.

I want to thank my wife Nancy, who puts up with a lot. A lot of times I’m not home. A lot of times I miss things. So, I do love you very much, and thank you. The Hampstead Volunteer Fire Company, Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Service Association, all the departments, all the members of Carroll County, thank you for the continued support over these years. I hope that I will do you all proud this year as President MSFA.

President Boyd, we pledge ourselves to the Auxiliary. Anything that the MSFA can do for you, all you have to do is ask. We are a team and we’re going to work together through the year, and we’re going to accomplish some good things, so thank you very much, and again please call us anytime that you need us.

The Executive Board members, my Vice Presidents, they are all good men. They’re all here to serve the citizens of Maryland and the volunteers in Maryland. It’s our job to make sure that the volunteers are represented, that they’re trained, and they have other resources they need to get the equipment on the streets, and provide service to the citizens of Maryland. So again, thank you for coming tonight. I look forward to the next year working with all of you, and please enjoy your time in Ocean City, and be safe, thank you. (Applause)

M.C. Richard Brooks: Thank You Mr. President. I’d like to again introduce Past President Tom Mattingly, to present the President with his trappings of the office.

Tom Mattingly P.P.: Thank you. Mark it’s my privilege to present you with your President’s badge. Wear it with pride as you travel the State of Maryland, and we should safe travels. Good luck to you. (Applause)

M.C. Richard Brooks: Mr. President if you’ll just stay right here. It’s a pleasure to bring the Transportation Committee Chair Tom Flint to make a presentation to you and Madam President.
Tom Flint: Good evening. The Transportation Committee is always honored that they’re able to recognize our Presidents for the year coming to have personal tags for each one of them. One for the ladies, one for the men. (Applause) Good evening.

M.C. Richard Brooks: Presidents this is your time. Your year is off, and running. Enjoy it, use every moment. Expect and enjoy the hospitality of the volunteer fire stations of this state, and enjoy your time in each one of them, with the people, in each one of those, that’s what it’s all about. You are surrounded by your officers. They are people who are here to support you, and you as all have also seen the support of the audience here present. Embrace that. Know that the strength comes from the people of this organization, and as you serve, they are here to serve as well. Please take that into consideration every day. Ladies and gentlemen it’s been a pleasure to be with all of you this evening. There will be a receiving line of our officers right outside the doors, outside of 209, followed by a small gathering, and then also, there is an open house this evening a Castle in the Sands immediately following, and you’re all invited to it to attend, straight across the street. Use the traffic light down the block, half a block, and then to your left.

That brings us to the end of this evening’s festivities, and I would ask you to please stay in your seat after the benediction so that the officers may be escorted out. And at this time I’ll call on Chaplain Harry Hetz for our special blessing, followed by the benediction of Ladies Auxiliary Vice Chaplain Shari Steffen.

Harry Hetz: Good evening get the right pages here. We’ve gathered this evening we celebrated the transition to new leadership. Vivian and Ron and Louis and I go back a long way. There has been accusations that we are responsible for getting her into this mess. So we love you Vivian.

President Bilger, President Boyd it is written in 127 Psalm. Unless the Lord builds a house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over a city, the watchman stands guard in vain. The wise person turns to the Lord, to God, for guidance, as they begin to prepare their plans, asking for God’s will. And not after they’ve finished their plans, and ask God to bless, what they’ve planned, without him, and his guidance. So it is right that we turned to the Lord for his wisdom and guidance, as you assume your roles as leaders in the MSFA and the LAMSFA.

Presidents, officers as you assume your role of these great organizations, see God’s wisdom for your labors, and for your activities. Look to him for your guidance. And now may the God of all wisdom, guide you in your judgment. May the God of all insight, grant you his understanding, and may the God who laid out the pathways in the sea, order your footsteps as well as you walk in God’s guidance, may you do all things, let us pray.

Father we turn to you for your blessing on these men and women as they begin to
assume their responsibilities. Be with them for each decision. Direct the course of their service, and at the end of their term, may they look back with your blessing to a job well done. Amen.

**Shari Steffen:** Let us part in peace. Let us all drive safely and carefully to our next destinations. And may God’s blessings be with us all, Amen. (Applause)

**M.C. Richard Brooks:** Thank you ladies and gentlemen. One additional announcement that’s very important for those of you who would like to go over to Castle in the Sands for the reception. There the golf carts, are going to be running. So you’re welcome to leave your cars where they’re parked, and they’ll run you back and forth. So enjoy that. That’s great to have, all right, and thank you Ron Siarnicki key for that. Presidents if you would please take the center stage and escort the ladies down. Thank you all very much. Have a great evening. Please continue to be safe in Ocean City, good night. (Music)(Music)(Music)
Bruce Bouch: A quick reminder for anyone that has not picked up their fire prevention books that they turned in for judging this year. They’re located in the back of the room, so please pick them up when you leave today. Thank you.

President Bilger: Good morning. It’s my honor to call the fourth session of the 125th Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I would like to introduce Chaplain Bowen for our invocation.

Chaplain Bowen: Okay, first off we’d like to let you know, I wish my mind would forget what my eyes have seen, there was a firefighter struck and killed in another sister state on Monday in here. So we may, we pray for this, for this day also. So our call to worship invocation, please stand for our prayer.

Almighty God unto you, whom we all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom all secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name. Be with us today as we come together to conduct the business at hand, on our final day, of the MSFA convention. Give us Father the power to go on, to carry our share of the burden of our work to the end of time, and to live all the years of our lives faithful to the highest we have seen as we continue our work in the fire and EMS. In Christ Jesus name we pray. Amen.

President Bilger: Thank you. It is now my pleasure to introduce the officers of the LAMSFA. They’re being escorted in the hall now. While the ladies are being escorted up here, we’ll have a safety message from Chairman the safety committee, Michael LeCompte.

Video: I Mike Carmen, Captain of the Snow Hill Fire Department. Being a firefighter requires a great deal of physical strength and endurance. The gear itself weighs an extra 60 pounds. You lose a lot of mobility, plus you’re raising the heart rate to a tremendous amount just by getting dressed. My journey with the DPB program started after several health issues. I had recently taken a desk job. Most of my time was sedentary. My diet was a mess. I was pre-hypertensive. I was taking four different types of meds; blood pressure, acid reflux, and cholesterol. 1.6 million Marylanders have pre-diabetes and most don’t even know it. The National diabetes prevention
program was offered to us at work, through our employer. The program is really good about balancing everything from your lifestyle and activity level, to eating and proper nutrition, reading labels, just a little bit of everything. You can’t beat it. It’s just extremely simple.

As far as what I do here at the firehouse, much more active. I’m able to keep up with the younger guys that we have in the company. It just makes all around my job a lot easier to do. Our purpose in bringing the program to the firehouse is not only to improve their performance on the fire ground, but also in their individual lives. Over 75% of firefighters either overweight or obese. We had six firefighters that completed the program. We lost a total of 220 pounds throughout the entire year. Currently we were working with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association to actually put this program in every firehouse in the state of Maryland. It’s a great program. It really changed my life. I’ve lost a total of 45 pounds and currently all my blood work is great. I would highly recommend the National Diabetes Prevention Program to everybody. Ask your doctor about the diabetes prevention program. Everyone has the power to prevent diabetes. For more information visit behealthymaryland.org.

Michael LeCompte: Out of respect to these women up here, I’m going to break for a minute and introduce our new Ladies Auxiliary President of the Maryland State Ladies Auxiliary Association, President Boyd. (Applause)

LAMSFA President Boyd: Good morning everyone. Last night they gave me a step stool and I forgot it, so we’ll work with, that’s all right. And it’s an honor for us to be here and to represent this great organization. We are here to serve you.

I have on stage with us Conference Co-chair Dorothy Rhue. Can you, thank you so much. Conference Chairman Peggy Zembower, Bessie Marshall Chair Marti Neal, Color Bearer Kay Trego, Color Bearer Jennifer King, Guard Holly Trego, Historian Joan Kramer, Vice Chaplain Shari Steffen, Chaplain Jean Maine, Corresponding Secretary Malea Daughton, Financial Secretary Becky Wathen. Treasurer Kristi Grinder. Recording Secretary Donna Struntz, Junior Vice President Lorie Denbow, Senior Vice President Marcia Roth and Vivian Boyd as President. Thank you so much and like I said, we are here to serve. Ask any of us, we work as one. Thank you. (Applause)

President Bilger: Thank You President Boyd and all your officers. It’s always nice having pretty ladies up on stage with us and make us look good. One more time, round of applause for the ladies auxiliary. (Applause)

Michael LeCompte: This morning as I walked in some of the ladies came over and said the Frontier Town family fun day tomorrow, we are really upset. I said what’s up? Well we can’t buy any more tickets. The ticket booth out here has stopped selling tickets for a reason. Don’t worry about it. I just made a phone call to Frontier Town.
Many of you want to bring your kids your grandkids. They’re going to make sure that the pig is really big, and a lot of hamburgers, and lots of crabs, so we’re okay. The point is this, if you want to go tomorrow, you have not bought tickets, you can go tomorrow starting at 1:00 o’clock. Just go into the entryway at the water park, pay your money, whether you want $20 for all-you-can-eat, or are $35, $15 more for the crabs. We can accommodate you, and they said please come. They love their firemen, so we’re okay. Tomorrow one o’clock. If you have not bought tickets, you’re safe, show up, have a good time.

Regarding safety today; our main; one of our main presentations is going to be titled; Are our Maryland Firefighters Really Ready for Today’s Operational Demands and I’m not going to be redundant. Eddie Carmen who was on the video, it’s going to be talking about what we have found here in the state of Maryland, and things that have changed for the better. So, and what we’re doing essentially, and it’s going to be offered in all 23 counties, in the city of Baltimore very soon. We partnered up with the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and we’ve got some surprises for you at 10:30 today.

As it relates to being struck by vehicles. As the chaplain just talked about, we had another brother firefighter killed in a sister state Monday, while we were in session, in the morning, and it’s sickening. My purpose is this; we’ve offered through, started by the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen’s Association, the Traffic Incident Management Program. I’ll make it easy, the law simply states when you get into the Code of Federal Regulations, if you take all the OSHA codes and all the things we get yelled at, very simple, if you expose someone to a hazard, and you have not trained that person in the hazard, you are violating the law. It’s very simple, going back with that premise, if you ask a young firefighter or an elder fire police person to stand out in the middle of a highway and do something that he has not been trained to do, you as a fire chief, or as a commanding officer are violating the law. Civilly and criminally it can come back on you. With that said, it’s so simple to go get this class done. I’m proud to tell you that we have almost 100 instructors that have been trained throughout the entire state of Maryland in the past three or four years, including the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute now offers the class. Cumberland Valley offers the class. And many of us in the safety profession here in a state with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association offer the class. It’s free including Pat Rooney and his group with the Maryland Department of Transportation. So please get your firefighters trained in this simple 10 hour class. They could actually go online for the younger jets, you can go online now and take this class. But I would really recommend that you get this done. We don’t get it in our basic training or the training we had 35 or 40 years ago. It’s some new concepts. We have a lot more cars on the road, so from the hearts of all of us that are doing the safety side of this. Please get all of us trained in this because it’s redundancy and the frequency of losses. Being struck by vehicles has not decreased, it has actually increased. Food for thought. Thank you guys. I’ll see you back, thank you for being
President Bilger: Okay, I want to remind everyone that the parade starts today at 1 o’clock from 16th Street to a 30th Street on Baltimore Avenue. The trophies will be handed out at 5:30 here in the convention center. The Executive Committee meeting tomorrow morning at 9 o’clock in the Performing Arts Center. As Chairman LeCompte talked about; Frontier Town is 1 o’clock on Thursday. The LAMSFA paint activity fundraiser is tomorrow 2 o’clock at the Convention Center room 207. And then Friday 8 a.m. golf tournament Eagles Landing. There’s still room for groups that want to come out and sign up or if you just want to come out and play, they’ll hook you up with somebody.

And now have the opportunity to introduce a friend of mine. We went to college together. He’s done very well for himself in the Howard County Fire Department. He’s here today to give us a presentation on the historic Ellicott City Flood, July 2016.

Chief John F. Butler is progressive, intelligent, and an individual that cares about the fire service, the importance of training, and the importance of sharing information and networking. The Ellicott City flash flood in 2016 devastated homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure at the center of Maryland’s most historic town. It took less than two hours for waters to rise 13 feet turning the city Main Street’s residential business district into a raging river. In addition to the extensive rescue operations on the night of the flood, the Howard County Department of Fire Rescue Services played an essential role in the extended recovery process as the community work to rebuild.

Chief Butler will speak about his department’s experience overseeing search and rescue operations, leading initial structural stabilization efforts, assuming a leadership role within a type three incident management team, and providing ongoing safety oversight for recovery workers in the weeks and months following this flood. Please welcome Chief Butler from the Howard County Fire Department. (Applause)

Chief Butler: Good morning. Good morning, it’s not that early. Well thanks for joining me today this morning. You could have been many places, but I’m really honored that you’re here and taking a moment to share this experience with me and others who were there. Its good news and bad news. I did this presentation yesterday, so I’m kind of well prepared. And I’ve already had the, at least one run with it, so that’s the good news. The bad news is yesterday’s presentation was 90 minutes and I have to do this in 30 to 40 minutes. So it’s going to be interesting and a challenge.

The the thing about the Ellicott City flash-flood that we’ll talk about, this was not a one-dimensional incident. It was probably the most complex thing I would have ever seen, experienced, heard of, or read about, various aspects. The other challenge to this is me being here on this stage, I’m going to try and focus on the fire department’s role.
I could have economic development up here for four hours. I could have, you know inspections license and permits here and doing their piece, and every one we have a big role. Challenging hard to keep it focused to Fire and Rescue.

So I’ll go forward now. So Ellicott City; this is not the first flood. If you’ve been around Maryland for any amount of time, you’ve heard of, or seen, or experienced floods in Ellicott City Maryland before. Typically they came from the bottom up, what we call bottom up, from the Patapsco and kind of rose into the city. Nonetheless; Ellicott City has had his share of a water log if you will.

Chris why don’t you go ahead and hit that link. The link sets the tone of what I’ll be talking about here. (Video) The 2016 Ellicott City flood was a body blow to a historic community that we so dearly loved. Two lives were tragically lost, 190 residents, and 94 businesses were displaced, and 550 employees found themselves out of work. The damage was in the millions. It has been difficult for all of us to watch our friends and neighbors filled with despair, disappointment, as they picked through the debris. But their resolve to overcome this event has been inspiring. We moved as quickly as possible to begin the recovery process, balancing the needs of those affected, with our concern for Public Safety. There’s been an unprecedented outpouring of support from near and far for Ellicott City, and we are committed to rebuilding in a way that will preserve the town’s rich heritage, and make it a model of resiliency for the future. It won’t be easy. It will take time, but together we will overcome this. The video you are about to see recounts what happened that evening and offers context to help you better understand the challenges we face. (Music) If you look at the amount of rainfall that fell across central Maryland there was a wide swath of four to six inches, which is a lot of rain, caused a lot of problems, all the way from Montgomery County, all the way to Baltimore, across Anne Arundel County?

So there’s a lot of flooding this day but the absolute worst of it the highest amount of rain, almost if you drew a basin map of the Ellicott City watershed, which is a very small area in Howard County, it was right there. So you’re putting the most amount of rain, from an exceptionally rainy system, that was putting down a lot of that in a short period of time, and probably the worst part of Maryland that you could put it in, you can see some of these individual elements moving across Ellicott City that red is exceptionally heavy rain because a very damp day, but then once the system starts you can see how it just keeps forming in the background, and in the back area of the thunderstorm, and you get this area of rain that’s moving west to east. But at the same time the area to the west keeps forming thunderstorms, so that the train of red basically, which is again exceptionally heavy rain, lasts over the area for, you know, a couple of hours, which is you know, a long time for that rain to pile up.

I like in Ellicott City for flooding almost like those towns in California that are on the San Andreas Fault. I mean things are usually fine you’ll get trouble every now and again
a minor earthquake something like that, but when the big one comes there’s a lot of people that are just in harm’s way down there. (Music)

Try to pay attention to the timestamps in the progression in time. (Music)

(Video playing with dialogue between a caller and dispatch) We are at the Inn on Old Frederick Rd. The waters above the door. The water is coming in. We need somebody to come. What’s your address? Is it 8059? Yes. Okay are you able to go to a higher level of the building? We can’t get up there without going outside. Okay 8059 Main Street? Okay I’m going to start the fire department out there. Okay? Thank you very much. Alright I think we have eight people. Eight people inside the building right now. Yeah, okay, we’re going to have them out there. Okay? Thank you very much. The building is buckling. There’s water on the inside and we can feel the ceiling. Are you, is there anywhere that is there any way you guys can get out of the building, so that you can get somewhere safe, if you think the building is in jeopardy. Not without going out. How high is the water outside? Oh my, up to the front door up three steps. There’s probably about a foot above the sidewalk. Okay. We have no place to go up. Okay. (Music) okay, and there are, oh my god. What’s going on? (Music) There are cars floating down the street. (Music)

(Video playing with dialogue between a second caller and dispatch) Howard County 911. Portalli’s restaurant. What is your address? I don’t know the address. What’s the name of the restaurant again? Portalli’s restaurant. It’s in Ellicott City on Main Street. It’s flooded all the way to the top of the first floor. Everybody’s evacuated to the top floor. You got up to the top floor? Yea it’s three stories. The waters in the first floor, actually they are on the second floor. Can you evacuate? Nobody can evacuate, there’s nowhere for them to go. The water is rapidly rising. (Music)

Cars are starting to move along. (Music)

(Video playing with dialogue between a second caller and dispatch) Yes this is the Phoenix Emporium. Yeah! We are currently underwater. I have about 15 to 30 people in here trapped inside. I just did not know all the power is turned off or not? Okay, okay, we already got a call in for you sir. We’ll be out there as soon as we can. You said how much water is in the building? In the building we have about, we have a basement that is completely flooded and on the first floor we are about two feet up. I have two, we have three floors total. I’m just making sure you are aware of the situation in Ellicott City, that main street is flooding. Flooding is an understatement. We are completely aware. Okay, where are you at? We are at the Ellicott Mill brewing company, okay we’re safe. Well okay, we just wanted to make sure someone knew about the flooding. There’s no fire. All the power went out. They just pushed us to the second floor. We’re safe. (Music)
Chief Butler: So thank you. The slide summarizes what we just saw, rain cover. It started at about 6:30 within six hours six inches of rain and you’ve heard of it being one in a thousand year storm. I hate that saying, okay it sends a misnomer that it’ll be a long time before we see something like this again. That’s not terribly accurate. It could happen again this summer, okay but we pray and hope it won’t. One more short video two minutes. Chris if you could hit that one, trying to adjust the presentation.

(Video presentation) Now too, with the historic flash flooding being called a one in a thousand year event that destroyed of Maryland City. A state of emergency has been declared in the area, where at least two people have been killed, and dozens of others had to be rescued for the rushing waters. NBC’s Tammy Lightner takes us into the disaster.

These devastating images are our first look at all that’s left of Main Street in historic Ellicott City. Just 48 hours prior, rushing flood waters swallowed the town, destroying everything in their path. These residents were a human chain to save a woman trapped in her car. I’m just glad that we managed to save her. More than 100 people rescued, but at least two dead, 38 year old Joseph Anthony Blevins, and 36 year-old Jessica Watts Allah.

Ellicott City sits in the Patapsco River Valley surrounded by steep hills. As severe weather hit the area Saturday night six inches of rain fell in just two hours overwhelming the small streams that flow into the river and causing water to surge down Main Street. It was so fast, Gretchen Shui still hasn’t been able to assess the damage to her coffee shop. She watched video of the street as it was flooding and experienced the terror.

NBC News was taken deep inside the destruction zone. This is ground zero. It’s safe to say that they’re all damaged by some degree of water. Now more rain is expected this evening which could add to the devastation. Tammy Lightner, NBC News Ellicott City Maryland. NBC News fans thanks for checking out our YouTube channel subscribe by clicking on.

Chief Butler: Ok no more videos. I just wanted to, so after the storm, you saw the storm. You saw what the damage looks like. Now comes the response, the initial response. So this is the 911 recording of the response, initially, once we got those thousand calls. Actually we were on the streets already. We’re up and down route 40 and many other places in the county already addressing stuff, flooding. Ellicott City Main Street became the ground zero. I’m, Chris you can hit that real quick for me.

(Tape) Beep, Beep, Beep, Fire, rescue 2-13 Main Street Ellicott City. EMS 1 to dispatch. All units hold the air unless you have emergency. Water rescue box 2-13, Ops 10, Tower 10, 105, water rescue 10, water rescue 2, engine 71, Baltimore County engine 4, EMS 96, boat 10, EMS – battalion, safety 1, tower 2 respond. They are at Main Street between Rogers and Kline for the vehicle trapped in swift water, as units respond
and operate Bravo one. Bravo one for the water rescue on Main Street in Ellicott City 1955. Units hold the air.

Chief Butler: Uh, we have three special ops stations. There’s a central one at River Spark and then Ellicott City has a detachment of special ops, and then southern Howard County, Skaggsville has a detachment. Gratefully we had special ops close by up the street, at that station and they were able to mobilize. Everyone, that’s probably the first time in my career that every unit in our County was on an incident. Every unit in Howard County was on an incident. I don’t think I’ve seen that in my 25 years. It may have happened. I just don’t think I recall it. So we mobilized the captain in the middle, he’s the Special Operations Captain. We’re able to get that quote/unquote, first alarm of swift water rescue techs on the scene and some other special operations assets. Speaking of resources, if there’s one thing you take away from this, this was not a Howard County incident, this was a regional incident, and there is nothing we could have done successfully without everybody pitching in.

Obviously, we had Howard counties units, a lot of logistical support a lot behind the scenes, and you can probably relate to that. I want to talk a little bit about the volunteer fire companies. No one had to dispatch West Friendship or Elk Ridge or other units into Ellicott City. Their situational awareness, got on the street, and started taking calls. My first walk down Main Street with the County Executive, I think one of the first people I ran into was the Volunteer Chief from West Friendship, Mickey Day. And, I said; what are you doing here? This is Ellicott City thing. Until I got a sense of the breadth and depth of the incident, it was not an Ellicott City thing. It certainly wasn’t a Howard County incident. Ultimately as you can see; Baltimore County, Baltimore City, and the region, all stepped in. I was really impressed and it’s noteworthy that on my way to the EOC, the state had already dispatched a MEMA rep towards the EOC. And they stayed, and they stayed, around the clock for weeks. Governor Larry Hogan, he threw the kitchen sink at this incident. Every agency in state government somehow or another, were participating, in one way or another, one way or another. I’ll talk more specifically about MSP, National Guard, and DNR.

Okay for the sake of time that kind of summarizes what you might have seen already on the videos. Baltimore County observes an occupied car floating down Patapsco River. Actually we saw a lot of occupied cars. It’s without taking anything away from the three people that perished. It is amazing that only three people perished. The amount of vehicles that were occupied going down a landlocked tsunami. I mean that’s, I don’t know what else to call it. You know, this is, this was several feet, three, four, five, six feet of water at times. This was not a stream. As fast as it came in, it receded rapidly as well, which was great for us. There was a lot of self-extrication. As it started to recede, we were in a place where we were comfortable putting our people in the water to rescue as many as one of the videos talked about. Over a hundred rescues. We stopped counting honestly. Till today we don’t know how many we rescued or helped
self- extricate. It just, we just stopped counting. It wasn’t that important anymore at that point.

So like I said, we started to access lower Main Street Centennial Dam which is up the hill some, with all the gauges started to indicate failure. Again another thing to take away from this room. I would be doing a different presentation if Centennial Dam had failed. If the dam had failed we would have been up the river, no pun intended. That’s pretty good. I came up with that.

So the damage shown in video, I’m going to show you, just some photos. Everything in the town was undermined. The buildings around town were undermined, the sidewalks, streets. One of the most on nervous moments for me as the Fire Chief, was watching our folks work on Main Street. Let me explain some of the hazards. There were hissing from gas lines that were busted. There were arcing wires. There were transformers going up. The ground wasn’t stable under your feet. There was still water and unstable surfaces. All of this was in the first hour. And I’m standing there going ayah. My safety brain was like going short wire. It looked like a war zone.

I said yesterday and I’ll say it again. I don’t talk military too much, but um I’ve seen somewhat at what war zones look like after bombings and after battle. And that is the closest thing I can relate this to. Several combat tours that I’d never seen anything like this other than on the other side and in some other faraway land. Some other stats. We’ve already talked about the amount of calls. Seventy two victims were rescued that we counted from the water. One hundred fifty five evacuated on their own. I already talked about the gas leaks and water main breaks.

This is about a, we believe a 72 inch under underground culvert that has been there for a while, and water, and was made to prevent some flooding. Cars and you might have seen in the videos, there were cars that would come up to drainages like this, go in looking like a car, and come out looking like a crushed beer can. Just the force of the water, you couldn’t identify a car from you know, a mass of crinkled metal.

Initially we set up two divisions; east and west, and later we did a Main Street and River division. And by day three we had a better clarity on our structure. In the first hour we knew we would need some help and we call for incident management team type. We called for a Type II team but a Type III showed up which was all fine, and Pennsylvania IMT showed up. And another thing to take away from this, and I’ll say it at the end. We put together a blended team. A blended IMT as it shows up there, although Pennsylvania IMT was the anchor. We had National Capital, Colorado, Virginia Beach and our own Baltimore region IMT, who did logistics.

It’s going to be hard for you to see back there, but the blues is the West Division and ABC and then what was new to me somewhat, was a River Division. The river was
an incident of its own. Lots of search and rescue and damage assessments were our first missions. Working with the department of the counties, uh inspections, licenses and permits folks. We were doing a lot of inspecting and damage assessments. Again being that the water came down into the city and a lot of these buildings were built over the rivers and the streams, the rise of the water came up under buildings. So you would go through doors and walk in and it looks like a little bit of forest. More vegetation was on the inside, pushing outward, because it can't kind of came through the floors, if you will.

A lot of ground started to give way. We had a truck company sitting here with their ladder truck and they had to retreat, because that wall started to cave. It’s now retained and stabilized. And we were concerned that church was going to go. Just more pictures of this surreal ness that we saw that day. The real quiet town that time, after the incident. And you hear the hissing and arcing and sparking. Very surreal, very surreal.

I was explaining this a little while ago. Note how much woods and trees and branches are inside. They it come up from under the floorboards. This picture is worth stopping and pausing on. It’s a tale of two, there’s a tale of two stories actually. So clearly the building on the right looks pretty damaged. It’s, you would wonder if it’s even worth salvaging. And it at times we didn’t think it was worth salvaging. We postponed allowing citizens back in the town because of structures like this. Now take note of the building to the left of it. It seems to be generally intact. The building to the left is a reconstruction. It’s a rebuilt from a fire in 1999. I was on it, and many of you, some of you we’re as well the last time Ellicott City caught fire and that building was rebuilt with updated codes.

I pause for a minute for the story to tell itself. Building on the left of data codes. Building on the right, not so much. Okay if you need this photo in your jurisdictions to your government, reach out, I’ll be happy to share with you. The power of codes and enforcement, and sticking with it, and being disciplined to stick with it. It saves lives.

Three to four-foot, we stopped calling it mud. We just started saying the river, the river is on Main Street, because that’s what was on Main Street. But you know three feet of the river was now in a middle of the town. Our special ops did a lot of shoring operations in those early days. There was no structure that we thought was super safe, and you know, they increased that. The more we assessed and realized they were safe, we started to open our minds to allowing the community back.

Let me touch on the community for a second. It’s probably, psychologists have probably studied this. Early on they were patient and forgiving. After about three to four days they started getting angst, and agitated. And we were getting bombarded with complaints. The more we talked and shared information, the more we told them
to expect, the more we expect, that we told them to expect flexibility, and we might change our minds, and we might change our timelines, the more inpatient they became with us. We could start off in the morning saying today at 2 o’clock you’ll be allowed back in your structures. But then about 1 o’clock we’ll say no, we got to change our mind, you can’t. You can only imagine how the community felt about that. At first, but sooner or later understood and we’re patient with us. So as much as they could. More shoring, more building stuff. This picture is just a fun picture because one of our Captains Josh Sulak celebrated his 30th birthday, I think it was, that night while he was working, and the crew was able to find a couple of cupcakes and make something of it for him.

Maryland task force again the region, region, region, region. We couldn’t have done this by ourselves. I talked a little bit about safety and my uneasiness with what was happening. What we ultimately did was assigned a Safety Officer to every division. Not any safety officer, but a special ops Safety Officer who could, who had a little bit more breadth and depth of subject matter expert, and you know structural assessments, atmospheric monitoring. The river was an entire mission, decon and escorting people back to their homes. So when we escorted someone back to their structure we would send a Safety Officer with them. And they would be able to say yeah you can go in and get your stuff, or no you can’t go in because that beam is about to come down, or whatever the case might be.

The impact of the Tiber River. Now we’re concerned about these piles of debris that could potentially have a damming effect, as in a dam. A damming effect if there were more rain. There were more rain we had all this debris and cars in the river, that in the, in the streams, that could be an issue. Wait it got even better. I told you this was a very complex incident. So all of this, what I’m talking about, is happening and then there’s a sewer line break. But the sewer line break isn’t where you can access it and fix it. It’s down in an inaccessible, no road, the roads are out because of the storm, and so, yeah, now raw sewage is pouring into the Patapsco. But wait, we have to get people in the Patapsco to go search those cars. So again this is probably one of the more complex things I’ve seen. Well what do we do? We ask for help. We’ve said Army National Guard sent some helicopters. We’ll collect the material in a parking lot. You drop your tether. You pick it up, take it into the woods, drop it off, take the people over there to fix it, and fix it. Every resource that was available, most resources that are available in the state of Maryland, had a role to play in here. We flew several sorties to get that sewer line fixed. Health Department had to give our people Hep A shots, and some other prophylactic shot before they got in to the now sewer contaminated Patapsco to go search the cars for people. So search and rescue, medical aid stations, we didn’t have a whole lot of ambulance transports, only a couple two or three cut a hand or two and some heat issues. The health department and hospital set up aid stations up and down the city and that was a big relief for us.
Uh the muck out. Muck out became a full-time operation. Citizens wanted to get into their places. Some wanted to clean it. Remember we had force takeovers. Tenants, the owners of buildings that the tenants lived in, merchants and owners of those buildings. We had a residential area, commerce area, some we’re renters, some we’re building owners, so you could be looking at one address and dealing with three customers. The tenant downstairs, the building owner, and a renter who rents the apartment upstairs. So that was a little interesting.

I’ll touch on Gators for a second. That was them. I’ll do it now, a lifesaver. Gators yet the biggest pain in the backside I can think of. That became gold. Commodity. Gators, everybody needed one, everybody wanted one, and everybody had to have one. Okay we depleted every golf cart there was in the county and surrounding areas. Everybody was sharing Gators with us but pre tell if you’re signed a gator don’t leave the keys in it. Okay it’s gone, it’s gone before you can blink an eye. Each of these muck out missions you see has only a couple of people in it. In a town of a couple of thousand, you know that’s a lot of micro missions.

I’ll touch again real fast on the senior policy group in the EOC. I talked about this picture yesterday. It’s a lot of people in that room, a very small room, in our EOC. If I print that paper and count the heads, there should be only about five to ten people in that room. It’s a senior policy group and that’s how we started, with a senior policy group to make decisions. It all ultimately ballooned into information sharing, which is different from making decisions. Every day we had kind of abandoned some of the sit reps and the EEOC. The conditions were changing hourly. You could be sitting there writing a sit rep and it, the situation had already changed before you were done with your last sentence. So folks just started congregating to get the informational real-time. We ultimately left that room, the five of us, and went to another smaller room to allow the County Executive privilege. In that room he doesn’t have executive privilege. There things he cannot say in that room, or decisions he cannot make in that space. So you always have to have the executive privilege space and we had to kind of change that model.

I talked about logistics a staging area, big deal, we needed a lot of help. And the river, this is my favorite part. The river was an interesting thing. Every one of those cars. We had no confirmation that there were people in them or not. The closest thing to confirmation was; we didn’t have a whole lot of missing-persons reports, so that was that was good. So a lot of assets, there are 250 vehicles impacted that were wet or waterlogged. We had to get technical and worked through getting about 19 to 22 of them out of the water, and they were usually in these debris piles as you can see. I stroked through piles and call them debris fields because debris piles is a misnomer. You visually think about a pile, you think about, you know, something triangular and kind of piled up. These are debris fields and I didn’t realize it until I physically went down river to check them out, and you could, you could conceptually hide a full size School Bus behind some of fields. I mean the river had just kind of cleared itself and dumped it downstream.
We had cadaver dogs. They were getting some hits in some of these debris fields and that was very concerning. So what do you have to do? You have to kind of tear apart the debris field which now takes another couple of days in August heat, and in a wetsuit. So you can imagine and thankfully those hits that the cadaver dogs had hit on, we’re something else, but they weren’t human cadaver.

Just a picture of it one of the, couple of the debris fields. And the technical retrieval of these of vehicles where we’re interesting to watch. And so on. That started off as a blue F-150 if you’ve spent any time on Main Street, on a regular basis, the owner of that vehicle always had it parked on the right, kind of midway up, it’s kind of a unique blue. Everybody knew it. The vehicle was called big blue and big blue was ultimately found down in Baltimore County. Big blue had a personality where he had in his own Facebook and Twitter page, you know, help find big blue. So you know, there was a degree of levity. And I don’t want to say levity, but you know, kind of tone it down a little bit, and have some fun with it all those vehicles we found. We had to put them somewhere and we took him to Centennial Park, Centennial High School. The county covered the retrieval and the towing to Centennial and then vehicle owners would pick it up there and have their tow trucks there, USAA or AAA or whatever move them. So the recovery, as I conclude, we’re deep into the recovery. I’m impressed, I’m proud I live in Ellicott City. I always have, over 20 years now in the historic district, and so not only am I Howard County’s Fire Chief, I’m a resident of Ellicott City and I stayed close to this. Ninety-two percent of businesses that were there before the storm, are there again within a year. That is nothing but epic and I can’t say much enough about our economic development folks who stayed real close to the businesses and they returned. We were not expecting that. We were expecting some, somewhat of a ghost town. But you know they returned. There they’re real close and cohesive. Planning something next month and for the one-year anniversary. Now the conundrum they’re having is, we want to keep this private, we want to keep it reverent, we don’t want the world to come in gawk at our and our disaster, and this is our community. We want to keep it close. That’s one aspect. The other aspect is, we want the world to come and shop and eat on Main, on Main Street Ellicott City. So they’re still working through those pieces and I’m sure they’ll come up with something that’s appropriate. Lives were lost there. Okay, lives were lost. Two in the water and one gentleman who owned a business, who once we allowed them back was doing work in his business on the ladder and fell and hit his head. So we never forget that.

Ellicott City partnership and Ellicott City recovery initiatives have been really active. There’s also an H and H study which will take 20 to 30 years. It’s a hydraulics and hydrology study where they’re now looking to finally and permanently build an infrastructure so that this doesn’t happen again. I won’t be working when that’s completed. That’s all I’ll say. At the end it’ll be a 20-year endeavor. It could be easy 20 to 30 years for them to put the infrastructure in place for that city. All the surfaces
that we repaired, we repaired with asphalt because we intend to go back and look at underground fiber, and taking down some of those poles, and this is an opportunity to improve the city from you know, the eighteen hundreds and seventeen hundreds.

Okay last a couple of slides or lessons learned. I’ll run through them. I already talked about the blended IMT. We have a lot of talent; a lot of resources here in the state of Maryland, let’s use it. Our volunteers, you know you think about, okay, volunteer is fire engine going down the road. I was impressed to see our volunteers, volunteer, raise their hands to say, hey I’m from Elk Ridge; do you need anyone to work the call center, hey I’m from Ellicott City Volunteer Fire Department, do you need anyone to drive Gators? So volunteerism can come in all shapes, sizes and colors. Everybody, we don’t have a seat for everybody on the firetruck, but we had enough work, and all you got to do is ask to help, and I’ll put you to work.

Senior policy group, we talked about mutual aid. We had to do, there is no other way we could have been successful. We’re really a happy with the State and the Feds. They came with a good checkbook and a lot of yes we can mentality, and we’ll get it done. Information sharing saved our butt from the community. Had we not been pushing information and everything we could they could have really turned on us there for a while. But you know as citizens you do want to know what’s happening. I know I can’t get into my place but tell me what’s happening. You know and we try to do that as best as we could.

ICS, more organizations need to use it. Fire departments use it all the time. Incident Command Structures. Many others need to get in there. We’ve been talking about this now for 20 years or more. You know other agencies and disciplines need to use the ICS because when it’s not blue sky and it’s black sky, every time one of these things happen, we realize we’re not on the same page. So we’ve got to do better with that. There’s not enough depth on the bench. All our agencies have about two operational periods before we’re starting to exhaust our people. Well by the third operational period you’re using exhausted replacement, and it’s a vicious cycle. I don’t know the solution to that. I showed you the picture of the EOC in space. Space is an issue. We build things, we set up incident EOCs and EOPs for again blue sky. When the black sky happens and everybody’s in the room, that room becomes really small. Feeding, I have feeding up here because feeding became a challenge. I’ll give you an example; let’s say I give my credit card to someone to go out and buy a hundred meals for the hundred people there working today. Hundred firefighters are working today. So he comes back with a hundred meals. Well by the third operational period you’re using exhausted replacement, and it’s a vicious cycle. I don’t know the solution to that. I showed you the picture of the EOC in space. Space is an issue. We build things, we set up incident EOCs and EOPs for again blue sky. When the black sky happens and everybody’s in the room, that room becomes really small. Feeding, I have feeding up here because feeding became a challenge. I’ll give you an example; let’s say I give my credit card to someone to go out and buy a hundred meals for the hundred people there working today. Hundred firefighters are working today. So he comes back with a hundred meals. Well the firefighters standing next to the cop, who’s standing next to the inspector, who’s feeding them? So now the hundred meals, you know, it’s kind of a mission creep. I sent him to buy food for 100 firefighters, but there’s about 4 times that work group in about two feet of each other, so there’s that thing. The other thing is, let’s say he did go out and buy 400 meals, and showed up with 400 meals, and pulls up and there’s a famous day catering truck dropping
off another thousand meals. Because people were doing that. People are making casseroles and just putting, bringing it down to the parking lot, up to the incident command post, or the base of operation. People are just bringing food. You know and you can’t rely on it. You can’t count on it, because it might not be there in the morning, so you still got to buy food. So food had a whole thing to itself that kept us busy. I talked about the Gators already so, that says it all. Micro missions were a big deal getting in the Gator and allowing people with an escort to go down and get something. Some examples of that; gentleman I remember this vividly, I just need to get in my apartment and get my credentials. I work at the NSA. I just need to be able to get to go to work, my cards to say that I can get into the building. That’s all I need. How do you say no to that getting the Gator? I’ll go down there with you. I left my pet parrot hasn’t been fed for two days give me three minutes. I’ll go down there, I’ll grab the cage, and I’ll come out. We’re good. Those micro missions brought the angst down. One trash bag of clothing made the world of a different difference. No one ever came through, as I said, I’ll be homeless, and I’m homeless if I don’t go in there. Everyone had a place to go but they needed something, they needed something from there, and allowing them to get that something, they were living in a good place, and allowing us to go to work so those micro missions is something we should always keep on our radar. And I think that’s it. I’m 40 minutes or so. Yesterday we went much more in-depth and I apologize if I couldn’t and it seemed like I was talking fast. So are there any questions? Okay, all right, all right. Well thank you. (Applause)

**President Bilger:** Chief Butler we want to thank you for that information, taking the time out of your busy schedule to be with us. We’d like to present you with an official convention mug, thank you. (Applause) Now I would like to introduce immediate Past President Michael Davis for his comments.

**Past President Davis:** Thank You Mark. Great presentation Chief. I’ll tell you one thing real quick before I thank you. I went around a lot and spent a lot of time at Howard County and the Chief there he is, he’s definitely dedicated those folks and had a great realization during that flooding. He might have told you that I was there right after that happened with him and all not you know, he has a great working relationship with his folks and uh, to be commended for that, and he’s a great guy overall. Thank you for your service, sir.

I can’t say thank you enough. I know I said it yesterday, but I’ll say it again um, you know it’s been a great past year, and really it’s been about three years before that with all the support from everyone. Appreciate, thank you to my Executive Board especially my Chairman Doug Simpkins. He kept everybody in line, kept us on time, on schedule, we had a tough schedule to meet every meeting this year, and he made it happen. We even had special meetings in between. He didn’t slack on any of it, made sure it was done and taken care of, so thank you Doug. And my executive officers as well, all them secretary’s office, financial office, and everybody. It’s a great working relationship.
You know fire department works. We all got to stick together and we’ve done a good job with that.

Especially be remiss to my wife that was my never-ending babysitter, her and my mother-in-law, many of you many times, many places we went to, you know help watch my kids, so grateful for that. My wife for the drop of the dime, if I forgot, I had a meeting. With no problem we worked it out, and very thankful. Cockeysville, my Fire Chief Kevin Roberts, our number one driver Mr. Kenny Cole there. You know they’re always around for many years and always you can always rely on any of them guys. Jackie Roberts down there - I see it’s hard to see you guys down there, and they’re the Gribble’s are there. And my whole Baltimore County contingent that helped through the years with the handing out, the promo items for the election and whatnot, and thank you guys. Those guys were there six in the morning, you know, if I needed them they said when, how, and what do we need to do, and they did it, and they still are. Anything we ever need done those guys are the ones. They usually sit here in the audience. They’re getting it done for us, so thankful for that.

And you know all the county associations - that I’ve worked with the support from you guys is phenomenal, build great relationships you know, I know I can go to any of these associations, just like walking in an extended family, and I’m so thankful for that, I really am. One of the big things we did here recently, the strategic planning folks, you know under Johnie Roth. We started that and we’re going to keep that going. You know we’re working on an actual business model. Not just what we think we need to do. We have structured business model we’re moving forward with, that we’re looking at ways, we realize we need help, and we’re trying to get that done. And in order to do that we’re going to have to, we need paid individuals that can dedicate their lives to doing this, not that we don’t do that, but we need somebody that we can turn to and that is their job. They pretty much, every county has a person or three themselves, and it has a person that is violent ear liaison. And the amount of work that goes on to this, and Johnie can attest, it’s not easy to keep track of even just invitations, to events, let alone all the other business that comes up in between. There’s always something popping every week. That’s our goal. So I encourage us to keep on that track, keep focused with that, and yeah enough can’t be said for that. That’s so, that’s our goal and that’s our purpose.

Along with that, the way these things have gone to, this whole event 125th the committee. I think we can’t thank them enough. I’ve heard nothing but wonderful comments. I thought, I was amazed myself, because they didn’t even tell me about a lot of stuff, you know we have our own group that does it, and all the work they did. I think can we give to 125th guys a big hand again. I think that’s well deserved. (Applause) Chief Ron Siarnicki and his PG, Montgomery County mafia back here. Those guys too, if without them and we have like, oh it’s probably about 12 engine crews with the guys, that seem to detail themselves here for the week, and days prior
to this event, and even days after to get this stuff done. So thank you guys. Without you, you know this wouldn’t happen.

And then I got to say this. You know Mr. Brooks backstage, Mr. Key and Ryan. They’re all sitting back here. They’re the men behind the curtain, you know they make they make it all happen, keep it straight, and waiting for the hook to come out of the stage right now. I’m sure there’s one waiting for me. Got a great, yeah, where’s your hockey stick Chris, yeah you need to bring that next year. We need that from Mike LeCompte. Thirty seconds so. With that I will congratulate Mark, and Rick and Mike Foust on their appointment, elections, and I hope that you guys like us, keep the vision going forward. Like I’ve always said; volunteer, get involved, look to the future from our past, and see where we need to go. Keep that guidance going, stick with our plan. Godspeed, God bless. Thank you all. I’ll see you down at the beach.

**President Bilger:** Thank You President Davis. Now I’d like to introduce Past President Tom Mattingly for a presentation.

**Past President Mattingly:** Thank You Mr. President. At the installation last night we didn’t have the original MSFA seal that was done by Noah Callas from the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department was presented to me 25 years ago and we pass it on each year to the incoming President for him to display in his home department, where, we’d like, and it’s my pleasure, at this time to present this to Mark and ask him to care for it, and enjoy it, and you know, have a great year as President MSFA. (Applause)

**President Bilger:** Thank you, I just have a brief report that I want to give. I want to start by thanking the Officers and Members of this great Association, the Delegates for all the help and support, as I came to this position. As I go through this position next year, without the help of everyone out there, all the volunteers in Maryland, this association can function. So thank all of you.

I also want to thank my parents Richard and Hope Bilger for raising me, teaching me the importance of giving back to the community, getting involved in the community. Certainly want to thank my wife Nancy, 27 years we’ve been married. She’s never questioned or complained or anytime I needed to do something for the Volunteer Fire Service, she supported me 100%. I want to recognize the officers of the Hampstead Volunteer Fire Engine Hose Company #1, the Officers and members of the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Service Association. They’re the ones that have been helping, hand the materials out, doing the other things, for me as I again continue this journey through the chairs. I want to congratulate Vice President Blair, Vice President Faust, and LAMSFA President Boyd. I look forward to working with them in the coming year. We will have a good positive team that will be able to get some good things accomplished with their help and their support. And finally, I want to thank everyone who volunteers in Maryland in any capacity. Your work makes Maryland a good place to live in, a safe place for our families, thank you very much. (Applause)
Now I’d like to introduce First Vice President Rick Blair for his comments.

1st Vice President Blair: Good morning. President Bilger, Second Vice President Faust, Officers, Members of the great Association, my fellow Delegates, Alternates, Clergy and distinguished guests. I am honored to be standing here as your First Vice President for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. I am excited to get started with the task for the coming year. I would like to start off with thanking the Western Enterprise Fire Company, the Clear Spring Volunteer Fire Company, and the Clear Spring Ambulance Service for their support, and dedication, and encouragement.

I’d like to congratulate President Bilger, Second Vice President Faust on their new positions with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and take this time to thank Rick Hemphill, and James Seavey for all their help and guidance over the past year. I would also like to thank the 2016 Maryland State Firemen’s Association Executive Board for their dedication and support. In closing, I would like, I would ask that each one of you keep Executive Committee Member Chuck Walker and his family in your prayers and thoughts. Chuck is going under some medical care right now and let’s hope he gets, has a speedy recovery. Anyway thank you for coming this week and before you leave the Convention Center please stop in and see the vendors downstairs. They’re what makes this happen as well as us. So thank you for coming and have a great summer down here. (Applause) Also introducing Second Vice President Mike Faust.

2nd Vice President Faust: Thank you, thank you very much. Thanks everyone, I truly appreciate your support. I wanted to start off first by thanking Ron Siarnicki and everyone that was involved in putting this convention on. Most people don’t realize all the hard work that goes into making this happen. And I truly appreciate, they work days before we got here, and they’ll be working hours and probably a couple days after we leave. So thank you guys for that. I’d like to thank my wife Stacy and my family for their support. The members of the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company and Auxiliary, the Kent and Queen Anne’s Association for their support over the years, and all the associations that endorsed me this year. I’d also like to thank all the Past Presidents for their for their endorsement but I like to especially thanks to members of my fire company Sudlersville, our Past President Steve Cox and Fred Cross for their support for many years. And Doyle Cox for supporting me and went to a lot of meetings with me this year and I truly appreciate all their efforts.

I learned a lot over the last five years serving the last four on the Executive Committee. I learned a great deal from all the other members, several have already been thanked today, but I’d like to thank all the Executive Members that I served with over the years, and I’m going to call on them for even more support as I move up hopefully. I’m looking forward this year, to working with Mark and Rick as well as all the Executive Committee members, and all the committees, as well as the Ladies Auxiliary. So thank
you all very much for your support and hopefully I’ll serve in this role with dignity and honor. I’m here if you need me, just call. Thank you all very much. (Applause)

President Bilger: I’d like you to introduce Secretary, Past President Doyle Cox.

Secretary Cox: Thank you Mr. President. Good morning everybody. Just as always real quick. Thank you, thank you, and thank you. (Applause)

President Bilger: Treasurer Chief Ron Siarnicki.

Treasurer Siarnicki: Well good morning. First of all let me say thank you for a re-electing me to the position of treasurer. I hope that I carry out those duties and responsibilities to really ensure that the Maryland State Firemen’s Association moves forward fiscally. It is a team effort. And I want to thank Robert Jacobs Fred Cross of Wylie Donaldson who are assistant treasures from last year and the entire financial team. We do work together very well to make sure that the fiscal affairs of this association are addressed and I must say that it’s clicked for us in a great effort. And I’d be remiss if I didn’t mention Mitch Vocke, who is the Financial Secretary and his Assistant Bobby Aaron and Fred Cross, excuse me Steve Cox, who is the budget chair. So on behalf of the entire financial team, we’re here to support you and serve you. If you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can do things better, we want to automate as much as we can. We’re going to make that all happen, so thank you very much. (Applause)

And I’m supposed to stay and do the convention report. So I’ll just knock that out real quick. I hope we’ve met your expectations for this year’s convention. (Applause) Well thank you. You have heard from many of the officers about that army of individuals that run around this place for a couple of days, pulling things together. Well actually they’ve been working on the Ocean City event for almost eight months. And then all of the satellite events for the last two years. And I think that we have brought together a great team of individuals to make sure that your annual convention in meeting issues are addressed, but also the commemorative ness of what the Maryland State Firemen’s Association is all about. This year’s convention brought some additional challenges with everything from the airshow again, and potential construction of the addition to the Convention Center. If you haven’t heard they’re going to add another exhibit hall to the north of us. They’ll be tearing down the sunset room and doubling the size of the exhibit hall going north. So that’ll be dealing with us next year. I’m glad to see that the convention dates for the next five years were voted on and addressed in the first session. Those will be posted so you can start making your hotel reservations and travel reservations from then.

Weather this year was a little bit of a challenge. We had a downturn in our participation, Jolly Roger due to the storm, but still had about 1600 people come out for that. Prayer
breakfast was phenomenal this morning. Over 200 people came out to worship. Frontier Town tickets, if you haven’t bought them and you want to do that, you could still get them at Frontier Town at the ticket office. We all, we did will call, and we did online purchasing, but we shut that down, so that people could go to the site, and/or go on site, and get what they need. Don’t forget the golf tournament is on Friday. We’ll be out there at Eagles Landing. I have to thank the town of Ocean City, and especially the mayor, for all the support, not only in helping us with the golf course, but all the things they do. And I think that the committee and center staff needs a round of applause for all the help they give us, please. (Applause)

There are some 125th event books still left if you haven’t gotten them, and also if you’re interested, you can order the coins. We sold out of the coins that we had, so we will probably do one more advanced order purchase of those. So if you’re interested contact myself or Tommy Mattingly or any of the Convention Committee and let us know if you need something. But it’s been a pleasure to serve as your convention chairman and we look forward to next year, thank you very much. (Applause)

**President Bilger:** I would now like to introduce the Executive Committee for the coming year. Chairman Charlie Simpson from Carroll County, Mr. Ronald Block from Anne Arundel County, Mr. Daniel Stephens from Southern Maryland, Mr. John Fisher from the Lower Shore, Kent Whelan from the Upper Shore, Tim Dayton in Western Maryland, Wayne Tome Cecil, Harford and Cecil, Rick Hemphill Washington and Frederick - he’s the Vice Chair, Richard Smith from the Middle Shore, Doug Simpson Jr Baltimore County, Chief Jim Seavey from Montgomery, Chuck Walker from Prince George’s, and immediate Past-President Michael Davis. This is your executive committee for the coming year. (Applause)

If you would exit that side we appreciate it. Thank you, this time I’m going to read the list of the Assistant Officers; Assistant Secretary Shirley Copado, Assistant Secretary Nancy Cox, Assistant Secretary Nancy Scott, Assistant Secretary Thomas Scott. Our Assistant Treasures; Past President Fred Cross, Wylie Donaldson, Past President Bob Jacobs. Bobby Aaron is Assistant Financial Secretary. Chaplain Reverend Frederick Bahr, Deacon Charles Barnhart, Chaplain Michael Bowen, Chaplain Harley Hetz. I’m sorry Harry Hetz, Chaplain Marvin Jackson, Rabbi Tenenbaum, Chaplain Pete Walbert. Our Attorneys; Michael Farlow Esquire, Ashleigh Daughbach. Our Parliamentarian Chairman is Richard Brooks III, Ken Bush, Tyler Patton, and William Wagner III. These are your appointed officers. (Applause) Now if Past President Roth would come to the stage, he will be our installing officer this year. (PP Roth administers the oath of office) (Applause)

Okay, next we’ll have a presentation. Okay now I’d like to introduce Mario Melfa Vice-Chairman of our Safety Committee.
Mario Melfa: Good morning everybody. Ready for the main presentation dealing with a wellness program considering that heart attacks still kill majority of us over 52%. One of the best-kept secrets that a wellness campaign is right here in Worcester County. You got to say to yourself, do you offer what is needed to have a fire, to have your firefighters exceptionally ready and effective for our operational demands and the entire situation presented? Are you as an individual leader or the fire department able to provide a combat-ready firefighter? A fit mean-machine, backup for his/her, or his safety, and his fellow providers. At this time I'd like to introduce our next speaker, Mr. Edgar. Chief Edgar we call him, Eddie. Eddie Carmen, Snow Hill Volunteer Fire Department, Snow Hill Maryland. Big round of applause. (Applause)

Chief Carmen: Good morning, how’s everyone? (Goes right into video) Video: Requires a great deal of strength and endurance. My diet was a mess I was taking four different types of meds. 1.6 million Marylanders have pre-diabetes and most don’t even know it. The National diabetes prevention program was really good about balancing everything from your lifestyle to eating and proper nutrition. It really changed my life. I've lost a total of 45 pounds and currently all my blood work is great. Everyone has the power to prevent diabetes. For more information visit: behealthyMaryland.org.

Alright let’s try again how’s everybody today? My name is Ed Carmen, thanks for the introduction Mario. Just give you a little bit about myself. I’m the risk manager for Worcester County and I’ve been doing that for about 7 years now, so I handle all the workman’s comp for all 10 fire companies here in Worcester County. When we talk about getting our firefighters ready for combat and ready to do the job that’s at hand, a lot of times we go right straight to health and wellness, and we think that they’re all the same. And it’s not completely true, so what I’ve put together today’s a little bit of a presentation, and I’m going to talk about a lot of personal experience from a program that I took, and show you how some of these things can be implemented in your own departments, usually at very little cost.

The first thing and we’ve heard this a million times. The first thing we’ve got to do is; we’ve got to be able to get out front and lead from the front. Okay, I chose this picture this was a 911 stair walk that was not too long ago here in Ocean City, and if you noticed in that picture you got a couple white helmets out there, so you’ve got to have your leadership involved. Okay, if you don’t have the buy-in from the leadership, the guys are not going to follow you. So four components for preparing for today’s firefighter. We’re going to talk about the health and medical side of it. We’re going to talk about fitness, rehabilitation, and most importantly, behavioral health. On the medical side a lot there’s been a lot done in the in the past towards the benefits of screenings and physicals. One of the areas where it seems that we fail most during physicals is making sure that we’re getting good communications between our providers of what we really need and what we want. To be able to give the best possible advice to our firefighter’s. Physical assessments, getting away from the wellness side, and
getting into what the firefighters actually have to do. A lot of us have seen where there are physical ability tests, where we do simple tasks that we do every day on the fire ground, and we do that in such a way that we monitor it to see if there’s progress or if there’s any anything that we can do to improve on. What that function is; vision and hearing screening. As we get older of course those things diminish. If we have a baseline test in the beginning, it makes it a lot easier to see what’s going on with our employees.

Respiratory physicals, we all know about that and the OSHA requirement for the respiratory physicals. Again it’s one of those things that, as we get older, those things start to diminish, so it’s very important to have a baseline so we can see where we’re at, and monitor the process. Cancer screenings, a lot of things going on with cancers right now, especially with presumption claims, so it’s very important to get those screenings when those new employees come on board, okay. We want to make sure they got a clean bill of health, so we can help them in the future if something should arise, and of course lab tests and EKGs, they are all parts of a good physical. And if you guys go to the MSFA website, you can check out the SAFR grants that are available for the physicals; if for your departments that qualify.

Okay, for fitness, and a lot of times especially as volunteers it’s hard to get volunteers to understand the importance of fitness, I kind of compare this a little bit, and I’m going to go off on a little bit of a tangent here. When you think about going to fire what do you think about? You think about throwing on your bunker gear, get on a truck, getting to the scene, maybe throwing some ladders, pulling some hose. Think for a minute about that hose, that you just pulled off the truck, and think about what you’re doing, your daily job, and my job. I push papers most all day long, okay, so it’s not very much physical activity. That siren goes off, I jump on a truck, I put on about 70 pounds worth of gear, I jump off the truck, and I grab an axe and halligan bar, it weighs about 20 pounds, and then I stretch out 200 foot of 1 3/4 line. That 1 3/4 line, when that hoses is dry is about 20 pounds per section for a 50-foot section, but when you fill it with water, you add another 50 pounds per section, so you just stretched out 280 pounds of weight that you’re going to drag, while wearing 70 pounds of gear, and you’re going to drag that in a house, around the corner, up the stairs, and into a room. We have to be physically fit to do this, okay.

For 2015, I use a lot of statistics that come from the US. Fire Administration and the reason I picked the US Fire Administration over NFPA is because, US Fire Administration recognizes line of duty deaths that fall under the Hometown Hero Act of 2003. The Hometown Hero Act states that any firefighter that dies within 24 hours of a major event, that he or she has been taking part of, will be considered a line of duty death. In 2015 and I used those statistics because 2016 statistics won’t come out until August, but in 2015 there were 90 line of duty deaths. Of those 90 line of duty deaths, 60 of them were heart or stroke related. Sixty out of 90, that’s two-thirds of our fatalities for
2015, okay. I think we can do better than that. It’s going to take some work, but I think we can do better than that. Out of those 60 deaths, the US Fire Administration labeled one activity is responsible for more of them than any other activity on a fire scene, pulling fire hose, and in 2015 there were 10 deaths that were related to the stress of pulling a fire hose. In 2014 it was 15 deaths. In 2013 27 deaths related to heart attack due to the activity of pulling a fire hose a charge line. If you look back over recent years and even as a 10-year average, we lose 55% of our fatalities are from firefighter heart attacks and coronary events, okay. Fifty five percent over ten years. The last two years it has been 66 and 67 percent, okay. This year I believe the numbers going to be a little bit lower according to NFPA, but I’m waiting to see the US. Fire report.

We want to make sure when we’re talking about that Fitness that we’re not just telling the guys they’ve got to do it. Okay, if they’re paid, yeah you can kind of set up block the time aside as long as they’re not on a call. You can get it, get them some time where they can actually do it. You can require it for paid guys, for volunteers it’s a little more difficult. So we want to make sure that the resources are available when it’s convenient for them. They don’t all work the same time, they don’t all have the same schedules or lives, but we have to make sure it’s convenient for them. Access to specialists and trainers. This is very important because our jobs are very specific. You don’t go and train a NFL football player to swing a baseball bat, so when we when we’re looking for these job specific duties, excuse me, we want to make sure that we are training for the job, so if we can get access to specialist. This could include, not just physical fitness people, but when you’re talking about nutrition and things of that nature, in order to make sure that our programs working, we also have to have evaluations in place. Evaluations nothing more than monitoring what you’re doing. There is no way to tell if your wellness program or your fitness program is working unless you start with a baseline and you monitor it on a regular basis, to see your improvements. If you see shortfalls then you change your program. You make some adjustments, okay, but there’s no way to do it without monitoring. We also want to make sure that that we get certified assessments. We were able through Snow Hill Fire Company to partner with our local health department to get free health assessments. Now this was a very generic baseline health assessment in which they took our weight, our height, gave us a BMI and a body fat reading, they also did a strength test which was a grip test, and a flexibility test, and once they did those assessments, they gave us a report that said, okay, you have X number of members that are in this area, X number in this area. We took that information to decide what programs we were going to go with next. The program that Worcester, or that Snow Hill Fire Department went with was a lifestyle balance program which is a CDC based program. It’s the National Diabetes Prevention Program. And in you all, so for fitness make sure you set your goals. It’s not just a matter that we have a program everybody can hold up a piece of paper where we wrote out a nice program, and it looks good, and we borrowed it from somebody else, and we made it fit, but you want to make sure you have goals specifically for your department.
Rehabilitation, this is one of my favorite wants to hit on because sometimes we fail in this and a lot of these injuries that you hear me talk about including the 2015 statistics, out of those 90 people, 15 of those deaths were Hometown Hero deaths, okay. That meant they were done with their job, they left the station, they were either on their way home, or they were home, when they had their heart attack and passed away. Fifteen out of those 90, okay. Rehabilitation may have helped that. On-scene rehabilitation, making sure that when the guys leave, that they’re okay to leave, if that includes having the medical team out pulling them aside and saying hey; do you mind getting in an ambulance. Let’s check you O2, check the heart rate, check the pulse, and talk to them for a few minutes. One of the things I find most the time on the fire scene when I talked to a guy about rehab, everybody’s in denial, it’s a hundred degrees today, you’ve been working for 45 minutes in full gear, and if you ask them how they are, what do you get? Fine! That’s what you get. You get fine. Take the time to sit them down, make sure they’re fine before you let them go. Post-event that’s a huge one for me. Also for rehabilitation, when they’re injured or if they’ve been sick, bringing them back in into a work hardening type environment, physical therapy, getting them ready for that job again. Sometimes we’ll have guys to get hurt in their personal life but they still want to show up and help on the fire scene, okay. Got a guy that’s hurt his back and he shows up and wants to pull a fire hose, that’s not the best scenario for you. So we want to make sure that we’re bringing them back in a good enough condition to be able to perform that job. Use a medical liaison. A lot of times the guys don’t want to hear it from you.

I came up in a very small town, when I was a little bit older and I come home out of the service, everybody in town was, you know, glad to see you, and you go to church, and all the ladies would say; I remember changing your diaper. Well then you get a little bit older and you turn around and now you become an officer, and you’ve got that white helmet on, and you got to go to somebody and say hey, I don’t think you should go in and fight fires anymore, and then the response you get from a senior firefighter coming from a younger guy, yeah oh you little crap, get out of my way, I’m going in, right. They’re not going to listen to you, so we’ve got to make sure we have a liaison that somebody’s going to respect, and that they can understand their opinion. Modified duty, this was a big one, okay, you get that guy that’s hurt, he still wants to help, we’re all short-staffed in our fire departments, or at least most of us. I believe having modified duty that you can feel comfortable bringing a guy back in, maybe he was one of your best interior firefighters, now he’s injured, he wants to come back, you don’t, you don’t think he’s quite ready for coming back, maybe you can do something else with him. Put him in charge of your rehab. Put him in some type of modified duty position where he can work within the restrictions of whatever his injuries are, okay. We don’t want to deter him from helping, but we don’t want to put him at any greater risk.
Injury and Illness Prevention programs: This one is one I kind of sneak into the guys and they don’t even understand that they’re getting it, but in a meeting or a drill, sometimes I’ll introduce topics like heat stress and heat stroke, things of that nature, to make sure that we can have an understanding of exactly how dangerous our job is. A lot of the things that kill us aren’t from the job, they’re from the culture and from our mindset. Again a lot of times guys will say; no I’m fine, I’m fine, I’m just a little warm, I’ll be all right in a few minutes, then you end up finding the guy collapsed on the ground next to the engine, and you end up having to transport him, okay. We got to be careful with that. And then making sure you do have a clearance for return to duty. We have tons of guys and in fact, recently I had one. I dealt with him, my own department, gentleman had been out, and he’d been in the hospital for a few days. We had a pretty big call at a lumber mill, the guy shows up, says he’s fine, drives the truck, we get there, he’s standing outside the truck. We call for more water. We don’t get any water, turn around and he’s sitting on the tailboard looking terrible, okay. He said he was fine, but we had no written authorization saying that he could come back, okay. We want to make sure you have those.

And the last one I’d like to talk about behavioral health. Not necessarily talking about your stressed-out co-worker that has anger issues, although that’s definitely included, but any type of behavioral health. When we started introducing health and wellness to Worcester County, and we started with Snow Hill Fire Department, one of the things I tried to get the guys to understand, it’s not just about a diet, or about getting exercise, it’s about changing some of our habits, and some of our culture. It’s one thing to understand what you’re doing wrong, it’s something totally different to change it. Many of us don’t see our diets and our exercise patterns as being wrong, because that’s what we’re used to. We’ve seen it for 20 30 40 years whatever. But with these programs and behavioral health, like the lifestyle balance class, it’s only about changing habits, and it’s changing habits that you can live with. It’s really tough to walk into a room of a County Association dinner over roast beef and dumplings and bring up health and wellness, okay. Yeah, you have a hard time getting people to accept it at that point, okay, but when they, and what worked for me is the fact that I went through the program. Give you a few stats about myself. I started a program. I was 240 pounds. I was pre-hypertensive. I had acid reflux. I didn’t sleep very well. I snore terrible. I took the program, down to about 185. Now my hypertension is gone, my acid reflux is gone, I sleep most all night and I don’t snore. That’s a big thing for my wife that I don’t snore. She could care less about the rest, but it improved my quality of life. The other thing it did for me, and this one is important to a lot of people. I was on four different medications, okay, so that’s four co-pays. I was paying every month $10 per copay, $40 a month, $480 a year I was paying on medications. With this program, I am no longer on any medications now. I spend that money on tennis shoes because I walk everywhere I go, but the matter is, you can make changes, and you can make your people healthier if you’re willing to get out there, and get in front.
The Employee Assistance Programs: you know when we talk about employee health and wellness, we want to make sure we cover all the spectrums, so if that employee is having issues, whether it’s stress over money, or family, or fire department, or whatever it is, being able to offer them some type of assistance through an Employee Assistance Program, a lot of times, if you reach out to your providers, these things can be offered, usually in some type of group rate. You know we already do things with crisis response teams and things of that nature, but if needed, we need to have an outlet to be able to send our people for behavioral health. Stress management is another one. Smoking cessation, critical incident stress management, every one of those up there that that you see, except for the bottom one. I was able to get for our fire department through the Worcester County Health Department, okay. So I highly encourage you to reach out to your health departments as part of your network of providers. Okay, and find out what they can offer for you. The great thing about partnering with them is, that opened up a door for me to be able to talk to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. They’re the ones that help pay for that commercial that’s up there. They sponsored the whole commercial actually, but under Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Currently there are over 50 locations in the state where you can get these programs, ok. Most of them are at no cost, but that depends on what’s going on in your region. I can’t say all of them, Worcester County, I got most of those programs and it cost us nothing, ok, takes a little time. One of the things that we learn when we offer these, I was really disappointed the first time we offered the class, we had big expectations. I thought you know, hey, I’m going to get half of the department first time. So I started talking about it in August and I want to start a class in January. Everybody’s for it, everybody’s, yeah, let’s do this. We’re going to do it together. I go back a month later, my sign up list has one name. One name, I just about cried. So I go to the next meeting. I bring it up again. Guys are, yeah it’s definitely a good idea, and I’m in. I go back month later, look at the list, two names, okay, its improvement, and got progress. It took me four months to get up to six names. So then I come to the department, I say this isn’t enough for us to get a class. They won’t come in and do the class with six people. Can we open this to the general public, yeah guys kind of hemmed and hawed about it a little bit yeah, sure open it to the public. I put up six flyers, posted it on Facebook, on the opening day of class we had 34 people show up, okay, story on snow Hill Fire Company. I had six firefighters. This was the key I think, to getting this program started in Worcester County, the six firefighters. I had included a young Chief of about 25 years old. I had a paramedic that’s in his 60s. I had a retired Chief and Paramedic. I had a Paramedic Supervisor, 2 full time paramedics, one of them being 21 years old, and the most obese guy in our fire department. Those guys, in 16 weeks managed to lose 212 pounds, okay. Four of those guys are no longer on their blood pressure medications, to me that’s more important than the weight, okay. They’re much healthier than they were before, out of the six, five of the six, are still maintaining, and this is since January 2015. They are still maintaining healthy life balance styles and choices. Not perfect, but healthier than they were. That’s the only goal, is to improve it, okay. Those six guys, people see all those changes and they start coming
to them and start asking them questions. Next thing you know, Worcester County, I’m getting requests all over the county for a program. Now this started in January 2015, as of today we will be starting our eighth class in Worcester County firehouses, okay. We’ve hit seven fire companies. One fire company starts today, has already had a class, but they had such an outpour of support, they want to have a second class. In September will be starting in our eighth firehouse. That means out in two and a half years, I’ve got eight out of ten fire departments done in Worcester County. You can’t do this by yourself guys, okay, if you’re going to do health and wellness, get on board with partners, but make sure that they are well aware of what you need, and what you expect out of them. The things we can do for our volunteers, I mean we don’t pay them, we wake them up at two o’clock in the morning in the hottest days, or the coldest days, and the rain and the snow, and all of that, the least we can do is try to make it easier for them to have a healthier lifestyles, okay.

This is it. This is a simple program. The last one up there, Chaplain Services. I haven’t dug into that a lot. You know the departments I’ve been involved with, usually the chaplain says the prayer at the beginning of the meeting, at the end of the meeting, or over dinner, but I’m learning a little bit more about what our chaplains role should be, and what it can be when it comes to behavioral health, and his role in and making sure that that we address those issues.

So in conclusion we’ve got to be proactive guys. We have got, we have got to get it on board with this. There’s no oh, it’ll get better, it’ll change on its own. There is no, no other option, we’ve got to be proactive and it’s excessive. Any health and wellness program is dependent on a support from all of those involved. You’ve got to get the white hats out there, to buy into it, and not only buy into it, be part of it, okay. If you can get the right Chief or the right Assistant Chief to start the program, and actually participate in the program, makes it a lot easier. And you also have those leaders that don’t have the white hat, you know, you know who they are in your department. You got that ring leader that everybody kind of follows one way or the other. Lasso his behind, drag him up there, and talk to him about what his role can be in this, because it can be huge.

And finally you know we have to meet the goals that we establish and to do that, we have to have an extensive network of partners, okay. I’ve already discussed the, you know, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. They’ve been a huge instrument for me. We’ve talked about our local health departments. Seek out your hospitals, Johns Hopkins did a study and I was just talking backstage about it. Johns Hopkins did a study on lifestyle balance changes and they took a thousand people and put them in three categories, and the category that did the best, was the category that changed their lifestyle, not the categorical medications, and not the group that didn’t change anything. The group that made behavior modifications in their diet and exercise routines, okay. It’s easy enough to do. It really is. It takes support. It takes time, don’t
get discouraged. If you only get that one guy on your signup sheet, if you get that one guy using, taking you know, go with it. To date with the classes we did in Worcester County, there’s seven classes that are completed. They lost a total of 1676 pounds, okay. We’re just shy of a ton of weight, literally, okay. Our goal is by the end of the next class for somebody to be able to stand up on a stage, and say, we lost a ton of weight. That’s the goal, okay. I think that would sound pretty cool, but the key to this whole thing is, got to be proactive. You guys have got to get out and do it this year. I recently stepped down as Second Assistant Chief and I did it for one reason. I believe that if I’m going to make any real changes, I got to start with cadets. So this year I’m going to lead the cadets, and the cadets are already well aware that I’m the lifestyle balance guy, and not to expect pizza after a drill. I try not to hit almost celery sticks but you know, we had some fun, but if we’re going to make these culture changes. They’re going to be slow and if you can start with the cadets and have they come through it, that way that’s going to be your success. Thank you guys, appreciate it. Have a good day. (Applause)

Mike LeCompte: Again, what we said earlier, this is offered in every County, will be offered in every county in the state, and please take advantage of it. One last shocking statement I want to say to you is, the average, and I said this yesterday, I just called my medical director, Dr. Rose. The average American is having their first heart attack at age 57. The average firefighter in America has their first heart attack at age 46. We are the highest industry in America. Now think about all of our industries. We are the highest or the lowest in age that are having our heart attack. So please, when you go back to your departments, tell those people that, and we can hopefully transition that with people like Eddie, out there educating people. Thank You, Mr. President.

President Bilger: Thank you for the presentation we want to give you one our official convention mugs and we have a bag for you backstage. Thank you. (Applause)

At this time I’m going to open the floor up for any old business. Any old business? Final and last call for old business?

At this time the floor will entertain any new business. Please come up - do you have a mic? I guess just come forward so we can hear your name, your company, and what you want to bring up under new business.

Walter Townsend: My name’s Walter Townsend, President, Salisbury Fire Department Incorporated here in Salisbury Maryland. Mr. President, members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, on February 22nd 2017 Salisbury Fire Department Incorporated Company #1. Voted to separate from the city of Salisbury, it made a decision to become an independent station. Salisbury Fire Department Inc. Company #1 has advertised or made statements to the fact that they will begin to conduct fire and EMS operations in Wicomico County on or about first of July 2017. Since their
separation from the City of Salisbury Fire Department, everything they had used to qualify for, and maintain membership within the Maryland State Firemen’s Association remains the property of the City of Salisbury. As a result it has necessitated that they purchase replacement equipment, tools, gear, and establish a new location for fire and EMS operations, which has not been inspected or approved by the operations of the bylaws of the MSFA. On behalf of myself and the members of the Salisbury Fire Department Incorporated, our delegates respectfully request in a form of motion, that the MSFA standards committee will with haste inspect Salisbury Fire Department Corp Incorporated Company #1 per the MSFA bylaws, Article D, Section 1, E, before July 1, when they wish to begin service. Per the MSFA bylaws, Article D, Section 1, request the Standards Committee validate the Salisbury Fire Department Inc. has an improved reporting system to maintain records of response and the standard committee validates Salisbury Fire Inc. Company #1 has a heated station of adequate size and configuration to house apparatus, vehicles, and equipment. C., the Standards Committee validate Salisbury Fire Department Company #1 has a suitable method of receiving alarms, and alerting for the membership via the Wicomico County Emergency Services 9-1-1 Center. The Standards Committee with haste inspect Salisbury Fire Department Company #1, furthermore their equipment meets SOP standards, SOP S0 0 1 for pump standards, SOP S200 for tank standards, the MSFA Standards Committee with haste inspect Salisbury Fire Department Company #1 per the MSFA bylaws Article E, Section 1 that the Standards Committee confirmed Salisbury Fire Department Company #1 complies and meets the minimum standards developed with the MSFA and MIEMSS under the voluntary ambulance inspection program, as an emergency medical service provider for basic and advanced life support, and are recognized by MIEMSS and the Medical Director, Dr. Todd for PRMC. The standard committee confirms that the Salisbury Fire Department Company #1 personnel and equipment meet SOP standards # 001 ambulance standards and E002, ALS MICU standards, and E0003, rescue company standards. In summary if Salisbury Fire Department Company #1 fails this inspection for any of the above items the remedy our Delegates request is a suspension of their membership per the Constitution, Article 1, and Section 3 until it can be corrected. It is our hope and desire to avoid a violation of the Constitution, Article 1, Section 9, if Salisbury Fire Department Company #1 is not prepared or authorized to respond on or about July 1 as advertised. That’s the end of our motion. That’s the end of our motion request.

President Bilger: Do we have a second to their motion? Please state your name of your department. Charlie Abrecht, Junior Fire Company, Frederick County. Ok, discussion under the motion. Sir is your department currently a member of the MSFA.

President Townsend: Yes we are.

President Bilger: You’re registered here at the convention?
President Townsend: Yes.

President Bilger: Okay. Any other discussion? Any other comments? We’ll call for the question. All of those in favor of the motion please stand. Thank you very much. Please sit down. Anyone opposed to the motion please stand. Motion carries. Thank you very much.

Is there any other new business be brought before the convention? Any other new business be brought before the convention? Hearing none. We will now do the $10,000 raffle.

Lou Jonske: Good morning everybody and we’re here again for another year and I just want to give the report of what happened throughout this year, or this year, and last year. All right, we started the raffle in 2016-17 with great expectations, and we followed through with our first scheduled affair at the Harford County Fair which was in July of 2016. We did very well at that four-day event and this year it’s going to be a seven day event. I can’t wait for that, right now. We sold almost $1500 worth of chances and we had 12 workers that were all from Harford County. We were now ready to take on the Sun Fest in Ocean City which ran from September 2016 the 22nd to the 25th. The weather was not the greatest, but the workers from Harford, Worcester, and Dorchester Counties were there, and we turned in almost $10,000.00, $9,290.00. The Darlington Apple Festival came up next and the weather was really bad. We had some people there that weathered the storms and they only turned in $733.00 which is usually somewhere between $2,500 and $3,000.

Now we would have to rely on the Spring Fest at Ocean City. The forecast was not the greatest, but we really needed them to do the best that we could with that affair. We opened on Thursday, May 4th, with wind and cold. Friday was really bad and we never even could open our tent. Most of the tents blew down, down there at the Sun Fest on the parking lot. Saturday was windy with rain in the evening. Sunday was, Sunday was not any better. We turned in a total of $3,670.00 which is usually sometimes somewhere around $10,000.00. We’ve requested Ocean City division of Recreation and Parks, we’re going to change the name of Spring Fest next year, and it’s going to be called wind/rain fest.

Okay, the committee went to Ocean City Convention with a total of $22,103.00, and we finished up this year with $47,761.00, which that was all what was turned in at the desk downstairs. (Applause)

With that, $47,761.00 00 we were still behind last year because last year was $50,000.00 plus, so contributing to the bad weather we lost a couple thousand bucks. We were hoping to have all of the MSFA and LAMSFA members return all of their tickets sold, but we only got returned from about 48% of our people. Fifty two percent did not
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turn in anything. I can’t understand that, because I have an eighty seven-year-old, WW, she’s with Joppa Magnolia, and she sold $950.00 by herself. (Applause) Now if she can do that, I can’t see why everybody can’t turn their chances in. Everybody reaps the benefits of this association when we turn that money in. So I can’t see why everybody can’t turn their check, chances in and sell them.

We’re going to, we’re going to make the drawing now, and once I come back down from here, if Bonnie Halls here, I’ve got your book. Go ahead, let’s get the $10,000.00 winner. Are we ready? The $10,000 winner this year is: 412-551-1736. Dan are you here? Wow, good, okay.

Now for the $2,500 winner. I didn’t have a zip code. All I got it’s a phone number, 412. Can I have it? The $2,500.00 winner is: Ronald Lipzee, Lip I don’t know, 443-790-0685. Ronald are you here? Nope, anybody know him that can get ahold of him. I asked, I asked Martin, Oh you know him? You can get 10% if you take the money to him. I asked Mark to allow me not to give the money away if they weren’t here, but he said no.

Okay the $1,500 our winner is, what you wrote it, would say Wayne Willing Wayne Willing, 303, no 302-381-4724. Is Wayne here? Good we get to keep all the money. Yeah there’s no water on the chance.

Okay the $1,000 winner is: Mike Donnelly, no not Mike Donnelly, Mike Donna, Donnelly, 717-487-3786. He’s not here either, huh, okay.

The $750 winner is: Moses, Morse or Morse, Morse 410-289-1031. Nobody, yeah.

The $500 winner: Norrisville Volunteer Fire Company, Pylesville, Maryland. (Applause) See what happens when you buy your chances. You end up winning. (Applause)

Seven, $250 winner: David Johnson, 443-790-8703. Dave you’re not here either, right? Somebody know him out there? You do, everybody right.

Eight, number eight is: Kathryn, Kathleen, same woman, 443-504-2013.

Nine, ninth winner of $100 is: Gordon Riffle, 410-236-4004.

One more, your tenth and last one. Tenth winter of $100 is: oh another fire company, PV, RBVC, yeah, volunteer fire company, RB, Revere Beach, 410-693-0020. (Applause)

This lady knows all the winners right here it’s unbelievable. I want to thank everybody that worked hard to get this thing where it where it ended up here today, and I tell you what, next year we could use more help. If anybody has time they want to spend,
especially here at the Spring Fest, and Sun Fest, because spending four days on that parking lot down at Ocean City really is a lot of fun. So if anybody wants to come out and have fun with us, just give me your name and phone number and I’ll make sure that we have a spot for you.

Thank you very much and guess what. We have tickets already for next year.

**Mitch Vocke:** In fact I have President Bilger here. I have his 200 tickets. He’s about to give me a $20 bill to start the process. We usually do this in the Executive meeting. Yeah, he’s going to pay a lot more than this, so he’s starting out right now. I got his $20. So the raffle is now started. I’ve got twenty thousand tickets downstairs if anyone wants to pick them up and take them back. We’ll sign them out to you. I’m in the finance office and I’ll be down there probably about 15 minutes. I’ll issue anybody wants to take tickets and we’ll get them started. Monty Hall don’t forget your book.

**President Bilger:** I got tickets for sale. You can’t leave the room without buying the ticket.

At this time is there any other business be brought before this convention? Hearing none, I will entertain a motion to adjourn. Mitch Vocke from Norrisville. Second by Past President Dave Lewis. We will now have the benediction by Harry Hetz. The benediction, please rise.

**Harry Hetz:** Almighty and everlasting Father, as we come to the close of our 125th Anniversary Convention, Father we thank you for the dedication, and the commitment, and the lives of these men and women that have across the years sustained the fire service to protect their communities, and have sustained the MSFA. Father as we dismiss this afternoon, we just ask your blessings upon all who travel. We ask your mercies over all those who provide services and respond in the streets. We ask your mercy upon our police. Watch over our armed forces as they protect our way of life, and our country. Reach out to those that need a touch of your healing hand. Comfort those that grieve. Grant us traveling mercies as we depart. We give you praise and all things, amen

**President Bilger:** All in favor of the motion for adjournment say aye. All opposed. Be safe by you.
Report of the President

1st Vice President Bilger, 2nd Vice President Blair, Chairman Simpkins, Members of the Executive Committee, Officers, Past Presidents, Members and Guests of the 125th Annual Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. What an exciting year it has been celebrating our 125 years across the state with our charter members, culminating to our annual convention. As we all gather here this week and reflect on the previous years, it’s amazing just how much the fire service has progressed, not just in the past 100 years but even the last 10. This has all been possible because of dedicated and professional volunteers like you!

The past year would not have been possible without the support of my family and friends. I can’t thank my wife enough for her dedicated support. I’m also forever indebted to my mother in-law, Cathie Price for being the baby sitter of the year. She was always available in a pinch allowing me to attend meetings and banquets. Thanks to all of you who have helped with my boys along the way too as the fire service really is just one big family! Thanks to the Gatton’s for keeping my boy’s hair looking good!

Congratulations to President Barbara Sue Nelson of the Ladies Auxiliary and her officers for another successful and fun year. It has been a true pleasure traveling across the state together, making more friends along the way while strengthening our friendship bond, not just personally but our families as well. The LAMSFA has been an irreplaceable asset of the MSFA, always there when we need support. I wish Barbara Sue, her husband Speedy, Son J.A., wife and grandson, all the best. You are a blessed family!

We wouldn’t be where we are without our partner agencies. I’d like to acknowledge Shock Trauma for being a dedicated and outstanding partner over the years. Their interest is truly for the good of all citizens who might ever need their services and supporting their fellow partners too. Congratulations to Dr. Thomas Scalea, M.D. on his 20 years of dedicated service to Shock Trauma, saving tens of thousands of lives in his career. His dedication is a testament to the vitality of the Shock Trauma system! Thank you to Director Steve Edwards and the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute for providing world class training to our members and supporting the MSFA on our endeavors to close the communications gap with the younger members. Together we can reach the next generation and continue to improve the fire and rescue services across not only the state. To our Maryland State Police Aviation Command, I thank you for your dedicated service this past year. Your commitment to us providing the fastest care when needed allows the volunteer fire and rescue services to better provide care for those who need it most when time is of the essence.

The mission capability of the new helicopters and top-notch crew training has shown
to be the best ever in Maryland history. Keep up the good work, we are always here for you as you have been for us. Thank you to the Maryland Department of Military for your excellent work administrating the VCAF loans. This low interest loan and grant system has allowed many companies to afford much needed equipment. Thanks to MIEMSS and Mr. James Brown for his dedication to providing excellent photography and representation all over the state! This partnership continues to show dedication to the volunteers and the Maryland EMS system. Combined, we are the best system there is and we are looked upon as a world leader and role model, all thanks to our partners and volunteer members!

Congratulations to another successful year with our Legislative Committee! Their tireless efforts in previous years really shows as this past year has been fairly quiet. I believe this all due to their hands-on active involvement in Annapolis, year after year, never giving up on issues that need our attention. If it weren’t for their mere presence during the legislative sessions and testimonies, we’d have more issues than we could ever deal with and I am very grateful for that! Their efforts along with our fire sprinkler initiative team and side-by-side demonstrations have proven effective towards residential sprinkler education.

I’d also like to thank our Safety and Cancer Committees. Their efforts to support education and prevention towards Firefighter cancer, along with other occupational risks, have not gone un-noticed. We’re losing people every day to preventable diseases, slips, trips, and falls, and cancers. We all can make a difference. Please read the studies and reports these committees have researched and better educate yourselves. It’s not only for your own good but your families as well. Someone loves you, make sure you around for them and do your part to stay safe and keep others safe too.

My goals were not any specific platform but to perform the duties of the MSFA and be sure to live up to our mission and support our members in the most efficient way and doing what is right. Many of those issues were highlighted and became goals of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee, which was formed under Past President Roth. As a result of the leadership summit, which is required every 3 years per our by-laws, we have made some good progress on those items. We’ve made excellent progress on a new recruitment website as a result. I’ve also been doing my best to get us more active in the social media world along with help from our MFRI and MEMA Social Media folks, we’ve made some good progress there. I will continue to work on this as I feel this is the future. I intend to remain dedicated to enhancing our social media presence along with more website interaction. One major item that we really need to focus on is the need for paid staff. The only way to really fulfill our mission and be able to keep up will require people that can be solely committed, with a purpose to our cause. Please be sure to read the Strategic Planning report for more information.
Thank you to, President Glen Resnick, Past President John McDowell officers, and members of the Baltimore County Volunteer Firemen’s Association and the Ladies Auxiliary Baltimore County Volunteer Firemen’s Association. Your help and support has allowed me to travel around this state and our neighboring states, to keep our purpose of the MSFA going strong. I particularly would like to thank all the members who are both active in the BCVFA and the MSFA as I know this is a large commitment. Thank you to President Jean Roberts, Chief Kevin Roberts, Treasurer John Dixon, and fellow fire service brothers and sisters of the Cockeysville Volunteer Fire Company and Ladies Auxiliary Cockeysville Volunteer Fire Company. Your support and guidance has been much welcomed and very needed!

Let us not forget those who have gone before us. It has been a tough year of losses for us. I will forever miss John Spiker and his tough love! Little Sgt. Rollin Nolan Scully is a true hero, uniting the fire service not just here but his story has been syndicated worldwide! We are all blessed to have such an angel above us. Mr. Vernon Dulin was dedicated to the fire service all his life. He was truly dedicated to whippy smart comments and a quick joke with a big smile or whatever it took to make you laugh! Unfortunately, we lost another one of our own, Mr. Barry Johnson who was more than dedicated to the Data Committee. He was always there to help. May God lay his hand on you and your families as you watch over us. You will never be forgotten.

I’m excited about our convention this year and our speakers on Autism and fire safety! Michael Furman of Flash Max truly inspires children to look at fire prevention in new ways. Please take all the training you can while you’re here. Be sure to visit all the vendors, inside and out and support them. Don’t forget about our family events and remember to purchase tickets for them. I’m glad you here to celebrate this grand and historic event with us! Please use designated drivers, don’t text & drive or drink & drive and always use crosswalks. God Speed, be safe. Volunteer. GET INVOLVED!

Respectfully,
Michael A. Davis, President

Report of the First Vice President

President Davis, Vice President Blair, Officers, Members of the Executive Committee, Clergy, Auxiliary, Honored Guest, State Partners, Delegates and Alternates to the 125th Annual Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention and Conference. I would like to take just a moment to remember those members who have passed since our last convention & conference. Please continue to keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

I also want to thank the 125th committee and everyone else involved for their hard
work and dedication. This past year was very special thanks to the committees work and the jurisdictions who volunteered to host an event.

My travels around this great state continue to provide me with an opportunity to listen to the comments and concerns of our member companies, committee members, and those individuals who volunteer.

I want to thank the members of the Legislative Committee and the ladies from the LAMSFA for the fine work they did this year in Annapolis. The bulletins were very informative and a great resource of information.

I also want to thank all the companies who invited me to attend their annual banquets and other events. It is a great opportunity to see what great work in being done by all of volunteer fire & EMS providers in Maryland.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark A. Bilger
First Vice President

Report of the Second Vice President

President Michael Davis, 1st Vice President Bilger, Executive Chairman Simpkins Jr., and Officers, Committees Chairs and Members Companies, both the MSFA and LAMSFA and Honored Guest of the 125th Annual Convention and Conference. This past year has been a very interesting and a learning experience for me as I traveled around the tri-state and throughout the State of Maryland and out of State events. I have visited different companies, met with some old friends, made some new friends while attending meetings, special events and many banquets.

First and foremost I want to thank my wife, Roslyn, for all of her understanding and support that she and my sons and their families have given to me over this past year. To my family from the Western Enterprise Fire Company, thank you for all of your support and help that you have given to me this year as well. Thank you to the 25 Member Companies of the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association for your backing and support. A special thank you to Past President’s Robert (Bob) Cumberland, Doyle Cox, Johnie Roth Jr., and David Keller III, as well Steve Cox, Richard Smith, Rick Hemphill, and John W. Hoglund, and many more friends.

I also want to recognize MSFA Conference and Convention Committee Members before I want to say thank you so very much for all the hard work putting this 125th Annual Conference and Convention together. Thank you to those who have helped this committee on special projects they have put together this past year and for all of your hard work and long hours.
Thanks to each of you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you as your 2nd Vice President this past year. And for being here on this special occasion today to help celebrate with the 12 Original MSFA Member Companies the beginning of 125th MSFA Convention. Our Past Presidents and their families thank you for your dedication, your service to the MSFA over the years, and especially your continuous support given over the years. Each one of us here today can probably trace back to someone from their family back to the beginning or close to the starting of their own local fire and rescue or ambulance companies. Please remember those dedicated members who could not be with us here today due to Illness and remember those who have passed in the last year. My condolences goes out to each family member and friend and their home company. Our thoughts and prayers of the MSFA remain with all of you.

MSFA President Michael Davis, LAMFSA President Barbara Sue Nelson, 1st Vice President Mark Bilger, and Past Presidents of the MSFA, and Executive Committee members, I would like to thank each of you for your leadership, guidance, friendship and trust this past year. Thank you for providing me with valuable information that will help me as I move forward within the association. I would like to extend my thanks to our state partners who are always willing to work with us and who are there every day in the field. Some of these agencies are MFRI, MIEMSS, MSP & MSP Aviation, DNR, as well as the University Of Maryland Shock Trauma Systems for working so closely with MSFA and its member companies.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the MSFA Legislative Committee for another great and successful year in Annapolis. Thank you for all your hard work and long hours of commitment that you made this year. Thank You Legislative Chairman Steven Cox, Vice Chairman Richard Smith, and Chuck Walker, members of the committee. All of you did an outstanding job. I would also like to give a big thanks to the LAMSFA ladies for spending so many long hours at 17 state Circle to help out with the office duties such as reading and reviewing all those bills as they came in and cataloging all the legislative bills. Thank you for stepping up and helping out so that the Chairman and others MSFA members could work on bills, go to hearings, and make the necessary visits and contacts with the legislators.

I have attended many meetings with the MSFA Presidents, Executive Officers, Legislative Committee Members, MFRI and MIEMSS, over the past year. We have held many discussions on issues that is effecting our states EMT’s. I am looking forward to continued work with MIEMSS, MFRI, on correcting the issues for the National Registry EMT program in our state. Hopefully we will quickly have a better understanding of this issue and MSFA, MIEMSS, and MFRI we can all agree on.. Over this past year a few officers of MSFA had an opportunity to attend many meetings at the University Of Maryland Shock Trauma, working with their legislative group and attended their Board of Visitors Meeting of that is one group that the MSFA will be working very closely with this year. MSFA Officers will continue to work very closely with MFRI in bringing in new...
and advanced Fire and EMS educational programs to Maryland. I believe that the MSFA Officers, Legislative Committee will be spending some time looking at and working on some major EMS problems that have been popping up and occurring across the state and will be reviewing information and attending the EMS Board Meetings at MIEMSS as well as the MSFA EMS Committee and SEMSAC Committee meeting held at MIEMSS.

MIEMSS is asking that all providers in the state help share the Maryland Crisis Hotline phone number with opioid overdose patients who refuse transport to a hospital. The Maryland Crisis Hotline is provided by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The hotline provides support, guidance, and assistance on how to access substance use disorder and mental health services. Information includes accessing naloxone, recovery support, and family services as available/appropriate in the individual’s local area. Encouraging patients to utilize the crisis hotline may help prevent future overdoses and assist to combat the opioid epidemic. Maryland Crisis Hotline: 1-800-422-0009 EMS

I have been attending the Chaplains meetings and training sessions all around the state. I have had the opportunity to attend and complete a number of critical incident stress management training (CISM) programs offered this past year in defusing, and debriefings fire/rescue/law enforcement, peer-support and stress management. Chaplain John F. Long has offered, officers, members, and Chaplains training classes a few times this year. If you are interested in taking some of this training you are in luck. Please look in your program book today. There are seminars being held in Ocean City this week. You can contact Chief Chaplain John F. Long at Pray@msfa.org in reference in getting some training for your county Chaplains or company officers.

Sincerely
Richard C. Blair, Second Vice President

Report of the Secretary

President Davis, Vice Presidents Bilger and Blair, Officers, Past Presidents, Members of the Executive Committee, Delegates and Guest. It has been an honor and privilege to have served as your Secretary this past year, working with President Davis and Vice President Bilger and Blair, Treasurer Siarnicki and Financial Secretary Vocke. Their continuous support, cooperation and assistance is greatly appreciated. The relationship that exist between the Secretary’s Office, the President’s, Treasurer, Financial Secretary’s Office and the Executive Committee are a vital part of the overall administration of our Association.

The members of the Secretary’s Office have attended all Executive Committee meetings that were scheduled by the President. The meetings were held the following days and at the following locations:
June 23, 2016
Ocean City, Convention Center

August 27 – 28, 2016
Arbutus VFD, Baltimore County

October 15 – 16, 2016
Ridge VFD, St. Mary’s County

February 25 – 26, 2017
Junior Fire Company, Frederick County

April 22 – 23, 2017
Water Witch Fire Company, Cecil County

June 18, 2017
Ocean City, Convention Center

All correspondence and business from those meetings were duly recorded, transcribed and properly distributed and acted upon.

Chairman Simpkins has conducted the Executive Committees meetings in an efficient and very professional manner and I would like to thank him for his cooperation and good working relationship. Many of the meetings were lengthy and involved some in-depth discussions and debates.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Assistant Secretary Shirley Copado for her tireless efforts in recording and transcribing the minutes of our Executive Committee. Assistance Diana Gunther in her efforts in assisting with the NVFA and Secretary of the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Committee. Assistant Secretary Nancy Cox for her efforts in recording and transcribing the minutes of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee, Assistant Secretaries Tom and Nancy Scott for their efforts in the area of distribution, copying and preparing all of the invitations for mailing. Rick Hemphill for taking on the responsibility of video recording all of the Executive Committee Meetings, and Past President Frank Underwood for his efforts in assisting with the copying and distribution of reports. Each of these individuals has dedicated countless hours in fulfilling the responsibilities of the office to which they were appointed or they volunteered for. To the many other individuals that have stepped up and assisted when needed throughout the year, without your assistance, the office would not have been able to provide the service that was requested.

The Secretary’s Office will continue to work with the Convention Committee in preparing and distribution of the Convention Program. This year the first mail out was completed in November 2016 and the last one was completed the last part of April 2017. An additional mail out of the proposed By-Laws amendment was also completed the last of April 2017.

The Secretary’s Office has supplied the many companies and departments with
certificates of recognition of their anniversaries as well as certificates to individuals on their many accomplishments.

As your Secretary, I will continue to travel around the state representing the Association and the Office of the Secretary at meetings and other related functions.

I would like to thank my wife, Cathy for her support and assistance in preparing the mail outs this year. Thanks to all for allowing me to serve as the Secretary of this great Association.

Respectfully submitted,
Doyle E. Cox, Secretary.

Report of the Finance Team

To the Officers, Delegates and Membership of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association:
On behalf of the Finance Team for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA), representing the Office of the Financial Secretary, Office of the Treasurer and the Budget Committee, we would like to extend to all in attendance at the 125th Annual Convention sincere best wishes for a most enjoyable experience here in Ocean City. As we gather again this year to conduct the business of the Association, the Finance Team would like to thank our elected officers, President Davis, Vice President’s Bilger and Blair for their continued support and assistance as we have worked through the financial responsibilities of our organization. They have worked many long hours and traveled numerous miles all year long in an effort to support the mission and purpose of our great organization. Our deepest expressions of gratitude go out to all of them.

Since the creation of the MSFA Financial Team, efforts have been put into place to maintain a solid financial status of our organization and ensure fiscal responsibility throughout the organization. As a team, we pledge to continue to work on addressing every organizational fiscal issue we face and that each of you are kept informed of the financial status and opportunities we have available to us.

For the past twelve months, the Finance Team has worked very hard to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of managing the finances of this association. As elected and appointed officers, we are appreciative of the opportunity to serve the organization and assist in its growth. While growth is critical to our survivability as an organization, the challenge of ensuring the financial stability of the MSFA must be on the forefront of our efforts and work products. Having gone through some tough times in the past, and with the way our national economic situation stands today we have to remain ever vigilant to carry out our tasks and responsibilities, which will help, build a stronger financial plan for all of us.
Fortunately, we have made great progress in a variety of areas involving our finances and have seen a more business-like approach to managing the funds of this association. The Appropriations Fund, Widows and Orphans Relief Fund and the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Program (VCAF) are moving along quite well. We continue to work on the policies and procedures associated with these funds and through regular team meetings, continue to move our association forward. You can be assured that we are doing all we can to ensure that the best interests of the MSFA are represented in every decision that is made.

As work related to the awarding of the Assistance to Firefighters SAFER Grant to the MSFA moves forward, it continues to be very critical that we remain diligent in compliance with all federal guidelines and financial concerns associated with these funds. This has required the Finance Team to take on more responsibilities and with the help of our contractor team; we are convinced that new members will be brought to every department that is a member of this association.

Each of us on the team, Financial Secretary Mitch Vocke, Assistant Financial Secretary Bobbie Aaron, Treasurer Ron Siarnicki, Assistant Treasurer’s: Past President Robert Jacobs, Past President Fred Cross, Wylie Donaldson; Budget Chair and Past President Steve Cox, his Vice-Chair Richard Smith, and his committee members: Eugene Curfman, Past President C. Daniel Davis, Past President Bobby Balta, Ben Kurtz and Past President Carl Edelin are all committed to maintaining a high professional level of performance and fiscal responsibility in this office. Each has helped make a real difference to the end result and for that, we can all be grateful.

Additionally, it has been a pleasure working with the Board of Trusties whose charge it is to support the families of our lost and injured brothers and sisters. The Trusties have worked hard to bring additional resources to the forefront for our families and assisting them is both rewarding and the right thing to do. As a team, we would be remiss if we did not extend thanks to the Executive Committee who, under the leadership of Chairman Doug Simpkins, Jr., always supported our efforts and helped to manage the financial affairs of our organization. We would not be where we are today without their help, guidance and support.

We look forward to another year of hard work to ensure that the best fiscal decisions are again made in support of the mission and purpose of this great Association. Your support and understanding will be needed in order for all of us to be successful. Thanks again and remember to “Be Safe” in all you do.

Respectfully Submitted,
The MSFA Finance Team
Welcome to Ocean City, again we gather to fellowship with our friends and meet new friends. Brothers and sisters of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Services, who share the same likes and dislikes as we do. People who know how we feel, and understand how we think and feel. The “Brotherhood” as it is called, is more than getting together at the beach to throw down a few. Brotherhood is also looking after each other on a daily basis.

The reason I mention this is because we are in a crisis. The number of firefighter and EMT completed suicides is climbing. More has to be done in the trenches to stop this epidemic. Everyone has a responsibility to look after each other, after all isn’t that what the brotherhood is all about. Does your department require everyone to complete the Curbside Manner and Stress First Aid (SFA) courses offered free at (www.everyonegoeshome.com/training). Is everyone who rides the seat trained on how to do an After Action Review? Where do you or your brothers and sisters go after a horrific incident to vent? Does your department have a Peer Support Program? How about a trained Chaplain?

Every time, “EVERY TIME” without fail, when a firefighter or EMT takes their life I hear the same thing, “I wish I knew what I could have done,” or “I didn’t know they had a problem.” Well, you can do something to help prevent this epidemic. Help yourself to the knowledge that is available to you. The National Volunteer Fire Council also has many online courses available to you. Get your department to get a trained chaplain to help with your folks. The role of the chaplain is more than just the invocation and benediction at the company meetings.

I personally don’t want to write about this topic, but as long as we continue to have members attempting or completing suicide, I will continue to write about it and will continue to keep it in the front of your mind. You take the time to put up RED TAPE to warn everyone about a danger zone. Take the time to surround your membership with love and understanding to keep them mentally healthy.

Enjoy your time at the ocean, blow off some steam, be safe, and watch out for your brothers and sisters. If you need help reach out to your chaplain. If you don’t have one contact me. I am on Facebook, Twitter, e-mail me at JFLONGJR@YAHOO.com, or call me 443-623-0753. God Bless

John F. Long, Jr. Chief Chaplain
Report of the MSFA Board of Trustees

President Davis, Officers, Past Presidents, Delegates and Guests of the 125th Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. This past year the Trustees have paid benefits to thirty (30) widows/widowers, one (1) dependent child, one (1) dependent child college educations, three (3) Line-of-Duty-Injury. This year we had (1) one Line-of-Duty-Death claims.

We are saddened to report one (1) Line-of-Duty Death this past year. Please keep the family of Robert Traynelis in your thoughts and prayers.

This year the Trustees increase Widows/Widowers benefits from $700 to $750, Dependent Child benefit from $600 to $650, Line-of-Duty-Death benefits from $10,000 to $11,000 and Line-of-Duty-Injury benefits from $700 to $750 (effective 7/16). Also, increased was the Education for Dependent Children from $4,000 to $5,000 per year ($2,500 per semester effective 1/17).

Please remember to visit the www.msfa.org web site and look under the Board of Trustees for the updated manual with all the forms and procedures you will need to file a claim.

Lastly, I would like to thank your very dedicated Trustees for their service:

Vice Chair, Doug Alexander,
Secretary, Jeff Thompson, Trustee,
Ben Kurtz and Trustee,
Terry Thompson, PP

Thanks for the opportunity to serve the Volunteer Fire Service of Maryland.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Dan Carpenter, III, Chair

Report of the Executive Committee Report

It is both an honor and privilege to submit a synopsis of activities from your Executive Committee for 2016-2017. We have been a very busy committee throughout this year, under the direction of President Mike Davis. Required meeting were held at:

- June 23, 2016 in Ocean City at the Convention Center
- August 27-28, 2016 at Arbutus VFD, Baltimore County
- October 15-16, 2016 at Ridge VFD, St. Mary’s County
- February 25-26, 2017 at Junior Fire Co., Frederick County
The committee welcomed new members aboard. Past President Johnny Roth replaced Past President David Kellar, Wayne Tome representing Harford/Cecil Co.’s, and Rick Hemphill representing Frederick and Washington Co.’s. Serving on this year’s committee included:

Douglas Simpkins, Jr., Chairman - *Baltimore County*
Charles Simpson, Co-Chairman - *Carroll, Howard Co.’s*
Timothy Dayton, Member - *Alleghany, Garrett Co.’s*
Mike Faust, Member - *Caroline, Kent, Queen Co.’s*
John Fisher, III, Member - *Wicomico, Worchester Co.’s*
Rick Hemphill, Member - *Frederick, Washington Co.’s*
Johnie Roth, Immediate Past President, MSFA
Richard Smith, Member - *Dorchester, Talbot Co.’s*
Dan Stevens, Member - *Calvert, Charles, St. Mary’s Co.’s*
Wayne Tome, Member - *Cecil, Harford Co.’s*
Justin Towles, Member - *Anne Arundel County*
Charles Walker, Jr., Member - *Prince George’s County*

The first meeting of the Executive Committee took place on June 23, 2016 while we were in Ocean City. The 2016-2017 committee assignment draft was made available for review and update. Budget and travel allowances were discussed; application for the merger of the Middle River Volunteer Fire Company and the Middle River Volunteer Rescue Company was presented. A cancer support presentation was given by Mr. Bill Vaughn, discussion on the 1% VCAF loans.

We began the celebration of our 125th Anniversary with our meeting At Arbutus VFD in Baltimore County. Saturday morning we were met with a large American flag suspended from 2 volunteer ladder trucks from Baltimore County (Providence & Middle River). A continental breakfast, sponsored by HOLMATRO rescue tools (Mr. Sam Pearce) was served and the opening ceremonies began with the Fire Brigade Pipes and Drums. The presentation of the banners of the 12 original charter companies of the MSFA, were presented by the English Counsul Juniors. This meeting was conducted under the IMS format, utilizing BRANCH DIRECTORS for their respective reports. This format, while new in its presentation, allowed concise, factual information to be presented expeditiously to those in attendance, but still would allow committee chairpersons to report any updated material to those present.

Highlights of this meeting included; the approval of the Middle River Volunteer Fire/EMS Department application, budget approval, travel expense budget approval, travel meal expenses identified and approved, VCAF loan to remain @ 1%, Contract to
Adjournment allowed attendees to proceed to the newly renovated Lutherville VFD for a lunch and a tour of their station. After lunch, attendees were granted free admission to the Maryland Fire Museum for a tour of their facility. A good old fashioned bull roast was held back at Arbutus VFD (sponsored by FESCO), with live music and dancing. The Sunday meeting was conducted at Arbutus VFD, with the continued IMS format of Branch reporting.

On October 4, 2016, a conference call was held to discuss the non-progress in our efforts to retract to MARYLAND EMT, from the NATIONALLY REGISTERED MARYLAND EMT. With the departure of Dr. Seaman, there is now no specific director running MIEMSS, only acting personnel. All members were notified that future meetings will be held, to further our efforts.

In October, the Executive Committee met at the Ridge VFD, in St. Mary’s County. April minutes were approved; reports were filed with the respective Branch directors, who reported for their respective committees. After session, we moved to historic St. Mary’s City for a picnic lunch, and a visit to the Maryland Dove, a display of Fire & EMS equipment. At 4 pm., a moving memorial service was conducted. The Executive Committee continued on Sunday morning with the same IMS format for information sharing. VCAF loans were approved for:

- Eastern Garrett County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department ($78,729.60)
- Jefferson Volunteer Fire Company ($100,000.00)
- Bay District Volunteer Fire Department ($450,000.00)

For the record the VCAF committee notified the Executive Committee that the Woodland Beach Volunteer Fire Department had formally withdrawn their loan application for a new fire station.

A special session was called for after the regular session of the Executive Committee concluded. The purpose was to discuss the teleconference of 10-4-16, relating to the EMS status of the SIPS students. The committee was apprised of the situation, with a request to hold on a letter submission to the governor, voicing our displeasure of treatment we are receiving from management @ MIEMSS.

In February of 2017, the Executive Committee met at the Junior Fire Company in Hagerstown, under the direction of acting chairman Rick Hemphill. Chaplin John Long brought us together with a prayer and announcement of a Chaplin’s class at Ferndale VFD on May 6. Again, the IMS model was utilized for reporting by Branch directors. Motion was made, and accepted, to approve the minutes of the last Executive Board meeting. Update from our attorney, Mike Farlow on various items reflecting on the
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MSFA. VCAF requested an additional $87,732.00, along with the approval of the following:

- Pleasant Valley Community Fire Dept. (282,568.00)
- Morningside Vol. Fire Dept. ($112,500.00)
- Community Vol. Fire Co. of Dist. 12 ($489,000.00)
- Goodwill Fire Co. ($178,051.00 grant, $57,231.00 loan)
- Barton Hose Co. ($176,201.00 grant, $56,637.00 loan)
- Hancock RS ($150,000.00 grant, $49,900.00 loan)

Also discussed were Rural Water training exercises, an update on SAFER grants, updates from the Legislative committee, updates from MIEMSS, Worker's Compensation program. Executive member Mike Faust announced his candidacy for 2nd VP of MSFA. A motion was made and passed to allow the credentials report to qualify as a statistical report for MSFA.

Saturday evening was quite a night in Frederick. In the celebration of our 125th anniversary, good old fashioned FIREMAN’s BALL was held at the Frederick Armory. Many personnel were dressed in the time frame of that era, and a great time was had by all! Once again, the 125th celebration committee came through for the Maryland Sate Fireman’s Association.

In April, the Executive Committee met in Port Deposit, Maryland, hosted by the Water Witch Volunteer Fire Department. Again, the IMS model was utilized for reporting by Branch directors. This has proven to be an effective means for information sharing within the MSFA. Mayor Wayne Tome updated all present on the activities this weekend, which includes a parade, pub crawl, and a fireworks display. A productive meeting ensued, including various discussions on important topics affecting the Maryland Fire Service.

Items included; supporting Teresa Crisman’s smoke alarm availability for distribution, Maryland state wide “Community Risk Reduction” weekends (May 20-21 & October 21-22), a memorial brick for Governor Hogan’s father, who passed away earlier this month, to be installed on the FF Memorial area in Annapolis, and the clarification on scholarship monies to be dispersed.

Along with Executive Committee meetings, some of this year’s members of the Executive Committee also served on the Strategic Planning committee. Their report has been filed for information sharing within the MSFA. My thanks to those who assisted in the planning for the future of this fine organization.

I would like to thank those “behind the scenes” personnel who make our Executive Committee meeting function so well and smoothly.
A giant “THANK YOU” TO Past President Tom Mattingly and his awesome committee for all the efforts in the planning and execution in the celebration festivities for our 125th year of service to the citizens of Maryland. The booklets, describing our history, were an excellent touch. JOB WELL DONE, TOMMY !!!!!!!

To my comrades from Baltimore County, THANK YOU for your confidence in allowing me to represent YOU on the Executive Committee of the MSFA.

To President Mike Davis. THANK YOU for your friendship, and guidance in fulfilling the mission of the MSFA. Finally, to my family. My wife Christine, my daughter Melissa and the joy she has brought to our family, my grandson, Sullivan Douglas. Thank you for understanding. I love you all so much.

Respectfully,
Douglas Simpkins, Jr., Chairman

Report Of The Budget and Revenue Committee

President Davis, Vice President’s Bilger and Blair, Officers, Delegates and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association; it has been a pleasure to serve as the Chair of this committee during this past year. Our committee along with the financial team continues to make positive changes in the financial management of this organization.

The Budget and Revenue Committee has worked closely with the Treasurer’s Office and the Financial Secretary to ensure the income and expenditures of the association are managed according to the approved budget and in the best interest of the association. The budget committee would like to thank the Executive Committee for providing latitude to the budget committee to monitor expenditures and move funds from one budget item to another as long as the bottom line of the approved budget remains the same. These actions have permitted the budget committee and the financial team flexibility to better serve the association. The budget committee as part of the “Financial Team” strives to improve communications and operations which make us a stronger organization and more responsive to those we serve.

The continued use of the Budget Request Forms by all committees continues to provide beneficial information and has been very helpful. After the Budget and Revenue Committee reviews the requests and approves the submitted budget, a copy of the request form is returned to the committee verifying the approved budget amounts in which the committee must operate. Budget requests received after the budget has been established continues to diminish. Committees have been extremely prudent with spending and have monitored their approved budgeted and stay within the established amounts.
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The Budget and Revenue Committee has actively maintained a watch over the income and expenditures of this Association and are pleased to report that we are operating within our level of funding for the current year. All officers and committees are to be commended for the great job they are doing and their willingness to operate within their approved budget limits.

As expenditures of this Association continue to increase, it becomes increasingly problematic to balance the income versus expenses and requires complete cooperation, prudent spending, and communications from all officers and committees.

The Committee would like to thank the officers and committee chairpersons for their assistance during the past year and we look forward to assisting them and this Association in the coming year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephan D. Cox, Chairman

Report of the Convention Committee

President Davis, Vice-President’s Bilger and Blair, Ladies Auxiliary President Nelson, Vice-President’s Boyd and Roth, Officers, Delegates, Alternates and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and Ladies Auxiliary, I am pleased to report that again this year there has been an extraordinary effort put forth by many individuals to provide to you and our membership the 125rd Annual Convention and Conference of the MSFA.

For the past twelve months the convention committee has been working to commemorate our 125 years in existence and pay tribute to all who helped get us to this place in time. The events at Arbutus, St. Mary’s City, Frederick and Port Deposit were great and those in attendance were able to assist with marking this important landmark reached by the MSFA. I would like to thank that ever special committee who worked with me over the past couple of years to make it all a reality: Past President Roberts Jacobs, Past President Richard Yinger, Past President Danny Davis, Past President Johnie Roth, LAMSFA Past President Elaine Huttenloch, LAMSFA Past President Teresa Crisman, Treasurer Ron Siarnicki, Bill Barnard, Chip Jewel, Wayne Powell, Ken Bush, Susan Proels, Jenni McClelland, Donna Clark, Lynn Hawkins, Ginny Wilhite, Doug Simpson, Charlie Albrect, Wayne Tome, Richard Brooks, Kent Whalen, Donna Whalen, John Proels and Bill Hinton.

The committee made several visits to Ocean City this year and with the help of the Mayor, Convention Center Manager and the Town of Ocean City we have been able to ensure our needs were met for this anniversary convention. I would like to take a
moment at this time to thank my predecessor Chairman Emeritus and Past President Leonard King for all he did to bring our convention to what it is today and how he managed previous construction projects at the Convention Center. His leadership helped make the Convention what it is today.

Since last year’s event, the Steering Committee has been hard at work to plan events for this year’s convention. My thanks to the steering committee special liaisons: Susan Proels, Tom and Flo Collins, William Hawkins, John Denver, Elaine Huttenloch, Frank Underwood, Roger Powell, Richard Yinger, Johnie Roth, Doyle Cox and Paul Sterling along with each of the committee management sector leaders: Administration, (Co-Chair Past President Danny Davis, Vice-Chair Past President Jackie Olson); Exhibits, (Co-Chair Wylie Donaldson, Vice-Chair Past President Rodger Steger and Dave Lewis); Finance, (Co-Chair Past President Robert Jacobs, Vice-Chair Past President Fred Cross); Production, (Co-Chair Past President Tommy Mattingly, Vice-Chair Bill Hildebrand); and Program, (Co-Chair Ken Bush, Vice-Chair Ben Kurtz). We are confident that you will enjoy, learn, and take something back to your departments from this year’s Convention and Conference experience.

As has occurred in the past, behind the scenes there is a group of special individuals who work on the production of the convention program book every year. They solicit the ads, layout the reports and ensure that the information being provided through this document is accurate and very professionally composed. They often times go unnoticed and I want to thank each of them personally for all they do. Leading the group is Past President Tommy Mattingly who has been working on the book since 1992, along with Dennie Mattingly, Danny Carpenter, Elaine Huttenloch, Ginny Wilhite, Past President Danny Davis and Rose Davis. In addition, helping is the Leonardtown VFD who provides their facilities for the book layout, the staff of The Printing Press and Shirley Copado. Thanks guys for a job well done, additionally special thanks to Nancy and Steve Cox for pulling together the proceedings book each year.

Each year the Joint Officers Banquet starts our convention activities as a very well planned out and enjoyable event. This year is another fine example. A special thanks to Rose Clark and her team (Tony Clark, Pat Neil, and Tim Clark) for their extra attention to details provided with this event and all events that require food coordination. Thanks to Secretary Doyle Cox for coordinating the banquet guests, Elaine Huttenloch and Audrey Thurston for the banquet program presentations and Richard Brooks for serving as the Master of Ceremonies.

This year the Performing Art Center will be used for several events: Sunday Morning Worship Service, Miss Fire Prevention Contest, and LAMSFA Business Meetings.

The “Joint Memorial Service” has always proven to be a most memorable experience for all in attendance and one of the more important parts of the overall convention and
Conference activities. Chaplain Long, Chaplain Hetz, the Chaplain’s Office, along with Elaine Huttenloch and other team members are to be commended for their efforts for this very moving program.

Secretary Doyle Cox, Rick Hemphill and the entire registration team have put in many hours taking care of all the credentials listings, delegate check-ins and of course the voting activities and are to be thanked for their efforts. This process will again be in the rear of the Bayside Ballroom.

The Program Development Team has been working tirelessly to ensure that some of the most up-to-date informational topics will be featured in the numerous seminars and main program presentations at the convention this year. Scheduled seminars will only occur on Sunday and Monday afternoons. Please take some time to review the schedule to ensure you do not miss any learning opportunities. Special thanks go out to the Program Team, under the leadership of Ken Bush, with the help of Joe Ward, and Director Steven Edwards at MFRI, State Fire Marshal Brian Geraci along with Jim Brown and MIEMSS for their assistance.

The Hands-On Components of this year’s convention have been expanded greatly and our alliance with the Ocean City FOOLS continues. This will be a great opportunity to be exposed to new ideas and concepts, so please bring your turn-out gear and participate in the learning experiences. We are excited about this partnership, thanks to Trevor Stedman and Jason Bloom for the Hands-on and Timothy Sendelbach for the Competition.

Our Opening Ceremonies on Monday morning will be a most fitting tribute for the 125th Anniversary Celebration and to all who serve the State of Maryland, especially our entire first responder community. Our continued theme of Honor, Tradition and Courage will be exemplified with the presentation of the colors accompanied with special video presentations. Thanks to Bill Barnard, Dennis Beard, Bob Ryan, Ken Bush, Tom Mattingly, Johnnie Roth, Paul Sterling and others on their team for the work completed in this area, especially the talented members of our convention go-team and special operations crew. Without these hard working and committed team members, the audio-visual, program support, logistics and back stage needs of the convention would never get off the ground. They truly are a major component of the backbone of this conference crew. In addition, a special thanks to the Maryland Fire & Rescue Services Pipes & Drums and all the Honor Guard members. They make the program that much more special.

Immediately following the Opening Ceremonies, a keynote presentation will occur followed by the first general business session to include special recognition activities, the presentation of reports and nomination of officers. The second session that day will include reports from our partner state organizations and a special program
presentation mid-day. Monday afternoon will conclude with more partner reports. Do not forget about the Bingo Monday Night in the Bayfonrt ballroom and thanks to Gloria Lewis for taking on this activity.

There will again be many family oriented social events peppered throughout the week to include: Sunday Morning Worship Service, Fire and EMS Memorabilia Flea Market, Miss Fire Prevention Contest, A Night at Jolly Roger Amusement Park, Prayer Breakfast, Purse and Bag Bingo, Ocean City Ghost Walk, Exhibitors Reception, Joint Officers Installation, Installation Reception, Special Events at Splash Mountain Park, MSFA Night at the Boardwalk Pier Amusement Park, Frontier Town Day, Fireworks on the beach, 100 nights of Lights on the beach, Mack Fire Truck Rally, Corn Hole Competition, OC Fools Block Party, Tickled Paint Artworks, Eagles Landing Golf Tournament, much more. These events require a lot of coordination, planning, logistics and hard work. Thanks to the entire team who helped to bring these special events to our association attendees and their families.

Tuesday morning will again start with voting by the membership followed by the MSFA Awards Ceremony. Special thanks to the awards committee, especially Past President Doyle Cox and the Ladies Auxiliary Officers for their efforts in recognizing our membership. A time change is in place for the Joint Installation of Officers which will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday night.

Fire Marshall Brian Geraci, along with the entire delegation from his office, the Prince George’s County Fire/Emergency Medical Services Department, the Montgomery County Department of Fire and Rescue Services, the Anne Arundel County Fire and Rescue Department, Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services, MFRI, MIEMMS, Shock Trauma, Governor’s Office and all the individual volunteer departments and associations who work behind the scene all week to help make your experience here at the beach enjoyable, a hearty thank you is given.

Individuals such as Chris May, Richard Snader and the audio-visual team put in many hours of work before, during, and after the convention and conference making sure that all events run smoothly and deserve a special note of gratitude. Jeff Thompson; thanks for your efforts with the security concerns of this weeklong event. Gloria Lewis, Ed Bilger, Ben Barksdale, Tyler Patton, Past President Steve Cox, Nancy Cox, Jim Hall, Ed Thurston, Audrey Thurston, Jim Smith, John Spiker, Ben Kurtz, Bill Hawkins, Ed Bilger, Kevin Reilly, Lynn Hawkins, Donna Clark, Jenni McClelland, Jim Brown, Laura Woods, Harve Woods, Richard Snader, Bruce Bouch, Victor Stagnaro, Cathy Hedrick, Less Hedrick, Kevin Roberts, Dennis Woods, Chris and Lisa Tona, Mike, Teri and Brady Levasseur, Kent and Donna Whalen, Tom Clark, Kevin Henderson, Doug Guare, Mike LeCompte, Mary Blocker, John Proels, Billy Hinton, Joy Hinton, Ron Watkins, Richard Udell, Bob Ryan, Tom Collins, Past President’s Worthington, Cumberland and Underwood, Ladies Past President Teresa Crisman, Ladies Past President Fran
Crisman, and Bill Hildebrand are to be thanked for their countless hours of coordination and work in the control center, back stage and logistics areas for all events during the week along with the UCVFD Team. Also, my personal appreciation to Susan Proels, PGFD, for all she does all year long and especially keeping the command center back stage well organized and well managed.

In the Exhibit Halls, the displays of the latest in apparatus, equipment and services proves to continue to be very beneficial to our membership and even with the down turn in the economy, we have been able to bring some new vendors to display their goods and services. We owe a big “thank you” to all of the exhibitors for supporting our convention and conference and a special thanks to Exhibit Chair Wylie Donaldson and Dave Lewis who pull all of this together.

For all the folks who sell the event tickets, offer bus passes, handle the mad rush in the lower foyers and provide information and guidance to conference attendees, my personal thanks for a job well done, often under very trying times. Your efforts do not go unnoticed and your constant delivery of those friendly smiles is greatly appreciated. That team includes, Sandy Jacobs, Rose Davis, JoAnne Robinson, Chris Yinger, Sherrie Sauers, and Barbara Evans.

Again this year, in a joint effort, several events, activities and ceremonies will be conducted jointly with the Ladies Auxiliary to the MSFA. My personal thanks go out to Flo Collins for coordinating our joint ventures and for serving as the official liaison between our two organizations.

Our Convention and Conference continues to provide this association with opportunities to bring needed revenue streams in support of our programs and activities. A special thanks to Lou and Anna Jonske, along with Mitch and Darlene Vocke and their great crew, for the tireless effort put forth all year long managing the $10,000.00 Raffle program.

A special thanks to all of our corporate sponsors and the Town of Ocean City for sponsoring many of our events. A special thanks to Past President Cross, Past President Tom Mattingly, Chuck Austin, Past President Steve and Nancy Cox and the entire golf planning team for another great golf outing.

In cooperation with the Town of Ocean City, the parade route will be the same as last year, starting at 16th Street on Baltimore Avenue and ending at 30th Street. Thanks to Roger Steger, Bill Hildebrand, Paul Sterling, Bruce Surette and your entire team for this tremendous effort. A special thanks to the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company, the Town Transportation Department, Police Department, Public Works Department, and the Town Government including the Mayor and Town Council for all they do to make it the biggest and best parade throughout the State of Maryland. We continue to look
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

for ways to improve our parade activities and will work to ensure your experience is the best.

Finally, the Convention Committee extends a special thanks to Mayor Meehan for all of his cooperation and assistance throughout the year, ensuring that everything he can help with is successful in support of the convention and conference. Many thanks to the entire Town Council who helped in many ways over the years to assist us and to every single town employee who has contributed in some way – we really do appreciate your efforts. Thanks also to the Ocean City Convention and Conference Center, under the leadership of Mr. Larry Noccolino, and Reatta Tate, Centerplate and the entire Convention Center Staff. Their assistance, cooperation and dedication make the difference during the planning process and throughout our annual event.

It has been a pleasure serving as your Chairman and working with a great team of individuals on the Convention Committee. We are already talking about things we would like to do next year to make the convention even better. Looking forward to seeing you in Ocean City.

Respectfully Submitted;
Ronald J. Siarnicki, Chairman

Report of the Emergency Medical Services Committee

President Davis, Elected and Appointed Officials, Delegates, Alternates, Members and Guests of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA), greetings on the occasion of the MSFA’s 125th Annual Convention. The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Committee held four full committee meetings last year, attended several sub-committee meetings and served as part of several other state-wide EMS groups. The Committee meetings were routinely attended by representatives from the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS), the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI), Maryland State Police (MSP) Aviation Division and the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. Other than assisting in solutions for the National Registry EMT issues, major efforts for the past year included participation in:

- State EMS Committee Advisory Council (SEMSAC)
- SEMSAC BLS Committee
- MIEMSS Cardiac Arrest Subcommittee
- MIEMSS Ambulance Safety Committee
- Minimum Ambulance Standards Committee
- eMEDS Steering Committee
- Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES) implementation group
- SEMSAC Phase II Mobile Integrated Healthcare Committee
Committee members provided input at these meetings that covered a broad range of EMS issues including updating protocols, enhancing reciprocity, improving ambulance safety, insuring adequate documentation and providing data on cardiac arrest survival rates.

SEMSAC Phase II Mobile Integrated Healthcare Committee

The Maryland State EMS Advisory Council (SEMSAC) has tasked a committee of EMS stakeholders to develop recommendations and guidance on the implementation of a state-wide Mobile Integrated Healthcare program. To this end this committee has developed this document that will be endorsed at the May 2017 SEMSAC meeting and presented to the EMS Board.

Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH), as defined by the Committee, are those population health measures taken by emergency medical services operational programs (EMSOPS) to improve healthcare outcomes of a designated population. This committee has worked diligently to develop these recommendations by gathering information related to established MIH programs throughout the Nation, conducting a mobile integrated healthcare survey to ascertain the needs of Maryland EMSOPS [public safety and commercial services], as well as an expert analysis of the gathered information and the survey to form these recommendations.

After a successful pilot program was conducted in Queen Anne’s County, several other jurisdictions are initiating programs including Charles, Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties.

Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES)

CARES was developed to help communities determine standard outcome measures for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest allowing for quality improvement efforts and benchmarking capability to improve care and increase survival at a jurisdictional level. CARES allows participating communities to view their own statistics online confidentially and compare their performance to anonymous aggregated data at the local, regional, or national level. CARES automatically calculates local 911 response intervals, delivery rates for critical interventions (e.g., bystander CPR and public access defibrillation [PAD]), and community rates of survival and functional status at discharge, on the basis of each patient’s Cerebral Performance Categories Scale (CPC) Scale. An annual report is provided to all participating communities that summarizes local results in comparison to regional and national benchmarks. The implementation of CARES will allow EMS jurisdictions to assess the effectiveness of their care on cardiac arrest calls.

As of May 2017, all EMS jurisdictions and 26 hospitals are entering information into the CARES data base and a complete Maryland annual report will be available for 2017.
BLS Issues
While progress is being made in EMT training and testing many jurisdictions report shortages of EMT’s to man equipment. During the past year the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) made major changes in the EMT curriculum directed toward doing more teaching and less testing. Changes include use of My Brady Lab Version 2.0, organization of content to match reading assignments, less module testing and EMT Computer Adaptive Practice Tests. Current MFRI success rate for National Registry testing is 85% for the first attempt and 91% by the third attempt.

The committee has held extensive discussions on entrance qualification testing and training, face-to-face versus on-line training, redundancy between My Brady Lab and class work, improving instructor tools and development of local mentors as methods of enhancing the number of EMT’s we are producing.

Summary
The MSFA EMS Committee continues to be actively involved in supporting current EMS programs in Maryland as well as assisting to create a path for the future.

Respectfully,
William J. Dousa, Jr., Chair,

Report of the Events and Marketing Committee

President Davis, Vice Presidents Bilger, and Blair, officers, members, and guests. During the 2016-2017 year, the Events and Marketing Committee hosted exhibits at the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Conference, the Maryland Association of Counties (MACO) Summer and Winter Conferences, and the Mid Atlantic Life Safety Conference (MALSC).

Between the writing of this report and the MSFA Convention, we have also scheduled booths for EMS Care 2017, and the Maryland Emergency Managers Association (MDEMA) Symposium. MSFA informational brochures and other promotional materials were distributed at the above events. MSFA presence at these events provides us the opportunity to meet with government leaders on a federal, state, and local level to build and improve relationships. Thanks to committee members and Past President Fred Cross, Richard Smith and Chuck Walker for their hard work this year.

The Committee has also been very involved with the Safer Grant and the management of our vendor, Benchworks. Committee Co-Chair Mike Faust and Skip Mahan attended weekly meetings since the fall of 2016 to facilitate the development of the current member database, and a database to track people interested in becoming a volunteer. Joe Chornock, Recruitment and Retention Committee Chair, recently began attending
these meetings to layout the new website www.MDVolunteer.org. This website should be live by this convention. We have also continued to work with the R&R Committee and Safety Committee and remain available to assist any committee as needed.

Respectfully submitted,
John Denver & Michael Faust
Co-Chairs

Report of the Incentive Programs Committee

President Davis, Vice-President Bilger, Vice President Blair, Delegates and Guests.
The Incentive Programs Committee was established as a “Standing Committee” in 1995 with two objectives. Oversee the Counties Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) and collect the points reports from each County to submit to the Maryland Comptroller’s office for the Maryland Income Tax Incentive Program.

Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP)
Nineteen (19) Counties and two (2) municipalities now administer programs. All counties are requested to keep the Committee informed of any programs established or any changes to their existing program. This program is an award program for a members’ years of service in the Maryland Volunteer Fire, EMS or Rescue service. Those Counties paying their members an incentive vary as to the amount. This is a County funded program and is not transferable from County to County. A summary sheet of existing LOSAP incentive payments can be found on the website in the Incentive Programs Committee Section. All payments for LOSAP is taxable by the IRS however is not taxable by the State of Maryland.

Tax Incentive Program (TIP)
The Maryland Income Tax Incentive Program was established in 1996 offering those active members in the Maryland Volunteer Fire, EMS and Rescue service the ability to deduct a certain amount of money from their gross state income if they qualify by earning points thru their County LOSAP or Points program. The amount they can deduct for 2016 is $4,250.00. The amount they can deduct for 2017 is increased by $250.00 to $4,500.00. The amount will continue by $250.00 each year until it reaches $5,000.00. Qualified members may take this deduction by submitting form MSFA-P.2.2 with their Maryland Tax Return. (Be sure to use the form with the current deductible amount and revision date.) The revised form for 2017 will be placed on the website during August this year.

The program requires that a member earn at least 50 points in at least 2 categories per year for any 3 out of the last 10 calendar years. If a member has not achieved at least 25 years of service, 1 of those years must have been earned during the taxable year (in
this case that would be 2016). If a member has achieved 25 or more years of service it only requires any 3 years out of the last 10 years. The rule for members achieving 25 or more years of qualified service HAS NOT CHANGED. They must still have at least 3 qualifying years out of the last 10 years.

Everyone must have at least 36 full months of service in order to qualify. For the year 2016 a members must have a date of membership on or before January 1, 2014. For the year 2015, 12765 members qualified for the tax incentive. Reports are still being gathered for 2016 and when complete you will be able to view the total count of members by County on the MSFA website. That report will be available later on this year.

The Committee is very aware as to the importance of protecting a members’ personal identifiable information such as social security numbers. The reports we collect must contain the social security number of the person earning the tax incentive as this is the only way the Maryland State Comptroller’s Office can match the members’ tax form with our report. We send a total report of all members that qualify to the Maryland State Controller’s office each year. With that said we have developed a secure website that the Points Coordinators will upload their yearly reports to protecting this data.

The TIP program is a State wide program and points can be transferred from County to County via form MSFA-P:2.3 (10/97) found on the MSFA website.

If the Committee can be of help or answer any questions on either the LOSAP or TIP programs please do not hesitate to contact us.

Miscellaneous
I would also like to thank President Davis for his support this past year. Many thanks to Rick Hemphill for maintaining the secure website for gathering the Points Coordinators reports. Last I thank the Committee and the individual County Points Coordinators for their hard work.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stuart W. Carter, Chairman
Incentive Programs Committee Members
Stuart W, Carter, Chairman
Joseph A. Cooper, Vice-Chairman

Joan Robison, Chairman Emeritus
Ken Bush              Gary Crampton
Stacey Faust         Rick Hemphill
Donald Lee Howard    Michael A LeCompte
David W. Lewis (PP)  Craig A. Moe
County Points Coordinators
Allegany – Cheri Lewellen
Anne Arundel – Dave Lewis
Baltimore – Stu Carter
Calvert – Wayne Hardesty
Caroline – Kellt Schanken
Carroll – Linda Bostian
Cecil – Sandy Davidson
Charles – Danny Carpenter
Dorchester – Barbara Aaron
Frederick – Nicky Burriss
Garrett – Sharon Paugh
Harford – Joseph Rutherford
Howard – Steve Fleming
Kent – Lee Meyers
Montgomery – Linda Dowdy
Prince George’s – Joan Robinson
Queen Anne’s – Tracey Johnston
St. Mary’s – Joseph A. Cooper
Somerset – Lisa Evans
Talbot – Ken Bush
Washington – Skip Menzies
Wicomico – Michael W. Farlow
Worcester – John Fisher
MSFA Ladies Auxiliary – Ann McGill

Report of the Fire Laws Book Committee

President Davis, Vice President’s Bilger and Blair, Officers, Delegates and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association; it has been a pleasure to serve as the Chair of this committee during this past year.

We changed the practice of purchasing approximately 500 copies of the Fire Laws Books and distributing them to our officers, legislators, past presidents, every department, and certain government partners every two years to purchasing 300 copies. The 300 copies still enable us to provide books to the officers, legislators in Annapolis, Past Presidents, certain committees and some partner agencies. This change enabled the Association to provide those necessary copies and reallocate funds to other Association projects.

Fire Law Books were distributed the opening day of the Maryland General Assembly to the Governor, Lt. Governor, and members of the General Assembly. Books have
also been distributed to the MSFA Officers, Fire Prevention Commission, and State Fire Marshal’s Office.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephan D. Cox PP Chair

**Report of the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee**

We would first like to thank President Mike Davis for his support and appointment of this committee. The Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee have worked very hard to keep current on the trends and demands for prevention efforts to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and its member companies. We look forward to working with President Bilger and President Blair in support of their respective years.

This year we held meetings in:
- Prince George’s County – Cranford/Graves Fire Services Building.
- Singerly Fire Company
- Committee Support MSFA/MFRI - Maryland Weekend Emmitsburg
- MFRI – College Park University of Maryland
- Carroll County Training Facility

As always this committee has great people to help support the efforts and our many messages I would like to thank Vice Chairs, Dave Reid and Holley Trego and Secretary Daria Brown thank you for dedicated work in the world of Fire Prevention and Life Safety for this state.

Fire Marshal Brian S. Geraci I would like to thank you for all of the support that you have given towards the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee of the state this past year. This year we have tried to do our best in support of the needs of this state and the support to your team. Thank you for the support to myself and our committee we are always ready to serve you and support the Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal. To the sub-committee members, I must thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the programs we work on. To Bruce, Cyndy, Lori, Bridgett, Debbie and Robin and Susan, thank you for leading the charge in your respective programs for the committee. This group could not function without your efforts and time to getting valuable information to the MSFA membership. Each program is unique to the issue and it is a great resource and tool that can be used to help support the messages we work so tiredly on. Your work is very important and I cannot say thank you enough for your hard work and dedication to the committee.

To Sierra and Emily, You both did a great job and your travels and efforts are greatly appreciated. Congratulations on a successful year. I would like to thank the many
other Fire Prevention Ambassadors for your years as we go around the state is very important to see the upcoming ambassadors helping spread the efforts of our messages. Congratulation for all that you do.

To President Barbara Sue Nelson and Chairman Rose Pandolfini and Vice Chairman Susan Hilton and to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association thank you for your continued support and efforts also in spreading the word of prevention to the state.

In closing we lost a very valuable member to our committee. It was with great sadness that we all shared the news of the passing of John Spiker. He served countless years in the efforts of providing fire prevention and life safety to his community and the community of the state. We will always remember his spirit and zeal and passion towards this committee. To his family and FD family we pass on to you all our heartfelt thanks for allowing him to be a part of our Fire Prevention Family.

Each of us has a very valued interest in Fire Prevention and Life Safety. This committee is at its ready to support the needs of the members of this state. We have many valuable tools to support a department’s needs when it comes to implementing programs. Please contact any of us when your department needs the many items that we are proud to support you with. We are only a phone call away.

Respectfully,
Teresa Ann Crisman, Chairman

Report of the Miss Fire Prevention

MSFA President Davis, First Vice President Bilger, Second Vice President Blair, Officers, Past Presidents, Committee Chairs, Members, Delegates, and Guest to the 125th annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Fireman’s Association, it is hard to believe that my journey as MSFA Miss Fire Prevention has ended. It has been an honor to serve this great association this past year. I’ve been attending meetings, open houses, banquets, fundraisers, and special events throughout this great state. I want to thank everyone for your hospitality and friendship as I have been traveling. My special thanks goes to my home company Potomac Valley Fire Company and the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association. I wouldn’t have gotten as far as I have without either of them. I’d also like to thank my Supervisors at County Medical Transport for always giving me off when I needed it. I’d also like to thank my family for being so supportive during this past year.

To Susan Hilton, words will never express my appreciation, love, support, and guidance you’ve given me this year. I would also, like to thank my first runner up, Emily Reaver, for always riding along and being a great friend throughout the year. I wish you both
the best of luck in your upcoming adventures.

I would like to thank MSFA President Michael Davis and LAMSFA President Barbra Sue Nelson for their continued support throughout the year, as well. To Bridget Weishaar, Lori Denbow, and Teresa Crisman, thank you for your support, and guidance throughout the year.

To the newly crowned MSFA Miss Fire Prevention, I wish you the best of luck in your upcoming year. Make sure you take time for yourself, but have fun spreading the message of fire prevention and traveling our lovely state! Finally, I would like to thank my fiancé for his continued support throughout the year. This has been an amazing experience, and I’m beyond blessed to have held this title.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sierra Smallwood
MSFA Miss Fire Prevention

Report of the Miss Fire Prevention 1st Runner Up

After this past year I truly understand the meaning of “time flies when you’re having fun”. It had been my honor to serve as the MSFA 1st Runner-Up for 2016/17. As of April 23rd, I have driven 6300 miles with a goal by Convention 2017 of 8500 miles. Traveling to various county meetings, open houses, seminars, I have made memories for a lifetime. Some of my favorites include traveling to the Somerset County meeting by boat to Smith Island, the Executive Meetings, the 125th Anniversary Celebrations, the Polar Bear Plunge, the LAMSFA Conferences, and any opportunity I had to teach a Fire Prevention lesson.

I would like to thank all the members of the MSFA, LAMSFA, and the Fire Prevention Committee for their endless support and encouragement. I would also like to specifically thank my best friend, Susan Hilton, and her parents Barb and Gary for taking me under their wing and donning me an “Honorary Hilton”. To my boyfriend and mother for their endless support and understanding. To Melissa Williams for introducing me to the world of Fire Prevention. And to Bruce Bouch for all of his knowledge and assistance through my internship.

Fire Prevention has created new opportunities for me. I am now serving as the Maryland Life Safety Information Exchange Intern and am pursuing a career in Fire Research. I will treasure these memories I have made for a lifetime.

Thank you,
Emily Reaver
MSFA Miss Fire Prevention 1st Runner Up
Report of the Hall of Fame Committee

President Davis, Officers, Past Presidents, Delegates and Guests of the 125th Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. This year the Hall of Fame Committee received twenty four (24) nominations for the Hall of Fame Award, and twenty one (21) nominations for the Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award.

A complete set of rules for the Hall of Fame and Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award were mailed or delivered to each member company as well as being placed on the Maryland State Firemen’s Association web page and in the Annual Proceedings Book. A complete list of previous inductees and winners are also on the web page and in the Annual Proceedings Book.

The committee is recommending that each department, company or squad review their membership rolls or records for members that have been with a department/company for fifty years (50) or longer. These individuals should be nominated for the Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award in recognition of their years of service. There are many members in the departments/companies that have reached this stage of service. They need to be recognized for their service to the department/company, community, county and the state. To be inducted into the Hall of Fame or be selected to receive the Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award, these are among the highest awards presented by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Remember that nominations are not held over from year to year. If your nominee does not get selected, please submit the individuals name again next year before April 15.

The remainder of the Hall of Fame Committee Report will be given during the presentation of awards on Tuesday, June 20, 2017, during the awards ceremonies.

As Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee, I would like to thank Vice Chair Ben Kurtz for his assistance, support and advice. Thanks also goes to each member of the committee for their commitment, support and hard work they put into selecting the individuals for these two awards.

Chair, C. Dan Carpenter, III,
Vice Chair, Ben Kurtz,
Member Emeritus, C. Oscar Baker,
Members
Charlie Abrecht, David Keller, III, PP
Fred Cross, PP Bill Lay
John Ferguson, III Richard Smith,
Timothy Jones Richard Yinger, PP.
The committee and I would also like to thank President Davis for his commitment to the committee and for the opportunity to serve this great Association.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Dan Carpenter, III, Chair

Report of the Legislative Committee

President Davis, Vice Presidents Bilger and Blair, Members of the Executive Committee, Delegates and Guests. The 2017 Legislative session started on January 11 and ended on April 10. Again a great deal of time was spent continuing to build relationships with members of the General Assembly as well as to explain Maryland’s Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services.

During the session volunteer personnel worked a total of 1,801 hours, consisting of 317 visits to the office at 17 State Circle for a total of 25,977 miles. There were 1661 House Bills and 1200 Senate Bills introduced by Legislators. We estimated paid personnel performing the functions of our committee would have cost $81,045.00. The legislative committee monitored 45 of these bills for impact on the Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services of the great state of Maryland. This year’s primary goals were to support MSFA’s Budget request for appropriations, provide additional funds for the Senator Amos 508 fund bringing it to $15,000,000.00, and to support or Oppose Public Safety Legislation. (17Total) which included efforts to oppose legislation to adjust the Residential Sprinkler requirement, change the appointment and term of the State Fire Marshal, provide a property tax relief, modify the income tax subtraction modification, and to render aid to animals through Emergency Veterinary Care, Liability Immunity.

Our legislative reception was held on January 24th and was well attended by legislators and members of the Emergency Services as well as our partner agencies. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association under the direction of their Chair Carene Housenfluck did an OUTSTANDING job putting the reception together and fixing the food. As usual the ladies did a GREAT job and this committee would not be successful without their dedication and support. Thank you, ladies, for all your hard work and I can say it is certainly a pleasure to work with them.

The committee would like to say a special thanks to Senator Mathias and Delegates Holmes, Rey, and Sample-Hughes for their support throughout the session. Thanks also goes to the Fire Caucus for their help and support. A special thank you goes to Jim Malone and Bill Bernard for their guidance and support.

The committee also would like to thank our partner agencies MFRI, MIEMSS, Shock
Trauma, MSP and MSP aviation, IAFF, and Maryland Fire Chiefs as well as METRO Counties for their help and support. Together as one team we were able to accomplish our goals.

To Governor Hogan and Lieutenant Governor Rutherford and their staff we thank you for all the support during the session. We look forward to working with you next year.

A copy of our legislative report is attached outlining the progress of the legislation supported, monitored or opposed.

I would like to say thank you to PP Bernard Smith, Laura Wood, Ed Wood, Charles Walker, and most importantly Richard Smith for all their support and hard work during the session. Richard Smith and Chuck Walker did an outstanding job monitoring and working issues regarding residential sprinklers and were successful in defeating those bills. Richard congratulations to you and Chuck on a job well done. Lastly, I would like to thank you to Presidents Davis, Bilger and Blair for their support and attendance during the session. It has been a pleasure working with everyone.

Respectfully Submitted
Stephan D. Cox, Chairman

Report of the Federal Legislative Oversight Sub-Committee

President Davis, Legislative Branch Director Stephen Cox I want to thank you on behalf of the following committee members for appointing us, Vice Chairman C. Daniel Davis, Jr. Eric Bernard, Marcine Goodloe, Pete Mellits, Harve Ed Woods Sr., and Laura Woods, the Federal Legislative Oversight Sub-Committee.

Some of the Fire Service Issues in the 115th Congress are listed below along with the Legislation that I reported on at the February Executive Committee meeting. You may also visit Thomas, the Library of Congress Legislative Database, for information on legislation introduced during the current and past Congresses.

CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY EDUCATION ACT

H.R. 746 was introduced by Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr. (NJ-9) on January 30, 2017.
S. 246 was introduced by Senator Robert Menendez (NJ) on January 30, 2017.

Summary: The legislation establishes a grant program at the Department of Education to make awards to institutes of higher education for fire prevention and education programs.
**FIREFIGHTER CANCER REGISTRY ACT**

H.R. 931 was introduced by Congressman Chris Collins (NY-27) on February 7, 2017.
S. 382 was introduced by Senator Robert Menendez (NJ) on February 15, 2017.

**Summary:** The legislation creates a specialized national registry to provide researchers and epidemiologists with the tools and resources they need to improve research collection activities related to the monitoring of cancer incidence among firefighters.

**FIRE SPRINKLER INCENTIVE ACT**

H.R. 1481 was introduced by Congressman Tom Reed (NY-23) on March 9, 2017.
S. 602 was introduced by Senator Susan Collins (ME) on March 9, 2017.

**Summary:** The legislation amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include automated fire sprinkler systems as section 179 property and classify certain automated fire sprinkler systems as 15-year property for purposes of depreciation.

**VOLUNTEER RESPONDER INCENTIVE PROTECTION ACT**

H.R. 1550 was introduced by Congressman David Reichert (WA-8) on March 15, 2017.

**Summary:** The legislation exempts from federal income tax any property tax benefit and up to $600 per year of any other type of benefit that a state or local unit of government provides to volunteer emergency responders as a recruitment or retention incentive.

**FIREFIGHTERS GRANTS REAUTHORIZATION ACT**

S. 829 was introduced by Senator John McCain (AZ) on April 5, 2017.

**Summary:** The legislation reauthorizes the Assistance to Firefighters, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response, and Fire Prevention and Safety grant programs through the end of Fiscal Year 2023.

**FIRST NET**

The Department of Commerce and First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) announced the selection of AT&T to build the first nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to America’s first responders. This record-breaking public-private partnership is a significant investment in the communications infrastructure that public safety desperately needs for day-to-day operations.

**H.R. 1720  Length of Service Award Program Cap Adjustment Priority (LOSAP CAP Act)**

**What is LOSAP?**

LOSAP is a retirement account for volunteer emergency responders that approximately 20 percent of the 808,150 volunteer firefighters in the United States are enrolled in. Many communities provide modest financial incentives to their volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel to boost recruitment and retention and LOSAP is one of the most popular benefits.
MSFA Bills of Interest - (May 22, 2017)

There have been 1200 Senate Bills and 1661 House Bills introduced to date. We are currently tracking the following 45 bills. The MSFA stance on these bills will be determined later. A breakdown of these bills are as follows:

### OPPOSING THE FOLLOWING:
Important Status Change has been announced hearing dates, please see below for updated status changes and committee work to perspective bills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter) Total: 2</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Primary Sponsor</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Original House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
<th>Opposite House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB1380 (SB978)</td>
<td>Public Safety - State Fire Marshal - Appointment and Term</td>
<td>Delegate Beitzel</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Judiciary</td>
<td>Judiciary 3/10/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB978 (HB1380)</td>
<td>Public Safety - State Fire Marshal - Appointment and Term</td>
<td>Senator Edwards</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/9/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### SUPPORTING WITH AMENDMENTS:
Important change as the following bill will now be placed back under supporting with Amendment No. 2 attached.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter) Total: 1</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Primary Sponsor</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Original House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
<th>Opposite House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB0107</td>
<td>Department of Housing and Community Development - Funding for Newly Constructed Single-Family Homes</td>
<td>Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee</td>
<td>Hearing 1/31 at 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Environment and Transportation 1/31/2017 - 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Amendment #2 reads:**
On page 3, in line 3, after “WITH”, strike “BUILDING AND FIRE CODES”, and insert “APPLICABLE CODES AND REQUIREMENTS”.

### SUPPORTING THE FOLLOWING:
Important Status Change has been announced hearing dates, please see below for updated status changes and committee work to perspective bills.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter)</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Primary Sponsor</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Original House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
<th>Opposite House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB0100 / CH0154 (SB0597 / CH0153)</td>
<td>Income Tax Subtraction Modification - Retirement Income of Law Enforcement, Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Personnel</td>
<td>Delegate Hixson</td>
<td>Approved by the Governor - Chapter 154</td>
<td>Ways and Means 2/1/2017 - 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/21/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0216 (SB0269)</td>
<td>Emergency Veterinary Care - Immunity From Liability</td>
<td>Delegate Lam</td>
<td>Passed Enrolled</td>
<td>Environment and Transportation 2/8/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Judicial Proceedings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0388 (SB0322)</td>
<td>Income Tax Subtraction Modification - Law Enforcement, Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Personnel (Hometown Heroes Act)</td>
<td>Speaker</td>
<td>Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ways and Means 2/8/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0571 (SB0282 / CH0173)</td>
<td>Property Tax Credit - Disabled or Fallen Law Enforcement Officers and Rescue Workers - Acquisition of Dwelling</td>
<td>Delegate Shoemaker</td>
<td>Hearing 2/23 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ways and Means 2/23/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HB0600 (SB0175)</td>
<td>Public Health - Use of Medical Oxygen in Residential Dwellings - Smoking and Open Flame Restrictions</td>
<td>Delegate Kramer</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Economic Matters</td>
<td>Economic Matters 2/15/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB1267</td>
<td>Workers' Compensation - Members of Volunteer Company - Computation of Average Weekly Wage</td>
<td>Delegate Valderrama</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Economic Matters</td>
<td>Economic Matters 3/3/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HB1436</td>
<td>Civil Actions - Duty to Render Assistance</td>
<td>Delegate Lisanti</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Judiciary</td>
<td>Judiciary 3/8/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter)</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Primary Sponsor</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB1623</td>
<td>Home Sprinkler and Fire Safety Assistance Fund</td>
<td>Delegate Sample-Hughes</td>
<td>First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations</td>
<td>Rules and Executive Nominations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0175 (HB0600)</td>
<td>Public Health - Use of Medical Oxygen in Residential Dwellings - Smoking and Open Flame Restrictions</td>
<td>Senator Manno</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Finance</td>
<td>Finance 2/2/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0269 (HB0216)</td>
<td>Emergency Veterinary Care - Immunity From Liability</td>
<td>Senator Lee</td>
<td>Returned Passed</td>
<td>Judicial Proceedings 2/9/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Environment and Transportation 3/29/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0282 / CH0173 (HB0571)</td>
<td>Property Tax Credit - Disabled or Fallen Law Enforcement Officers and Rescue Workers - Alterations</td>
<td>Senator Ready</td>
<td>Approved by the Governor - Chapter 173</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 2/15/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ways and Means 3/30/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0322 (HB0388)</td>
<td>Income Tax Subtraction Modification - Law Enforcement, Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Personnel (Hometown Heroes Act)</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Hearing 2/22 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 2/22/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0597 / CH0153 (HB0100 / CH0154)</td>
<td>Income Tax Subtraction Modification - Retirement Income of Law Enforcement, Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Personnel</td>
<td>Senator Guzzone</td>
<td>Approved by the Governor - Chapter 153</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 2/22/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ways and Means 3/29/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB1103</td>
<td>Home Sprinkler and Fire Safety Assistance Fund</td>
<td>Senator Mathias</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/14/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Denotes enacted legislation
**MONITORING THE FOLLOWING:**

Important Status Change has been announced hearing dates, please see below for updated status changes and committee work to perspective bills.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter Total: 16)</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Primary Sponsor</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Original House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
<th>Opposite House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB0019</td>
<td>Hate Crimes - Prohibitions and Protected Classes - Expansion to Law Enforcement Officers and First Responders</td>
<td>Delegate Arentz</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Judiciary</td>
<td>Judiciary 1/25/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HB0206</td>
<td>Public Health - Child Care Products Containing Flame- Retardant Chemicals - Prohibition</td>
<td>Delegate Angel</td>
<td>Hearing 2/07 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Health and Government Operations 2/7/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB0329</td>
<td>Reckless and Negligent Driving - Death of Another - Must- Appear Violation (Ryan's Law)</td>
<td>Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Judiciary</td>
<td>Judiciary 2/1/2017 - 3:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB0600 (SB0175)</td>
<td>Public Health - Use of Medical Oxygen in Residential Dwellings - Smoking and Open Flame Restrictions</td>
<td>Delegate Kramer</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Economic Matters</td>
<td>Economic Matters 2/15/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0881</td>
<td>Criminal Law - Death Penalty - Law Enforcement Officers, Correctional Officers, and First Responders</td>
<td>Delegate Malone</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Judiciary</td>
<td>Judiciary 2/21/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HB0979</td>
<td>Property Tax Credit - Public Safety Officers</td>
<td>Delegate Luedtke</td>
<td>Returned Passed</td>
<td>Ways and Means 3/2/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/30/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB1066 / CH0176 (SB0201 / CH0175)</td>
<td>Education - Fire Drill Requirements - State Fire Prevention Code</td>
<td>Delegate Ebersole</td>
<td>Approved by the Governor - Chapter 176</td>
<td>Ways and Means 2/28/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter)</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Primary Sponsor</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Original House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</td>
<td>Opposite House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB1084 (SB1104)</td>
<td>Income Tax Credit - Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Personnel</td>
<td>Delegate Buckel</td>
<td>Hearing 3/08 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ways and Means 3/8/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB1311 (SB0722)</td>
<td>Public Safety - Light Frame Combustible Construction - Requirements</td>
<td>Delegate McCray</td>
<td>Hearing 3/14 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Environment and Transportation 3/14/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HB1623</td>
<td>Home Sprinkler and Fire Safety Assistance Fund</td>
<td>Delegate Sample-Hughes</td>
<td>First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations</td>
<td>Rules and Executive Nominations</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0175 (HB0600)</td>
<td>Public Health - Use of Medical Oxygen in Residential Dwellings - Smoking and Open Flame Restrictions</td>
<td>Senator Manno</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Finance</td>
<td>Finance 2/2/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB0201 / CH0175 (HB1066 / CH0176)</td>
<td>Education - Fire Drill Requirements - State Fire Prevention Code</td>
<td>Senator King</td>
<td>Approved by the Governor - Chapter 175</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/1/2017 - 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ways and Means 3/21/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB0466</td>
<td>Public Safety - 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System - 9-1-1 Director's Council (Carl Henn's Law)</td>
<td>Senator Kagan</td>
<td>Hearing 4/08 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Finance 2/14/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Health and Government Operations 4/8/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0722 (HB1311)</td>
<td>Public Safety - Light Frame Combustible Construction - Requirements</td>
<td>Senator Conway</td>
<td>Hearing 2/21 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/21/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB1103</td>
<td>Home Sprinkler and Fire Safety Assistance Fund</td>
<td>Senator Mathias</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/14/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SB1104 (HB1084)</td>
<td>Income Tax Credit - Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Personnel</td>
<td>Senator Edwards</td>
<td>Hearing 3/15 at 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/15/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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### LOCAL BILLS FOLLOWING:
Important Status Change has been announced hearing dates, please see below for updated status changes and committee work to perspective bills.

<table>
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<th>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter Total: 8)</th>
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<th>Original House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
<th>Opposite House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB0022</td>
<td>Baltimore City Fire Department - Motorized Fire Equipment - Report</td>
<td>Delegate Conaway</td>
<td>Returned Passed</td>
<td>Environment and Transportation 3/10/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/30/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0301 (SB0482)</td>
<td>Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore County - White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company</td>
<td>Delegate Miele</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Appropriations</td>
<td>Appropriations 3/11/2017 - 12:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HB0570 (SB0097)</td>
<td>Creation of a State Debt - Anne Arundel County - Arundel Volunteer Fire Department Community Center</td>
<td>Delegate Saab</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Appropriations</td>
<td>Appropriations 3/11/2017 - 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB0758 (SB0591)</td>
<td>Garrett County - Payment to Rescue Squads</td>
<td>Delegate Beitzel</td>
<td>Returned Passed</td>
<td>Environment and Transportation 3/7/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB1604 / CH0148</td>
<td>Howard County - Transfer Tax Exemption and Rate Reduction - Law Enforcement Officers and Fire and Rescue Services Members Ho. Co. 17-17</td>
<td>Howard County Delegation</td>
<td>Approved by the Governor - Chapter 148</td>
<td>Ways and Means 3/15/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 4/4/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0097 (HB0570)</td>
<td>Creation of a State Debt - Anne Arundel County - Arundel Volunteer Fire Department Community Center</td>
<td>Senator Reilly</td>
<td>Hearing 3/11 at 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/11/2017 - 11:00 a.m.</td>
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</table>
### Maryland State Firemen's Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

**Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter) Total: 8**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter)</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<th>Opposite House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SB0482 (HB0301)</td>
<td>Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore County - White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company</td>
<td>Senator Klausmeier</td>
<td>Hearing 3/11 at 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Budget and Taxation 3/11/2017 - 9:00 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB0591 (HB0758)</td>
<td>Garrett County - Payment to Rescue Squads</td>
<td>Senator Edwards</td>
<td>Passed Enrolled</td>
<td>Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/21/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Environment and Transportation 4/5/2017 - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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Denotes enacted legislation

### WITHDRAWN BILLS:

Important Status Change. The following bill has been withdrawn by the sponsor, please review.

**Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter) Total: 4**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number / Chapter (Cross File / Chapter)</th>
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<th>Original House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
<th>Opposite House Committee(s) and Hearing Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB0175</td>
<td>Income Tax Subtraction Modification - Retirement Income of Law Enforcement, Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services Personnel</td>
<td>Delegate Jackson</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Ways and Means; Withdrawn</td>
<td>Ways and Means</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB1195</td>
<td>High School Graduation Requirements - Student Service - Fire Fighting Training and Volunteer Hours</td>
<td>Delegate Adams</td>
<td>Unfavorable Report by Ways and Means; Withdrawn</td>
<td>Ways and Means</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our bulletin offers up-to-date information on legislation that the MSFA is tracking. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the listed legislation, please contact us via phone or e-mail. Also, before addressing any Legislative matters, please contact the Legislative Committee so that we can keep the goals of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association in the forefront.

We are here to assist with questions or concerns relating to the status of any particular piece of legislation. Should you have any information on issues of special interest to the Fire, Rescue, or Emergency Medical Services, please let us know. The MSFA Legislative Office phone number is 410-974-2222. Our e-mail address is msfaleg@msfa.org. If you need to speak with the Chairman, please contact:

Chairman Stephan D. Cox at 443-867-6303 (c), e-mail: msfa96@gmail.com

Vice Chairman Richard Smith at 410-829-2232 (c), e-mail: richard21601@yahoo.com

IF YOU WISH TO BE ADDED TO THE MAILING. PLEASE SEND A REQUEST TO TERESA ANN CRISMAN AT tacrisman@co.pg.md.us SO YOU CAN BE ADDED TO THE MAILING LIST.

To find information on a bill, go to http://mgaleg.maryland.gov, page down to “Bill Information and Status” then enter HB (House Bill) number or SB (Senate Bill) number, then press enter.

Thank you for your support.

Stephan D. Cox, Chairman
Richard Smith, Vice Chairman
What does the LOSAP CAP Act do?
Under current tax law there is a $3,000 limit on annual contributions into LOSAPs. Established in 1996, the cap has not been adjusted for inflation.

The LOSAP CAP Act would raise the annual contribution limit to $6,000 and create a mechanism for adjusting the cap for inflation.

Why is the current cap on LOSAP contributions problematic?
Since the $3,000 cap on annual LOSAP contributions was established in 1996, the value of contributions has increased. A large part of this is simply inflation - $3,000 in 1996 dollars is worth more than $4,600 today. Additionally, as it becomes harder to recruit and retain younger volunteers, many older volunteers are continuing to serve later in life. This impacts the LOSAP cap because for defined benefit LOSAPs the actuarial value of annual contributions rises incrementally with each year.

Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program Appropriations

Request: Restore AFG funding in FY 2018 to $405
Why is restoring AFG funding critical?
Since FY 2009, overall funding for AFG has been reduced from $565 million to $345 million in FY 2016. From FY 2004-FY 2009 volunteer fire departments received, on average, more than $200 million annually through AFG. This enabled thousands of fire departments to reach a baseline level of readiness.

Since FY 2010 support for volunteer departments through AFG has been cut substantially. From FY 2010-2015 volunteer departments have received approximately $95 million annually. The combination of reduced funding and increased costs has made getting a grant very challenging. Providing $405 million for AFG in FY 2018 would allow FEMA to fund more high quality grant applications from volunteer fire departments.

Reauthorization of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program

Request: Reauthorize AFG and SAFER
Why is reauthorizing AFG and SAFER critical?
The current authorization expires on January 2, 2018. The last time that AFG and SAFER were reauthorized Congress included a provision that would cause the programs to sunset if they are not reauthorized. Eliminating these programs would be devastating to thousands of fire departments across the nation, and particularly smaller volunteer departments that desperately lack resources.
United States Fire Administration (USFA) Appropriations

Request: Ask appropriators to provide $50 million for USFA in FY 2018

What is USFA?
The United States Fire Administration (USFA) provides training to more than 80,000 fire and emergency services personnel each year. USFA also performs research and collects data specific to the fire service and fire service activities and educates the public on the importance of fire safety. The long-term health of USFA and its National Fire Academy (NFA) are critical to the fire service.

Why is USFA important?
Access to training is a significant problem in the volunteer fire service. USFA delivers training directly to individuals through NFA and remotely through online course offerings. It also makes course offerings available to state fire training academies, which are able to deliver services in rural areas typically served by volunteer agencies.

Since 2002, USFA's funding has been cut by more than 31 percent, to $44 million in FY 2016. Past funding reductions have resulted in delays in the development of new courses, revisions of existing curriculum and facilities maintenance. Meanwhile, even as funding for USFA has been reduced, operating costs have increased.

Why should funding for USFA be restored?
Due to the rising cost of travel stipends more than 2,000 qualified applicants have had to be turned away over the past two years. Additionally, the funds that USFA gives to state fire training academies to teach NFA courses at the local level have been static for years and consequently, the number of students trained has dropped by about 40 percent since FY 2010. To reverse this trend the NVFC Congress should provide $50 million for USFA in FY 2018.

Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act (H.R. 1550)

What does VRIPA do?
The Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act (VRIPA) exempts nominal incentives that volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel receive as a reward for their service from being subject to federal income tax and reporting. Specifically, the bill would exempt property tax benefits and/or up to $600 per year of other benefit types from federal taxation.

In order to bolster recruitment and retention many fire and EMS agencies now provide benefits, including non-monetary gifts, reductions in property taxes or other fees, per-call payments, stipends and/or retirement benefits. Volunteer benefits are typically small but demonstrate community support.
**Why should minor volunteer benefits be exempted from taxation as income?**

The IRS has determined that volunteers who receive benefits should be treated as employees of the departments that they serve for tax purposes. This has created a significant amount of confusion for volunteer fire departments, which do not view themselves as employers or their volunteers as employees. Uneven enforcement and poor communication from the IRS to volunteer fire departments has exacerbated the situation. Volunteer fire departments throughout the country have been audited and even fined thousands of dollars for failure to report or improper reporting of benefit amounts, sometimes as small as a few hundred dollars per year per volunteer.

Concerns over becoming the target of an IRS investigation only add to the significant burden that having to process tax paperwork and withholding for dozens of volunteer emergency responders imposes on small communities that may not employ anyone or have administrative staff. Passing VRIPA would allow agencies to provide minor benefits without having to worry about being audited by the IRS. It would also enhance the incentive value of volunteer benefits by allowing individuals to keep the entire amount.

Respectfully,
Robert Cumberland, Chair

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**Report of the Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation**

As always, we want to thank the convention committee for giving us space for the display at convention. It is the best location and one that invites many folks to stop by and talk. We appreciate the great partnership we have with the MSFA. We are again having several fund raising events during convention week and look forward to seeing you at those. These fundraisers are of great financial benefit to our operational needs and we want to thank those businesses allowing us to be a partner for the events.

Unfortunately, we are adding more names to the wall this year. Our condolences to the families and hopefully this place of remembrance will be a healing for their loss. Plans are going well for the annual service to be held Sunday, June 4, hope to see all of you there starting at 2pm. We are anticipating a crowd of 250-300 folks to attend. The Sea of Blue has now become an inspiring part of the ceremony.

Again our July meeting was hosted by the Baltimore City FD at the boat dock near Fort McHenry. We were treated to great hospitality and a ride on the John Frazier into the harbor. We conducted a small business meeting allowing time to enjoy the evening. This has become an annual event and certainly we look forward to it.

We wish to thank all who assisted with our GALA this year. Thanks to the MSFA for sponsoring a table. We had a great program, good music throughout the evening and
a profitable silent auction. Again, thanks to all who helped. We need to recognize the Hollywood VFC and ladies auxiliary for the outstanding work they did for the GALA and we will be returning back there again this year.

The Foundation always recognizes the organizations that make up our group. Their commitment and dedication continues with outstanding support. We also would like to recognize our MSFA member companies who also continue to support the Foundation.

We always want to remind you that we are still selling bricks, pictures and other wares. We have an annual budget that we must meet. In closing, we want to again thank the MSFA and specifically the convention committee for allowing us to be a major part of the convention. Stop by our booth for a first hand look at our items. And yes, we want to thank those that regularly attend our bi-monthly meetings and chair the various committees. Without you there is no Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation. See you at the beach.

Respectfully submitted,
Gene Worthington, Chairman

Report of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

President Davis, Vice President’s Bilger and Blair, Officers, Delegates, Alternates and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association: It is with great pleasure that I submit to you the 2016 National Fallen Firefighters Foundation’s Annual Report. I hope it is useful to the Association and the fire service community as a whole, to highlight our activities this past year and moreover, to strengthen the relationship that exists between our two organizations. On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, we wish you a most successful 125th annual convention.

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) was created by Congress in 1992, with the mission to honor fallen firefighters and assist their survivors in the rebuilding of their lives. Since its inception, the Foundation has developed many programs to fulfill this mandate. The Foundation is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization, located in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and registered as a corporation in the State of Maryland. Donations from individuals, organizations, corporations, and foundations fund many of the Foundation’s programs. In 2014, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation continued programs to carry out our Congressional mandate: “To honor and remember the nation’s fallen firefighters, provide assistance to their families and coworkers, and work to prevent firefighter injuries and fatalities.”

Fire Service Survivors Network - The Fire Service Survivors Network is a group of family members of fallen firefighters who provide peer support to newly-bereaved families. Members of the Network provided emotional support to the survivors of 2015
and 2016 fallen firefighters. These matches took into account similarities between the newly-bereaved survivor and a Network member. For example, widows who have young children were matched with widows from previous years who had young children when their firefighter died.

Fire Service Survivors Wellness Conference – The Conference was held in Portland, Oregon, on May 13 – 14, 2016. The conference provided workshops on grief, wellness, self-care and practical skills.

Hal Bruno Camps for Children of Fallen Firefighters - Parents told us their grieving children needed assistance so the Foundation created the Hal Bruno Camps for Children of Fallen Firefighters, weekend bereavement camps. The camps are free and the Foundation helps cover costs of travel and provides lodging. They allow the children to meet other kids who have the same experiences and learn skills to cope with grief. Thirty-three children between the ages of 7 and 17 attended the camp in Wrightwood, California from July 8-10. Each camper was matched with a fire service volunteer who was specially trained to provide support and served as their “Big Buddy.” The camp for ages 4-6 was held in Florida from August 19-20, with 10 children attending. While the children were at camp, the parents met with a grief specialist to discuss how their children deal with grief and get guidance on how to help them with the grieving process.

Young Adults Retreat - The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation has long wanted to better serve the Young Adult Children of fallen firefighters. Thanks to a generous donation from the family of fallen Firefighter Timothy T. Gunther (2015-NY), the first annual Young Adults Retreat was held at the Airlie Center in Warrenton, VA. The retreat was free to participants and the Foundation helped cover costs of travel and provided lodging and ground transportation. The retreat allowed the young adults to meet others who have experienced the loss of a parent. The young adults attended a variety of sessions covering discussions on understanding grief, healthy ways to manage grief, basic financial management, as well as culinary and creative expression for self-improvement. Young adults also had an opportunity to connect with others and support one another. The young adults were welcoming and supportive with their peers and bonded quickly. The diverse group included those who lost their parent early in childhood, as well as those whose loss was very recent.

Outward Bound - The Foundation partners with Colorado Outward Bound School (COBS) to provide a 7-day camp for young adults. It combined backpacking, hiking, and camping in the majestic mountains of Colorado with activities designed to encourage expression in a safe environment to help them find healing. Five children of fallen firefighters, aged 18-25, participated in the COBS during the week of August 8-14. The Foundation paid their tuition and assisted with travel expenses.
Scholarships - Scholarship recipients were from 27 different states. New York had the greatest number of recipients with 23. Of those, 17 recipients are survivors of firefighters killed on 9/11. Illinois had the second highest number of recipients with 4. Recipients are attending institutions in 31 states. Recipients include 26 survivors of volunteer firefighters and 41 survivors of career firefighters.

National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend - Relatives of those we honored this year were welcomed by the Foundation during a special dinner on Friday, October 7. On Saturday morning, the survivors met in groups based upon their relationship to the firefighter. They were able to learn about the services offered by the NFFF and talk with others who understand their feelings. In the evening, the families gathered at the Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton for the annual Candlelight Service. On Sunday, October 9, 112 firefighters were officially honored at the 35th Annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service. Survivors received an American flag that was flown above the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial and the U.S. Capitol, a rose, and a special badge in honor of their firefighter. Through music, tributes, and cherished traditions, we reassured families that we would never forget.

Walk of Honor® - To help sustain the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park, bricks can be purchased and placed in the Walk of Honor®. Families and departments often purchase bricks in honor of fallen firefighters or to commemorate a significant event in the life of a firefighter still serving his community, such as a promotion, retirement, birthday or holiday gift. The Foundation has been working diligently with state associations to honor their firefighters in the new Pre-1981 Walk of Honor® section. There are commitments from Oregon, Oklahoma, Arizona, Maryland, Michigan, Delaware, Mississippi and New Hampshire to place bricks in this section. Illinois and Pennsylvania are working on theirs, as well.

Project Roll Call - Families and departments can submit a profile, photo and additional information about a loved one or colleague who made the ultimate sacrifice prior to 1981, when the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial was built. The Foundation has added a pre-1981 holiday tree and dedicating a special section in the Walk of Honor® this month. The program identifies and honors firefighters who died in the line of duty prior to 1981 when the National Memorial was established. In June 2016, the Foundation dedicated a special section of the Walk of Honor® on the grounds of the Memorial, to honor those who lost their lives prior to 1981. The Foundation continues to receive names and bios from state associations, departments, and individuals for line-of-duty deaths (LODDs) prior to 1981. We will add a new section to our website for Project Roll Call in 2017.

Fire Service Programs continued to work towards the Everyone Goes Home® program goals of reducing firefighter fatalities and injuries. Several projects that began in prior years were completed in 2016, including the International First Responder Seatbelt
Pledge and the final reports from two 2015 meetings. Both the 2015 Research Agenda Symposium Report and Heart to Heart: Strategizing an Evidence-Based Approach to Reducing Cardiac Disease and Death in the fire service were released in early 2016. The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation also undertook new initiatives to reduce risk, increase health, and build resiliency among firefighters, and to address gaps and opportunities identified during the 2014 Firefighter Life Safety Summit (Tampa2).

**Behavioral Health in the Fire Service** - The Foundation continues to develop and disseminate behavioral health materials. In December 2016, a group of subject matter experts met in Baltimore, Maryland to discern the needs of individual fire departments in terms of implementing a comprehensive behavioral health program. Information from this meeting will be consolidated into a clear, easy-to-use behavioral health management guide, which will provide fire departments with a blueprint to establish a new behavioral health program, or enhance an existing program.

**Cardiac Health in the Fire Service** - In September 2016, researchers, fire service leaders, and organizational representatives gathered to strategize branding and messaging that support recommendations from the Heart to Heart final report. Speakers focused on cardiovascular disease, the need for decisive marketing support, and obstacles to making a greater impact on prevention.

Two panel discussions addressed the attributes and elements of successful messaging/marketing plans to motivate change within the fire service. Attendees participated in brainstorming for potential marketing campaigns. As a result, outreach materials to reach firefighters, company officers and organizational levels are being developed.

**Firefighter Burn Support** - The Everyone Goes Home® program is pleased to partner with the Phoenix Society for Burn Survivors, the nation’s premier organization providing short and long term support for burn survivors. In October 2016, Everyone Goes Home® trainers delivered the Stress First Aid training course at the World Burn Congress in Providence, Rhode Island. The course was a resounding success — both burn injured firefighters and nurses from burn centers across the country received the training.

**Fire Service Occupational Cancer Alliance** - The Fire Service Occupational Cancer Alliance (FSOCA) focuses attention on the rising rate of occupational cancers among firefighters. The dedicated members of the Alliance work to conduct research, identify best practices, and disseminate updated information across all fire service audiences. In June 2016, a comprehensive report of the findings and recommendations was published. The FSOCA will present a symposium in Phoenix (AZ) from September 7-8, 2017, to bring the current state of the science, prevention methodologies, best practices and other pertinent information on the issue to a broad audience.
Company Officer Development - In December 2016, the City of Charleston Fire Department, in South Carolina, hosted a prototype of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation’s Company Officer Development course. Multiple middle managers from the Charleston Fire Department and surrounding jurisdictions attended the program.

Giving Courage – LODD Chiefs Documentary - Twelve fire chiefs from across the nation shared their stories regarding the difficult challenges they faced after a member of their department was killed in the line of duty. These poignant and personal accounts are a compelling reminder of the need to remain vigilant in terms of firefighter survivability, and to know what to do should the worst happen to one of your own. The documentary was filmed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Emmitsburg, Maryland, and was released in July 2016. Additional footage was compiled into follow-up mini-documentaries, to be released in 2017.

Regional Advocate Summit - The Everyone Goes Home® Advocate team continues to serve as the boots on the ground for the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives. To provide program direction for the immediate future, a strategic planning workshop was held in November 2016 near Austin, Texas. To begin the meeting, Regional Advocate Managers participated in a review of three historically significant incidents. The review focused participants’ attention on the reality of the work that Advocates do on behalf of the program, and laid the groundwork for a strategic planning process that would define goals, strategies, and outcomes for the Advocate program for the next three to five years.

Fire Hero Learning Network - The Foundation’s online training network reached over 50,000 registered users in 2016. Two new modules for company officers were added: Health and Safety Responsibilities and Communication and Mentoring for Company Officers. Nine programs are now available. Communication & Mentoring for Company Officers, Company Officer’s Health & Safety Responsibilities, Courage To Be Safe®, Creating Change In The Fire Service, Curbside Manner: Stress First Aid For The Streets, Everyone Goes Home®: After Action Review, Leadership, Accountability, Culture, Knowledge (LACK), Stress First Aid for Fire & EMS Personnel and Taking Care Of Our Own®.

Community Risk Reduction - The Foundation hosted a community risk reduction leadership summit in Annapolis, Maryland. As a result, a news article demonstrating the value of home fire sprinklers “Sounding-off about Saving Lives,” and a final report Leading and Living Life Safety Lessons Learned: Myths, Misconceptions and Misinformation about Fire Sprinklers and Smoke Alarms were released. A video was produced that highlighted how a home sprinkler system could have changed the outcomes for Maryland citizens who lost their lives in residential fires.

Local Assistance State Team Program - The Foundation trains fire departments to
prepare for a line-of-duty death through the Taking Care of Our Own® program and provides immediate support to departments after a fatality. The Local Assistance State Team (LAST) program is funded by the Department of Justice (DOJ) - Bureau of Justice Assistance. The program’s primary mission is to provide assistance to families and departments with preparation of Public Safety Officers’ Benefits (PSOB) claims after a line-of-duty death. While the principal focus is overseeing the accurate and timely completion of PSOB claims, this vital program also offers immediate logistical, administrative, and emotional support after a fatality. Support may include funeral and memorial service planning and logistics, assistance with benefits paperwork, and connect surviving co-workers and immediate family with behavioral health resources. Several LAST technical advisors participated in the Department of Justice’s beta tests to prepare for implementation of the new automated PSOB 2.0, which will modernize the claim submission process to a completely paperless environment. It will include a secure, web-based portal to enable users to submit and track the status of a claim, make inquiries regarding benefits, and receive communications from the PSOB office. The new system will evaluate information submitted online to determine what supporting documentation must be submitted to move the claim forward. This is an important step forward in DOJ’s efforts to streamline and increase transparency of the claims process. LAST training in 2017 will focus on training teams in the use of the new system for submitting PSOB claims. The PSOB Office Director will oversee this training.

Foundation Marketing - Effective communication is vital to fulfilling the Foundation’s mission. Engaging the fire service and public is an important part in honoring the fallen, keeping firefighters’ safe, and finding support for our work. In addition to our websites, we launched “The Foundation Trumpet,” a quarterly, online newsletter. This provides another avenue for learning more about the Foundation.

We continued building our relationships with traditional media outlets, and expanded our social media presence on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and Pinterest. Through the Google AdWords Grant Program, we placed text ads about our programs and services to reach a broader audience both in and outside the fire service. In January 2016, we began five-year anniversary. Facebook posts for fallen firefighters who have been honored in Emmitsburg, Maryland. These remembrances have garnered positive feedback and engagement with our followers. Singer/songwriter Dave Carroll wrote The Fallen and the Brave to honor firefighters who died while protecting their communities. We worked with Dave to create his music video for the song, which was shot at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg. During the 2016 National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, our Communications and Marketing team was joined by an ever-growing group of volunteers. Both the Candlelight and Memorial Services were streamed through VISTA Worldlink’s generous donation of equipment, facilities and expertise in live-streaming and satellite transmissions. Likewise, Comcast generously
provided technical assistance and equipment. These valuable partnerships allowed news websites and TV stations around the world to share the events with the fire service and the general public.

Supporting the Mission - Regional stair climbs that are held across the country continue to support the FDNY Counseling Services Unit and the programs of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. 48 Stair Climbs were held last year. 22 Golf Tournaments were held in 2016 across the country and continue to support the programs of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Annual events continued to raise much needed funds for the Foundation. Some of the highlights included Stop, Drop, Rock ‘n’ Roll at FDIC and Firefighter Appreciation Day at Dover International Speedway. The Foundation partnered with Carry the Load to raise awareness and funds over the Memorial Day weekend. In October 2016, the Foundation also launched Boot Scootin’ Boogie during Firehouse Expo. Volunteer coordinators held an additional 36 fundraising events around the country in 2016.

I am pleased to submit this annual report and encourage all of you to consider getting involved with one or more of our programs. The Board and Staff of the Foundation appreciate all of the support we have received from the Maryland Fire Service and we hope to see you in Emmitsburg on October 7-8, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ronald J. Siarnicki, Executive Director

Report of the MSFA Directors to the National Volunteer Fire Council

MSFA Directors Dave Lewis and Jimmy Seavey, Sr. have continued to accept additional areas of responsibility within the National Volunteer Fire Council. Each has a number of duties, to include:

David Lewis: Health, Safety and Training Committee
Homeland Security – Vice Chair
Recruitment and Retention
Standards and Codes

James Seavey: Volunteer Advocacy – Vice Chair
Cancer Subcommittee – Co-Chair
NVFC Foundation
Conference and Education Committee

While each of these committees are extremely busy throughout the year, below you will find a synopsis of the issues of greatest importance:
The spring Board Meeting included Council business as well as special events, including a keynote speech by *U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary John F. Kelly*, a roundtable on fire department sustainability, Officer and Executive Committee elections, and a banquet to honor the recipients of the NVFC’s annual achievement awards.

**Council Business**

The NVFC brings its board together twice a year to conduct Council business. At each meeting, board members attended committee meetings on topics ranging from hazmat response, to health and safety, to recruitment and retention, to legislation, and much more. The NVFC Foundation and the EMS/Rescue Section also met. Both, Directors Lewis and Seavey were present at the NVFC Spring Board Meeting.

The full board addressed matters of interest to the Council and the volunteer fire and emergency services on the national level. Actions taken included:

- The board adopted a Diabetes Position Statement that advocates for firefighter physicals, education, and support.
- The board approved an expanded physicals statement that outlines options departments can consider when developing a firefighter medical assessment program. The board had previously adopted a position that supports annual medical assessments for all firefighters.
- The Health, Safety, and Training Committee created an officer training task force to develop training specific to junior/mid-level officers.
- The board voted to support NHTSA rule-making action regarding vehicle-to-vehicle technology.
- The Legislative Committee added AFG/SAFER Reauthorization and the LOSAP CAP Act to the NVFC’s legislative priorities.

At the spring Board Meeting, DHS Secretary Kelly provided the keynote address to the board during the Chairman’s Lunch. He commended the service and commitment of the nation’s volunteer responders, emphasized the critical role of the fire service in homeland security, and vowed to argue for important fire service programs including the Assistance to Firefighters Grant and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant programs, which need reauthorization to continue.

Additional speakers included Allison Moore, NVFC Program Manager, who provided an update on the NVFC’s Make Me A Firefighter recruitment campaign, and Nancy Green of Vetted Solutions, who presented a session on board leadership.

The NVFC holds Officer and Executive Committee elections every two years. Board leadership consists of an elected Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Secretary/Treasurer, and five Executive Committee members. Also on the Executive Committee
are the chair of the Legislative Committee, President of the NVFC Foundation, and Chair of the EMS/Rescue Section. There were only a few changes to the make-up of the Executive Committee, with none of the Officers changing hands.

The 2017-19 NVFC Officers and Executive Committee are as follows:

Chair: Kevin D. Quinn (RI)
1st Vice Chair: Steve Hirsch (KS)
2nd Vice Chair: Dallas Renfrew (TX)
Secretary/Treasurer: Allen Metheny (DE)

Executive Committee:
Juan Bonilla (ID) - Chair of the EMS/Rescue Section; Richard Brown (CA); Jeff Cash (NC); Bob Kilpeck (VT) - President of the NVFC Foundation; Brian McQueen (NY); T.J. Nedrow (WA) - Chair of the Legislative Committee; Bill Offerman (IL); Bob Timko (PA)

Cancer Initiatives
Director Seavey has suggested that a sub-website be established within the NVFC website to provide information on fire service cancer topics and a stream by which members of the Council can forward questions to the Cancer Subcommittee.

The NFPA has now established a Firefighter Cancer Study Team. The first meeting of the group focused on the cleaning of PPE. It was also mentioned that there is a very informative study available on line regarding the University of Arizona research on diesel particulates.

The first National Fire Service Cancer Symposium will be held on September 7th and 8th in Phoenix, Arizona.

The Firemen’s Association of the State of New York has been the torch bearer for the volunteer service with regard to cancer in our occupation. In addition to numerous in-state programs for their members, FASNY has been hosting National Occupational Fire Service Cancer Alliance meetings at their office in Albany and will be doing so again this summer.

Daren D'Ippilito of Provident Insurance has offered that the volunteer fire service must begin to compile data on occurrences of cancer. Further, it was offered that a matrix of presumptive legislation and other cancer specific laws should be developed and made available to the NVFC membership.

The idea is being floated to author a “Pink Paper” on cancer in the VOLUNTEER fire service.
Make Me A Firefighter

Director Lewis has been quite involved in the evolution of Make Me A Firefighter™, a national volunteer firefighter and EMS recruitment campaign launched in 2015 by the NVFC to help departments reach new members. The NVFC was awarded a SAFER grant from FEMA to conduct this nationwide campaign, which features a department portal filled with resources and tools for implementing a local recruitment campaign as well as a public web site to allow potential volunteers to find local opportunities. Learn more, register for free, and post your volunteer opportunities at http://portal.nvfc.org/about.

Additionally, Director Lewis continues to assist with Peer Review for the USFA/FEMA Grant Programs.

Respectfully submitted,
David Lewis
James P. Seavey, Sr.

Report of the Out of State Events Report

President Davis, Legislative Branch Director Steve Cox I want to thank you on behalf of the allowing committee members for appointing us to represent the Association this past year. PP Frank Underwood, PP Gene Worthington, and PP Davis Lewis. Since the convention members of the committee have attended the following State Association convention/conferences representing the association. The following MSFA officers and members attended the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen’s Association Convention and President’s Council held August 3-6, 2016. The convention was hosted by the Harford and Cecil County volunteer companies. The annual convention of the Firemen’s Association of New York was held on August 11-13, 2016, in Albany, New York. Representing the MSFA was Out of State Coordinator Dave Lewis. The Virginia State Firefighter’s Conference/Expo was held in August in Hampton, VA. with Past Presidents Frank Underwood and Bob Cumberland representing the MSFA. The Delaware Volunteer Firefighters Association Conference was held in Dover, Delaware on September 16, 2016 with President Davis, Officers, Committee Chair and Past President attending the Luncheon and Memorial Service in Dover, Delaware. President Davis, Officers and Past President Cumberland attended the Firemen’s Association State of Pennsylvania Convention held in Washington, Pa. on September 22, 2016.

The list of the dates of other state conferences and conventions for 2017 are listed below.
Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen’s Association August 2 to August 5, 2017, at McConnellsburg Volunteer Fire Dept. McConnellsburg, PA. President Council meeting Friday Aug 4, 2017 starting at 9 AM.

Virginia State Firefighters Association & Auxiliary August 2 to August 5, 2017 in Hampton Road, VA. Wednesday August 17, 2017 Memorial Service, Thursday August 3, 2017 is the Opening ceremony & Introduction of guest. Starting at 8 AM

West Virginia State Firemen’s Association August, 23 to August 26, 2017, in McMechen, WV. Friday August, 2017 starting at 8 AM.


Delaware Volunteer Firefighters Association September 12 to 15, 2017 Dover Downs Casino Thursday September 14, 2017 Opening Ceremony and Business meeting Friday September 15, 2017 Memorial Service and Luncheon (Best Day) Time: 8:30 AM Registration, Memorial 9:00 AM Reception & Luncheon 11:00AM

Firemen’s Association of the State of Pennsylvania September 20 to 23, 2017, Penn Hill, Pa. Thursday September 21, 2017 (Best Day) Registration, Opening Ceremonies, Introduction of guest, Keynote Speaker and Joint Memorial Service. A luncheon with Officers will be held after the morning session.

Respectfully,

Robert Cumberland, Chair

Report of the Presidential Vehicle Committee

President Davis, Vice President’s Bilger and Blair, Officers, Delegates and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association; it has been a pleasure to serve as the Chair of this committee during this past year.

A 2016 Ford Sedan Police Interceptor, AWD, was placed in service and delivered to President Davis at last year’s convention. The 2012 Ford Crown Victoria Police Package Sedan was donated and delivered to State Fire Marshal’s Office and delivered immediately following last year’s convention.

The Presidential Vehicle Committee has worked closely with the Presidents to ensure that our fleet provides reliable and safe transportation for our officers. Each vehicle receives routine maintenance as well as repair in a timely manner of an unexpected occurrence. Because of the committee’s inspections, regular maintenance, and low mileage a recommendation was made and approved by the Executive Committee to not purchase a new vehicle this year.
This year, at convention the new President will move in the newest vehicle marked MSFA. The First Vice President will move into the vehicle marked MSFA 1 and the newly elected Second Vice President will move into the vehicle marked MSFA 2.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephan D. Cox, Chairman

Report of the Public Relations Committee

The Public Relations Committee has participated in any and all activities that have been requested by our members, plus taken care of the activities at the Convention in June. We have photographed the activities on the floor of the Convention, as well as making photos of all of our award winners and many of their families. Throughout the year, our members have attended banquets, conventions and other activities of the member companies and chronicled them for the Volunteer Trumpet and other local news outlets. If any department or committee has a need of our services to help them with their work, please contact me. Thank you for the opportunity to serve our Association throughout the past year, and we offer our help to the incoming officers for 2017 – 18.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Watkins, Chairman

Report Of The Recruitment and Retention Committee

President Davis, 1st Vice-President Bilger and 2nd Vice President Blair, Chairman Simpkins, Executive Committee members, Officers, Delegates, Alternates, and Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association: It is with great pleasure that I submit to you the 2016-2017 report of the Recruitment & Retention Committee for the 125th Annual Maryland State Firemen’s Convention.

This has truly been a very busy year for the R & R committee since the end of last year’s convention. We started off our August meeting getting ready for the Maryland State Fair in Timonium and planning for the leadership training and recruitment efforts for the coming year. We met monthly throughout the year travelling across the state. It was suggested that we try to start using tele-conferencing to make our meetings easier to attend and to take into consideration the time it takes to drive across the state in the evening rush hour. We would like to thank Richard Snader for setting us up with a conference call line and walking us through how we can use it. It was invaluable to the committee, and we even got Richard to stay on the call to add his thoughts to the conversation. The committee would like to expand its use in the future, while we still maintain the importance of the face-to-face meetings.
MDVOLUNTEER.ORG
The www.mdvolunteer.org recruitment website is under remodeling and updating by Benchworks of Chestertown. The website is being revamped as the new public face of the MSFA to include the Fire Prevention committee and Safety committee information. The domains addresses of www.mdfirefighters.org and www.mdemts.org have been added to help steer new possible candidates to our page.

STATEWIDE RECRUITMENT DAY – April 23, 2017
The 3rd Annual Statewide Recruitment Day was held on Sunday April 23rd and the results were not available for this report. We were unfortunately unable to utilize the Safer Grants marketing funds to advertise this event, as we wanted to, but were assured that the funds would be made available for 2018’s Recruitment Day on April 15, 2018.

SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 15, 2018

LEADERSHIP TRAINING
The R & R Committee in conjunction with the Maryland Fire Chief’s Association, MD Fire & Rescue Institute, and MSFA Training Committee held some excellent leadership seminars. These seminars were selected because at every event we have held over the last few years, the students have told the committee that Leadership was the most important factor on whether they continued or left a department. They stated that the lack of good leadership kills fire department morale. The question that they left us with was “how do we get the leaders that really need these classes to join us?”

The 1st seminar we held was the Fire Rescue Organizational Guidance (FROG) in Ocean City, MD in December. We made it a family affair. With special thanks to the Berlin Fire Department, we were able to hold a family dinner on Friday evening with around 60 attendees including the kids.

On Saturday morning we started the IAFC-VCOS Fire Rescue Organizational Guidance (FROG) class with introductions from Chief Norvin Collins and Chief Tom LaBelle. This class was a guideline on how to run a successful fire department. The Holiday Inn provided one of their meeting rooms for the class. The room was completely full with 50 members in attendance. That night after class we all were treated to a very special tram ride through the Ocean City Winterfest of Lights. Hotel accommodations were handled as part of the Safer Training Grant. The class continued on Sunday.

On Sunday, January 22nd we held an interactive conversation about the generations with Chief Tiger Schmittendorf as the facilitator. This class “From the Xbox to the Box Alarm” brings together the different generations to figure out how to better work to our common goals of serving the public, and dealing our brothers and sisters in the fire service. We have the Silent Generation that was born before 1945, the Baby Boomers (1946 – 1964), Generation X (1964 – 1984), Gen Y or Millennial (1984 - 2000) and
soon we will have the Gen Z or iGen (2000 – Present) each with their own ideas and ways of learning. Each generation had an event or incident that makes them different. Learning how to understand and deal with these differences is what makes this class so important to us in the fire service.

Next, we held an IAFC-VCOS “Beyond Hoses and Helmets” Seminar at the North East Fire Company, North East MD, on March 31 – April 1st 2017 with 40 people in attendance. We were able to provide arrangements at the Holiday Inn & Suite for a block of rooms for those individuals that travelled greater than 50 miles. We finished the day with a NFFF Firefighter Cancer Awareness Ice Cream Social at the hotel with Chief Tiger Schmittendorf to discuss the higher than normal rate of cancer for firefighters and what could we do to protect our firefighters better.

As part of this leadership-training weekend, we finished up the training on Sunday, April 2nd with Chief Tiger Schmittendorf “From Xbox™ to the Box Alarm” seminar. 30 members attended this interactive discussion.

We were able to repeat the Tiger Schmittendorf “From Xbox™ to the Box Alarm” seminar at the Carroll County Training Center the following Saturday, April 8th and had almost another 30 attendee’s.

125TH ANNUAL FIREMEN’S CONVENTION
The committee is working with Tiger Schmittendorf to bring his new class “Call to Duty” a recruiter’s boot camp, as one of the leadership session to the beach. The committee will also staff a booth to help our members sign up for NVFC & register members to our database.

Recruitment & Retention Family Appreciation Award
The committee has recommended that we change the Family Appreciation Award to a Recruitment and Retention Award. We would create two categories, the 1st award would be for the Association that does the most to promote recruitment and retention efforts in their county. and the 2nd award would be for the individual department that puts forth the most efforts toward recruitment and retention for the year including the annual recruitment day.

Sincerely,
Joseph Chornock, CHSIII, Chairman
Julie Casey, Vice Chair

MSFA Recruitment and Retention Committee
David Lewis, PP.     Robert “Pappy” Hahn
Frank Stubbs     Robert C. McHenry, Jr.
Ricardo Tappan     John McDowell
R. Wayne Powell     Brenda Sarmiento
William Wagner, III     John Dale Sellers
Report of the Safety Committee

The true mission of the fire service is the attempted preservation of life, property and our environment. The Safety Committee of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association has had seven formal meetings during the year with an effort to identify previous losses, the causation and offer ways to educate our Maryland firefighters in the reduction of all loss.

Also, during this past year the MSFA Safety Committee has worked with the MSFA Risk Management and our Training Committee to evaluate how we as individual committees can improve our efforts in reducing injuries and deaths, of our Maryland first responders.

The Maryland State Highway Administration has worked closely with our committee to get all Maryland first responders trained and many certified as instructors, for the new national Traffic incident Management (TIM) course. We hope to educate all Maryland emergency workers that are exposed to roadway emergency hazards with this offered course! Currently, over fifty new TIM certified instructors, are now available throughout our state.

During 2016 and again in April of 2017, the Delmarva Safety Association and the MSFA Safety Committee worked together, to plan and implement a regional safety training conference, titled the “Delmarva Safety Conference.” This regional annual three day safety event has proven to be an educational asset to all who have attended, with numerous timely safety courses offered! The evaluations collected this year, at the end of the conference, were all rated good too excellent!

Heart Attack deaths are still increasing and are the single leading cause of firefighter death, in the United States. We are currently working with the Maryland Department of Health, to get departmental training in all member companies. Firefighter falls from and through elevation, are the second cause of current F/F deaths and the third cause are responders being struck by a motor vehicles. Every effort is being made to focus on each of the causes of the identified injuries and deaths and how we can offer help and education. Every effort will be made to offer as much safety education as possible, at the 125th annual convention.
Cancer exposure of our firefighters is also being addressed and we as a committee to being proactive in our efforts to offer recommendations for the reduction cancer causes and loss. RESPECT LIFE! BE SAFE!

Respectfully,
Michael LeCompte, Chairman

Report of the Search and Rescue (SAR) Committee

President Davis, Vice Presidents Bilger and Blair, Chairman Simpkins, Officers, Delegates, Members and Guests of the 125th Annual Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

SAR Committee plan and goals:
• Primary purpose/mission will be to promote the role of, and support, MSFA member companies that provide technical search and/or rescue.
  o Provide technical assistance to member companies and coordinate with other MSFA committees concerning SAR issues.
  □ I would encourage departments with any questions related to search and rescue to contact a member of the SAR Committee. We are here to serve the member companies and can most likely use the expertise of the committee members in addressing any concerns. We are frequently consulted by departments for information on equipment and training and welcome such contacts.
• Will liaison with state/regional/national organizations involved in SAR to advocate for MSFA member companies and gather information to disseminate to the MSFA and…
• Monitor the field of technical SAR and work on positioning the MSFA and member companies to respond to any changes in a way that promotes the work of the MSFA.
  o MSFA organizational representative to the ASTM F-32 Committee on Search and Rescue.
  o MSFA organizational representative to the National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR).
• Serve as the MSFA liaison to MEMA on ESF#9 matters.
  o Work continues with MEMA on developing a robust resource directory for SAR, particularly swiftwater/flood as flooding incidents are the most common need for resources outside of day-to-day mutual aid arrangements. Vice-Chair Mike Berna has been leading this effort at MEMA and has produced the Maryland Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue Response System concept of operations plan for review by MEMA. This document largely incorporates the contents of the
Whitepaper produced by MSFA in 2005 (available on MSFA website under SAR Committee). It was updated to include current practice including the use of mission packaging for planning and deployment. The document is in draft form and not available for release pending final edits. It will be posted on the SAR Committee page on the MSFA website once fully approved and operationalized.

- MSFA was asked to provide MEMA with an updated accounting of deployable SW/F assets. This is the first step in moving towards formal typing and credentialing as outlined in the pending concept of operations plan. This soft touch has identified twelve (12) Type III MSFA member company SW/F teams for deployment statewide and was forwarded to MEMA staff.

MEMA SEOC/ESF#9 Requests:

- **Hermine and Matthew:** Contacted by MEMA during planning for both of these storms. Participated in planning weather calls, monitored WebEOC and NWS, and rostered SW/F assets. No MSFA assets were mobilized during either storm.

  I again want to emphasize that we want to hear about any SAR resource that a member company operates that may meet the NIMS Typing requirements. Even a Type III or Type IV resource is valuable to have in the resource matrix. Committee members can assist you with review of the NIMS typing and compliance planning as needed.

I would personally urge each department providing technical search and/or rescue services to pursue Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board (and National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications where applicable) certifications for their members in the following areas as applicable to the type of service you provide: Structural Collapse Technical Rescuer, Rope Technical Rescuer, Surface Water Technical Rescuer, Vehicle and Machinery Technical Rescuer, Confined Space Technical Rescuer, Trench Technical Rescuer, Fire/Rescue Boat Crew Mate I, II, and Motor Vessel Operator. By having these in place you will be on your way to demonstrating required competencies in the field of SAR response. Information on all of these programs is available thru MFRI.

The Committee would like to thank President Davis and the other Association officers for their support over the past year. The Committee looks forward to continuing its’ work with each of you and others in the coming year.

Submitted for the Service by:
Todd “Scuba” Johnson, Chair
Report of the Standards and NFPA Review Committee

For the past year, it has once again been my honor to serve as the Chair of the MSFA Standards and NFPA Review Committee. This Committee plays a critical role in the review and adoption of standards which directly impact the safety and survivability of firefighters and first responders throughout the State.

The Standards Committee continues to monitor the promulgation and passage of new and revised Codes and Standards of the National Fire Protection Association in order to determine possible effects on fire service operations in Maryland, and will stand ready to report any such effects to the Executive Committee and MSFA membership. The 2018 editions of revised NFPA Codes and Standards were reviewed for issuance by the NFPA Membership at the June 7 Technical Session of the Association in Boston for approval by the Standards Council at the August meeting of that Council. The Standards Committee will review these changes to the NFPA documents to determine any direct impact on fire service operations in Maryland.

Another important responsibility of this Committee is to provide guidance and advice to the governing bodies of this Association and to its member companies.

During the past calendar year, there were no applications for new member companies that required inspections to determine compliance with MSFA Standards. In addition, there were no complaints or request for Standards inspections of current member companies.

The activities of the Standards Committee were accomplished through much diligent work by its members. The goal of this Committee is to continue to review and monitor current MSFA Bylaws to coordinate these requirements with current NFPA Standards and generally recognized practices. While this coordination with current NFPA Standards will continue, it is understood that many local conditions will require modification to the national standards in order to provide an adequate level of cost effective services. All of these issues will be considered as a part of the MSFA Standards Committee review and recommendation of proposed regulations, with the prime consideration for the safety of the emergency responders of this State and the citizens that they are committed to protect.

It is my personal commitment to continue the fine efforts and tradition of this Committee that has been long established. If anyone has any questions or comments that they wish to bring before the Standards Committee, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Bush, Chair
Report of the State Fire Marshal

I bring you greetings from Governor Larry Hogan, Lieutenant Governor Boyd K. Rutherford, and Colonel William M. Pallozzi, Secretary of the Maryland State Police. On behalf of the entire staff of the Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal, I extend my sincere congratulations on your 125th Anniversary and to MSFA President Michael A. Davis and LAMSFA President Barbara Sue Nelson. Your respective terms in office have been extremely productive and your service is one the entire Maryland State Firemen’s Association can be quite proud of. It is my distinct privilege to present to you the report from the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM).

In 2016, the State of Maryland saw the number of fire deaths increase by 7.9 percent when compared to 2015. The total number of fire deaths for 2016 was 68 which, as indicated above, represented an increase in the 63 fire deaths suffered in 2015. Twelve fatal residential structure fires occurred where smoke alarms were known to have functioned at the time of the incident; however, 12 lives were still lost. It should be noted that over 100 individuals were saved due to residential sprinklers and over 200 saved due to smoke alarm activations.

During 2016, residential fire fatalities accounted for seventy-seven percent of all fire fatalities. Sixteen percent of the victims in residential fatal fires (11), involved adults age 70 and older. This is a slight decrease when compared to 2015 when (13) victims perished. Three fatal fires occurred with victims aged 90 or older in 2016. Twelve victims under the age of (18) died in 8 fires in 2016, accounting for eighteen percent of the fire deaths.

Hoarding can present hazards which can result in catastrophic fire related events that jeopardize the safety of all concerned including, but not limited to occupant(s) and emergency responders. The Office of the State Fire Marshal under the direction of Fire Marshal Brian Geraci continues to educate the public regarding the dangers of hoarding. Seven deaths resulted from seven hoarding related fires which are almost 13 percent of the total fires reported for the entire year representing an increase in comparison to previous years. The following is a report summarization of fire related deaths that were complicated by conditions of hoarding in the year of 2016.

An undetermined dwelling fire claimed the life of a 67 year old male victim who became entrapped after his home collapsed. Firefighters on the scene were initially able to locate the 67 year old male victim in a 2nd floor bedroom; however, due to rapidly degrading conditions rescuers were forced to evacuate the burning structure prior to extricating the victim from the home. A 63 year old female was rescued by first responders subsequent to calling 911 and reporting a fire inside her townhome. The victim was transported to a local Medical Center and then transferred to a Burn Center where she later succumbed to her injuries during treatment. The fire cause remains
An undetermined fire in a two story townhome resulted in the demise of a 66 year old female. The victim’s escape may have been hampered by her physical disability as she ambulated with the assistance of a walker. A firefighter was treated and released as a result of non-life threatening injuries sustained while battling the blaze. A 63 year old female victim’s body was located in the garage area of her single family dwelling, but only after the blaze had been completely extinguished. Firefighters made multiple attempts to search the home; however, the unsafe conditions prevented a rescue. A firefighter was treated and released for non-life threatening injuries, and the cause of the fire remains undetermined.

An incendiary fire set in a residential dwelling resulted in the death of a 42 year old male who committed suicide. A 74 year old female was rescued by firefighters from her burning home and was transported to a Burn Center. Unfortunately, the 74 year old victim succumbed to her injuries a few days later. An undetermined dwelling fire resulted in the demise of a 73 year old male who was found by firefighters in the kitchen of the home, and was confirmed deceased at the scene.

Baltimore City reported 16 fire deaths in 2016 which represented an almost 11 percent decrease to 18 fire deaths reported in 2015. Montgomery County experienced 6 fire deaths compared to 2 in 2015. Prince Georges County reported 11 fire deaths in 2016 as compared to 6 fire deaths in 2015. Additionally, Baltimore County experienced 6 fire deaths and Cecil, Charles, Harford and Somerset County experienced 3 fire deaths, Allegany, Carroll, Frederick and Wicomico had two fire deaths each; and Caroline, Dorchester, Garrett, Howard, Queen Anne’s and Washington Counties had one fire death each. Sadly, the five-year average for fire deaths in Maryland is 64 per year. Although better than 1975 – 1988 when fire deaths remained over 100 each year, we still have a lot of work in our efforts to reach zero fire deaths.

The OSFM extends congratulations to each fire department and local jurisdiction that suffered no fire deaths or experienced decreases in the number of fire deaths last year. Five counties experienced no fire fatalities, these include: Calvert, Kent, St. Mary’s, Talbot and Worcester.

In comparison to previous years, 2016 showed a decrease in the total number of multi-fatal fires which was seven fires or 12.5 percent of the 56 total fires for the year. During 2015, the percentage of multi-fatal fires was at 18.4 percent of the total fires for that year, and at 12.7 percent of the total fires for the year 2014. The months of January, August, October and December 2016 resulted in one multi-fatal fire for each of the four months. Even though only one multi-fatal fire was reported in January and August, it was the two months that claimed the most multi-deaths in one incident with both months each claiming four lives.
In 2016, similar to multi-fires, the number of multi-deaths in fatal fires slightly decreased in comparison to the prior year to 19 deaths or 27.9 percent of the 68 total deaths reported for the year. Multi-deaths in fatal fires in 2015 were recorded at 23 deaths or 36.5 percent of the 63 total deaths and in 2014 were recorded at 16 deaths or 25.0 percent of the 64 total deaths.

Twenty-six employees of the Office of the State Fire Marshal and numerous employees of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms assisted Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Services with its investigation of the three-story apartment explosion and fire in Silver Spring that killed five adults and two children. The National Transportation Safety Board continues to follow-up its investigation for the gas pipes going into the building and to the meter. Washington Gas also had its private investigators on the scene to secure gas meters, piping, and other equipment for analysis. An eyewitness reported an odor of gas right before the explosion and that is the focus of the investigation. The OSFM participated in the Maryland Association of Realtors conference in Ocean City with a booth and a continuing education accredited workshop on smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, and residential fire sprinklers. Fifty participants attended and there was great feedback by the attendees. The Maryland Realtors were opponents to residential sprinklers but the workshop provided a good opportunity to educate them on the life saving devices.

On Saturday, March 19th the Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Seminar, titled “Practical Tips for Fire & Life Safety Programs”, was held at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute in College Park. Over 60 motivated personnel attended the outstanding event and were provided timely and topical information.

The Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference celebrated its 57th year Anniversary on September 27, 2016 with the theme “Campaign for Prevention.” Originally, billed as the Governor’s Fire Prevention Conference began in August of 1959 when then Governor Tawes saw the need for a Statewide Conference on Fire Prevention. Fifty-seven years later the Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference remains one of the foremost conferences of its kind in the nation. The conference was well attended by over 200 participants. Jim Resnick of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service received the Public Fire Safety Educator of the Year Award. He has shown a true dedication to public fire safety education and is an asset to both his department and the citizens of Maryland. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, September 26, 2017 for yet another well prepared conference.

As always, the OSFM followed the 2017 session of the Maryland General Assembly. The MSFA is to be commended for their leadership, diligence and continued support in working with the OSFM and other members of the Maryland Fire Service. The MSFA Legislative Committee Chairman Stephan Cox and his entire committee continue to be vigilant on key issues, share information on important topics, and communicate with key legislators.
As State Fire Marshal, I wholeheartedly appreciate the partnerships and relationships our agency shares with local and State governments, as well as private industry. These partnerships help us secure resources, disseminate information, provide needed training and allow us to be more effective at accomplishing tasks in the pursuit of fire and life safety. Over the past 15 years the public-private partnership with PEPCO and Delmarva Power has enabled the distribution of well over 23,850 smoke alarms. Statewide initiatives advocating the installation, maintenance, and testing of smoke alarms coupled with developing and practicing home fire escape plans continue to help communities reduce fire deaths and injuries. As a reminder, please take part in the Community Risk Reduction Weekends offered each year for fire departments to enter their respective communities and offer installations of smoke alarms and provide fire and life safety information. The next scheduled CRR weekend is October 21-22, 2017.

During the past year the OSFM experienced a few staffing changes, Ken Bush was promoted to Chief Fire Protection Engineer, Deputy State Fire Marshal’s Brad Childress and John Grothe graduated the Southern Maryland Police Academy. Senior Deputy State Fire Marshal’s John Nelson & K-9 ‘Zorro’ and Melissa Decker & K-9 ‘Sky’ completed training at Front Royal with the ATF K-9 Accelerant Program. Newly hired Deputy State Fire Marshal Peter Raia began his basic training at the Southern Maryland Police Academy. Please join us in supporting their success as they serve the citizens of Maryland.

Special Assistant State Fire Marshal Terry Gearhart of the Western Regional Office of the State Fire Marshal received the Community Partnership Award from the Washington County Department of Social Services for the high quality fire and life safety education he provides to foster care parents. DSFM Carl Witmer received a Life Saving Award for his assistance in providing CPR to a cardiac patient at the Hagerstown MVA.

As usual, OSFM staff members performed at a very high level. In 2016, the OSFM conducted in excess of 1,102 fire and explosives investigations and completed over 12,335 fire and life safety inspections. This level of performance is outstanding in light of increased training and fire and life safety education assignments. OSFM Fire Protection Engineers reviewed over 1,687 construction and fire protection system plans. The dedication of our personnel is evident by these numbers. It is through an Agency-wide commitment to fire and life safety that we work for the citizens and with the Maryland Fire Service, to accomplish the mission of protecting life and property. The OSFM blog site is up and running. The site contains news and information at http://mdosfm.wixsite.com/blog. Fatality reports and burn injury reports can be completed on-line, local jurisdictions can also share smoke alarm saves, sprinkler saves, fire deaths, and inspections can be requested from our customers.

OSFM staff members continue to perform their public safety mission with pride. With challenges come more opportunities. These tight economic times have required us to
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justify our resources and forced us to rethink current practices in order to position the OSFM for the future. We are always seeking potential opportunities to better perform our mission and, with your continued support, move both the Agency and more importantly the fire service forward. As an organization, the entire staff of the OSFM has a crystal clear picture of its mission. OSFM staff members look forward to working closely with MSFA President Mark A. Bilger and LAMFSA President Vivian Boyd and their leadership teams. We wish them great success and know they will achieve a tremendous amount of success during their terms in office.

Respectfully Submitted
Brian S. Geraci, State Fire Marshal

Report Of The Training Committee

The Training Committee met bi-monthly during the fiscal year. Meetings were held at various locations in central Maryland including the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute Headquarters in College Park (Prince Georges) and at its Southern Maryland Regional Training Center in LaPlata (Charles). Meetings were also held at the Carroll County Training Center, Ellicott City VFC (Howard), and at the Montgomery County Training Academy. We are grateful to the host companies and agencies for their fine hospitality. Meeting attendance averaged about 20 committee members and agency representatives.

Liaison agencies (officers of the MSFA – 1st VP Mark Bilger, 2nd VP Rick Blair are members of the committee; MFRI, MD Fire Chiefs Association, MD Council of Fire and Rescue Academies – Past Chairman Leon Fleming is a committee member) had representatives at our meetings regularly. The MIEMSS Ombudsman was present at most meetings. The MSFA Recruitment and Retention Committee frequently had representation. Chairs of other committees sometimes attended Training Committee meetings.

MFRI hosted a conference call with our committee and the date and classes for Maryland Weekend 2018 were chosen. The Training Committee is grateful to MFRI for asking for our input on this important conference. This is the second year of our involvement in the class selection process.

Maryland Weekend at NFA Course Listing
February 3rd and 4th, 2018
W0376 - Incident Command System and Resource Management for the Fire Service

Curriculum: Incident Management
This is a significantly revised two-day program providing students with an understanding
of the Incident Command System (ICS) and resource management for the fire service and their application in both emergency and nonemergency situations. This course addresses the need for an ICS, an overview of the structure and flexibility of ICS, an understanding of the command skills necessary to function effectively in an ICS structure, and the need to effectively manage your resources. This course meets the requirements of ICS-100 and ICS-200.

| Selection criteria | All first responders with responsibilities to use, deploy, implement and/or function within ICS and resource management. |

Prerequisite: None

**W0379 - Initial Fire Investigation for First Responders**

**Curriculum: Arson**

This course is designed specifically to provide a clear definition of the role of first responders in arson detection and provide essential knowledge to enable them to recognize the potential of intentionally set fires, preservation and protection of evidence, and proper reporting of information to appropriate officials. By strengthening the partnership between first responders and investigators, the chances for successfully solving arson-related crimes will increase. The course includes topics such as fire behavior, critical observations of the first responder, fire causes, scene security and evidence preservation, legal considerations, and documentation of findings. This course is designed for all fire and emergency services personnel who might conduct preliminary investigations into the origin and cause of fires.

Interested students are encouraged to complete “Initial Fire Investigation for First Responders” (Q0379) available through NFA Online at [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html), prior to participating in the classroom-based course.

| Selection criteria | Fire and emergency services personnel who respond to fires or might conduct preliminary investigations into the origin and cause of fires. |

Prerequisite: 1. Incident Command System (ICS)-100-level and ICS-200-level training. Preferred courses are Q0462 and Q0463, available through NFA Online at [www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/nfaonline](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/nfaonline). Chief’s signature attests that the applicant has completed this required training. 2. Interested students are encouraged to complete “Initial Fire Investigation for First Responders” (Q0379), available through NFA Online at [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/nfa/courses/online.html), prior to participating in this classroom-based course.
W0457 - Decision Making for Initial Company Operations

Curriculum: Incident Management

This two-day course is designed to develop the decision-making skills needed by Company Officers (COs) to accomplish assigned tactics at structure fires. All activities and scenarios used in this course are based on structure fires. With the real possibility of being the first to arrive at an incident, the CO’s initial decisions will have an impact throughout the entire incident. It is vital that COs be able to make good management decisions that have a favorable impact on the eventual outcome. In addition to a possible role as the initial Incident Commander, the CO may well be assigned a subordinate position within the Incident Command System organization. COs need to have a clear understanding of the system, the position that they are assigned to, and their role in the organization if they are to function effectively and help make the system work.

| Selection criteria | This course is specifically designed for newly appointed COs and for firefighters who may have acting CO responsibilities or who want to become a CO. This course is an excellent review for experienced COs. |

Prerequisite: None

W0635 - Best Practices in Community Risk Reduction

Curriculum: Fire Prevention: Management

This two-day course demonstrates to students nationally recognized principles that, when used appropriately, can lead to community risk-reduction programs that can measure success in local communities. This course will give students the opportunity to explore programs from communities across the United States that have been showcased at Vision 20/20 symposiums. These programs demonstrate what nationally recognized organizations identify as examples of “best practices” in community risk reduction. At the end of the course, students will be evaluated through a 25-question multiple-choice examination. A final grade will be provided to each student. The minimum score needed to pass is 70. There is a pre-course assignment that should take about one hour to complete.
The target audience for this course may include the following:

- Fire and emergency services personnel who help develop and deliver fire prevention and community risk-reduction programs.
- Fire and emergency services staff with an interest in advancing risk-reduction efforts in their community.
- Allied health and community service personnel who help develop and deliver risk-reduction programs.

Prerequisite: None

**W0636 - Building Organizational Support for Community Risk Reduction**

**Curriculum: Fire Prevention: Management**

This two-day course is designed to help fire and emergency services learn what community risk reduction is and how to build organizational support for it. This course will address the challenges that fire departments face in shifting their priorities from response to prevention. In many departments, community risk reduction is still considered a low priority. This course will show you how community risk reduction can help you and your department become more of a community player in times of decreased budgets.

This course includes three units of instruction:

- Unit 1: Components of Community Risk Reduction.
- Unit 2: Community Risk Reduction as a Service Priority.
- Unit 3: Building Organizational Support for Community Risk Reduction.

At the end of this course, students will be evaluated through a 25-question multiple-choice examination. A final grade will be provided to each student. The minimum score needed to pass is 70. There is a pre-course assignment to complete before class that should take about one hour to complete.
**W0761 - New Fire Chief 2: Administrative Issues**

*Curriculum: Leadership and Executive Development*

This two-day course is to provide students with the managerial, administrative and leadership skills and awareness necessary for new or recently appointed or elected chiefs to effectively meet their obligations of the position.

| Selection criteria | The primary audience is newly appointed fire chiefs in volunteer, combination or career departments, as well as Emergency Medical Services (EMS) chiefs. |
|--------------------|_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________|
|                     | The secondary audience is department leaders and current officers who may become fire chiefs, as well as local government administrators and elected officials who are involved in the administration of a fire department or EMS. |

Prerequisite: None – this is a stand-alone course and New Fire Chief 1 is NOT a prerequisite.

The Training Committee continues to be active and we are available to assist any individual or committee.

Respectfully,
C. Kingsley Poole, Chair

**Report of the Transportation Committee**

Several working meetings have been held by the Transportation Committee this year. The focus was the review of our data base with the MVA data base which is given to us every six months. This provides us with up to date information on tag holders within the State of Maryland who currently have MSFA logo tags. All of this is in Preparation for the 2018 Recertification of member companies.

At a MSFA Executive meeting, it was suggested to consider a new design for the current MSFA tag. The committee with the assistance of Past President Underwood will research the feasibility and the cost to do so. Also, President Davis initiated a contest on Facebook to encourage members to submit a design for the tag as well.

A meeting was held with MVA Liaison, Larue Sauer in early February. The attention was on problems which have occurred during the year with members going directly to the Glen Burnie office to obtain tags. We also discussed the re-design of the tag. A procedure sheet that is standard for all requests was obtained and given to President Davis for his review. We continue to have a good working relationship with the MVA.

We are in the process of updating the MSFA Transportation Committee Procedural
Manual and hope to have it completed this year. There is also update information on tag coordinators posted on MSFA website.

A new Coordinator for Caroline and Queen Anne Counties was appointed in October, His name is Mark Driscoll and his address is 212 Quail Run Dr. Centreville, MD 21617 and his phone #is 864-313- 4448.

I would like to thank all committee members and County Coordinators for their support and efforts this year. I wish to extend a special thank you to William Frazier, Judy Frazier, Dorothy Schultz, Past President Underwood and the LAMSFA Liaison, Carol Flint, for the work done this year.

I wish to extend my thanks to President Davis for his support and the opportunity to serve the MSFA by chairing this committee.

Respectfully,
Thomas L. Flint II, Chair

Report of the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Committee

The Volunteer Company Assistance Fund (VCAF) Committee continued simplifying the Loan and Grant Application process. During the Fiscal Year 2017 focusing on the goals and the benefits provided by the Fund. The committee received, approved and processed eight (8) loan applications totaling $1,187,563.60 and three (3) Grant Applications totaling $504,252.00 between July 2016 and May 2017. The committee obtained MSFA Executive Committee and Maryland Board of Public Works (Governor Larry Hogan, Treasurer Nancy K. Kopp, and Comptroller Peter Franchot) approval for these Loans and Grants, which guaranteed the company projects.

The approved Loans and Grants the following companies the most affordable way to purchase, replace or improve equipment and or facilities.

- Eastern Garrett County Vol. Fire and Rescue Department
  - Equipment Loan of $78,727.60
- Jefferson Volunteer Fire Company
  - Ambulance Re-Chassis - Loan of $100,000.00
- Bay District Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
  - Construction Loan of $450,000.00
- Pleasant Valley Community Fire Department
  - Fire Engine Loan of $282,568.00
- Morningside Volunteer Fire Department
  - Ambulance Re-Chassis – Loan of $112,500.00
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- Good Wil Fire Company
  - Mini Pumper Replacement – Loan of $57,231.00
  - Grant of $178,051.00
- Barton Hose Company
  - Mini Pumper Replacement – Loan of $56,637.00
  - Grant of $176,201.00
- Hancock Rescue Squad
  - Squad Replacement – Loan of $49,900.00
  - Grant of $150,000.00

In closing I would like to thank the VCAF committee member for all the work they have done in the past year to approve the application with a total value of 1.7 million dollars. This is a special and dedicated group of individuals who embrace change and work selflessly to serve each other and their customers, the members companies of the MSFA. THANK YOU.

Respectfully submitted
Joseph Antoszewski, Chairman

Report of the Ways and Means Committee $10,000 Raffle

President Davis, officers and members of the MSFA and LAMSFA. The 2016 raffle, which was conducted from June 2015 through June 2016, yielded a total of $50,805.00. The expenses totaled $23,256.30 which left a profit of $27,548.70. Counter sales at the 2016 convention produced $7,917.00 and the remaining $42,888.00 was realized by the special events that the committee attended, by the sales returned by the member companies, and by the LAMSFA who sold $10,169 worth of chances. Harford County was again the leader in ticket sales with $16,297.00. 188 out of 363 (52%) MSFA member companies did not participate in the raffle. The following list by county represents the percentage of companies that did return money:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allegany</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calvert</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cecil</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorchester</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garrett</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harford</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince George’s</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Anne’s</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talbot</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wicomico</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worcester</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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The committee would like to thank the county coordinators, member companies, ladies’ auxiliaries, and special individuals who have worked very hard to make the raffle a success. The returns by county were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Returns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allegany</td>
<td>$1,410.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
<td>$2,565.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore</td>
<td>$3,489.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calvert</td>
<td>$730.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll</td>
<td>$1,292.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cecil</td>
<td>$1,325.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles</td>
<td>$1,946.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorchester</td>
<td>$441.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick</td>
<td>$1,843.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garrett</td>
<td>$457.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harford</td>
<td>$16,297.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard</td>
<td>$710.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent</td>
<td>$280.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>$2,632.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince George’s</td>
<td>$1,796.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Anne’s</td>
<td>$850.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s</td>
<td>$1,015.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talbot</td>
<td>$834.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>$1,104.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wicomico</td>
<td>$220.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worcester</td>
<td>$1,652.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenses for 2015-2016 Raffle**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prize Money</td>
<td>$3,057.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC Springfest Fees</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC Sunfest Fees</td>
<td>$350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland BBQ Bash Fee</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raffle License (Worcester Co)</td>
<td>$8.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubber Bands</td>
<td>$1,016.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tent Rentals</td>
<td>$23,256.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$27,548.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The committee would like to congratulate all of the winners and thank them for their
support. Also, many thanks are in order to the MSFA & LAMSFA officers and members who helped with the raffle. Without you, we could not have had such a successful year.

The committee has had a very busy year with the 2016-2017 raffle. We have attended the Harford County Farm Fair, the Darlington Apple Fest, and Ocean City’s Sunfest and Springfest.

The committee would like to wish everyone an enjoyable, informative, and safe conference and convention.

Respectfully,
Louis Jonske, Chairman
Anna Jonske, MSFALA Co-Chairman
Mitch Vocke, Co-Chairman

Report of the Wills For Heroes Committee

The wills for heroes committee was established to provide a benefit to members of member companies by providing a free last will and testament to the requesting member. The forms to complete to have a free last will and testament written are available on the MSFA website under wills for heroes committee.

This benefit as is the case with so many of the other benefits provided by the MSFA is underutilized.

It is the hope of the committee that you will take a look at the forms on the website and then complete and send us the completed forms to have your last will and testament written.

Respectfully,
Roger N. Powell, Esq., P.P., Chairman
Michael W. Farlow, Esq
George Keithley
Franklin D. Roth, Jr.
Steven J. Scheinin, Esq.

Report of the Cancer Support

2017 Was a good and a bad year all in one. We have lost way too many friends and family to Cancer. The closest I can come to requests for assistance is approximately Twenty Bags of Hope. In my mind I am hoping the day will come when there won’t be any requests and we can disband the committee.
One of the good things is that we have a strong group of good people that care enough to be there for whatever is asked of them. A prime example of that is our annual walk which by the way this year has been our second successful year. This year the walk was headed up by MSFA Past President Roth and LAMSFA Past President Byrd and what a great job was done by them as well as another twenty volunteers. The funds raised allow us to upgrade and improve our Bags of Hope and our service to others.

Last but not least is something I hate to see happen. Tom and Flo Collins will be retiring from our group this year. These folks have been instrumental in the success of our committee from the start. They stepped up to any challenge presented to them and got it done. To you Tom and Flo we say Thank You for a job well done and may God Bless You as we go forward.

Folks if you know of someone in the Fire or EMS service that needs us, our contact info is on the website don’t hesitate to reach out.

Thank You
Jay Tucker Chair
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
OCEAN CITY, MD.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2017

6:30 PM JOINT OFFICERS BANQUET by Invitation Only

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2017

8:00 AM Exhibitor Registration - Convention Center Lower Level
9:00-5:00 PM Education and Training Seminars - Convention Center
9:00-11:30 AM Miss Fire Prevention Interviews - Governor’s and Board Room Mezzanine Level
9:00 AM Executive Committee Meeting - Performing Arts Center
10:00-12:00 PM Convention Events Ticket Sales - Convention Center Ground Floor Foyer
10:00-12:00 PM Ladies Auxiliary Early Registration - Performing Arts Center
10:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship Service - Performing Arts Center
11:00-2:00 AM FIRE AND EMS MEMORABILIA FLEA MARKET - Convention Center PAC Foyer
2:00 PM MISS FIRE PREVENTION CONTEST - Performing Arts Center
5:00 PM JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE - Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom

MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2017

8:00 AM Convention Events Ticket Sales - Convention Center Ground Floor Foyer
8:30 AM Call to Order - Convention Center Bayfront Ballroom

OPENING CEREMONIES

9:00 AM Exhibits Open
9:10 AM Keynote Speaker - After the speaker has presented his program the LAMSFA will be excused to go to the Auxiliary meeting in the Performing Arts Center

FIRST SESSION

10:30-11:15 AM Registration in the Performing Arts Center
11:15 AM Call to Order - President - Barbara Sue Nelson
Presentation of Colors - Colorbearers - Holly Trego, Jennifer King
Invocation – Chaplain - Malea Daughton
Pledge to the Flag – President - Barbara Sue Nelson
Conference Song - Music Chair - Susan Derlunas
Welcome By Convention Chair - Flo Collins
Greetings - Ocean City Ladies Auxiliary
Nomination of Officers - Corresponding Secretary Becky Walthen
Reading of Election Rules - Corresponding Secretary Becky Walthen
Recognition of LAMSFA Past Presidents
Recognition of MSFA President - Michael Davis
Report of the Credentials Report - Fran Fusco
Approval of Minutes - Recording Secretary Lori Denbow
Report of the Treasurer – Kristi Grinder
Report of the Financial Secretary - Donna Struntz

AWARDS CEREMONY
Jane Todd Award - Perryville Ladies Auxiliary
Hall of Fame Inductions - Chairman - Leone Gatton
Honey Award – Past President - Leonard King and Treasurer - Ron Siarnicki
50 Year /Family Award/History Book - President - Barbara Sue Nelson
Report of the Officers
Report of the Committee Chairmen
Communication and Bills - Corresponding Secretary - Becky Wathen
Unfinished Business
Door Prize Drawing - Ocean City Ladies Auxiliary
Benediction - Vice Chaplain - Jean Main
Recess

4:30 PM Exhibits Close - No entry after 4:15 PM

6:30 PM MONDAY NIGHT FAMILY EVENT AT JOLLY ROGER AMUSEMENT PARK Must Have Ticket

6:00 PM BAG BINGO - Convention Center - Doors open at 5:00 - Must Have Ticket
Prizes include Michael Kors, Vera Bradley, Coach, Thirty-One and Longaberger.
TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2017
SECOND SESSION

8:00-8:45 AM  Registration and Balloting - Only the person with Chairman of Delegates Badge will be allowed to cast the vote. No auxiliary will be allowed to share the Chairman’s Badge. The Chairman must be present if a second ballot is needed.

9:00 AM  Exhibits Open

9:00 AM  Call to Order – President - Barbara Sue Nelson
Invocation - Chaplain - Malea Daughton
Recognition of Guests
Report of the Fire Prevention Chair - Rose Pandolfini
Report of the Election Committee - Chair - Leone Gatton
Report of the Credentials - Chair - Fran Fusco

FINAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
Bessie Marshall Fund – Co-Chairs - Marti Neal/Kitty Garner
Pins and Badges - Chair - Marian Nicholson
Safety - Barbara J. Lacey
Ways and Means - Co-Chairs Gloria Schaffer and Kim Thomas
Hall of Fame – Chair - Leone Gatton
Benediction - Vice Chaplain - Jean Main
Recess

Meeting of the 2017-2018 Officers, Past Presidents, and Pages to the front of the Ladies Meeting room with Installing Officer Past President Darby Byrd

2:00 PM  Exhibits Closed – no entry after 4:15 PM

6:30 PM  JOINT INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS – Convention Center Bay Front Ballroom

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017
THIRD SESSION

7:30 AM  PRAYER BREAKFAST - Convention Center

8:30-9:00 AM  Registration
9:15 AM  Call to Order – President - Vivian Morgan Boyd
Invocation - Chaplain
Dismissal 2016-2017 Committees-Except Ads/Patrons-Past President - Barbara Sue Nelson
Officers Reports
Committee Appointments – President - Vivian Morgan Boyd
New Business
Good of the Order
Door Prizes - Ocean City Ladies Auxiliary
Adjourn Convention Meeting
Benediction -Vice Chaplain
Retirement of Colors

Past President’s Luncheon - By Invitation Only

12:00 PM  Exhibits Close - No Entry after 11:45

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017
THIRD SESSION

1:00 PM  FIREMEN’S PARADE - Downtown Ocean City - Rain or Shine
Parade Route is between 16th and 30th Street on Baltimore Avenue

5:30 PM  AWARDING OF PARADE PRIZES/TROPHIES - Convention Center

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017

9:00 AM  MSFA Executive Committee Meeting - Convention Center-PAC

9:00 AM  Meeting of the LAMSFA Financial Officers and Presidents to close out the books. Convention Center

1:00-6:00 PM  FRONTIER TOWN FAMILY EVENT – Berlin, Maryland

2:00-4:00 PM  LAMSFA Fundraiser – TICKLED PAINT ARTWORKS - Convention Center
Room 207  www.tickled-paint.com or call 410-713-2013 to register.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017

8:00 AM  Golf Tournament - Eagles Landing Golf Course
Barbara Sue Nelson
2016-2017
Vivian Morgan Boyd
2017-2018
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

President
Barbara Sue Nelson

Senior Vice President
Vivian Morgan-Lloyd

Junior Vice President
Marcia Roth

Recording Secretary
Lori Denbow

Treasurer
Kristi Grinde

Financial Secretary
Donna Strutz

Corresponding Secretary
Becky Wathen

Chaplain
Melan Daughton

Vice Chaplain
Jean Main

Historian
Shari Stelitz

Guard
Joan Kramer

Color Bearer
Holly Trego

Color Bearer
Jennifer King

Bessie Marshall Co-Chair
Martha Neil

Bessie Marshall Co-Chair
Kitty Garner

Conference Co-Chairman
Bonnise Quade

Conference Co-Chairman
Millie Husserman
COMMITTEE LIST 2016-2017

ADS & PATRONS
Denice Melito-Co-Chairman, Chillum-Adelphi
Paula Robison- Co-Chairman, Chillum-Adelphi
Sharon Martorana, Chillum-Adelphi
Juanita Colwell, Chillum-Adelphi
Nancy Caldwell, Singerly
Doris Bowman, Lisbon
Chris Cornes, Joppa-Magnolia
Anna M. Jonske, Joppa-Magnolia
Bonnie Haden,
Betty Byrne
Susan Derlunas

AUDITING
Darby Byrd – Chair, Dentsville
Rosa Maher-Chairman, Laurel
Elaine Huttenloch, Forestville
Lois Hetz, Beltsville
Kathy Knipple, Junior # 2
Carol Hayden, Kensington

BESSIE MARSHALL BENEFIT FUND
Martha Neal-Co-Chair, Kentland
Kitty Garner-Co-Chair, Branchville
Sherry E. Soper, Woodsboro
Patricia Deamond, North East
Chris Cornes, Joppa-Magnolia
Susan Derlunas, Joppa-Magnolia
Carol Bair, Jarrettsville
Pam Kyle, Bowling Green
Robin Shorb, Pleasant Valley
Carol Hayden, Kensington
Betty Ford, Hampstead
Debbie Acton, Berwyn Heights
Candy Mitchelle, Kentland

CONFERENCE
Millie Huseman, 7th District
Bonnie Quade, 7th District

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS
Vivian Boyd, Capitol Heights
Martha Neal, Kentland
Kitty Garner, Branchville
Harry Hetz, Beltsville
Lois Hetz, Beltsville
Peggy Zembower, Beltsville
Carol Bair, Jarrettsville
Elaine Huttenloch, Forestville

CONVENTION
Flo Collins, Chairman, Laurel
Ginny Wilhite, Forestville
All Members Ocean City Ladies Auxiliary

COUNTY ORGANIZERS & SICK/PUBLICITY
ALLEGANY
Betty Grabenstein, District 16

ANNE ARUNDEL
Patti Kidwell, Odenton

BALTIMORE
Marlene Schaeffer, Wise Avenue

CALVERT
Dorothy Katz, St. Leonard

CAROLINE
CARROLL
Dorothy Rue, New Windsor

CECIL
Patricia Deamond, North East

CHARLES
Darby Byrd, Dentsville

DORCHESTER
Barbara Starkey, Church Creek

FREDERICK
Jean Main, Woodsboro

GARRETT
Rose Schurg, Eastern Garrett

HARFORD
Chris Cornes, Joppa-Magnolia

HARFORD
Malea Daughton, Jarrettsville

HOWARD
Carol Bair, Jarrettsville

KENT
Mary Farinholt, Lisbon

MONTAGOMERY
Ethel Toulson, Rock Hall

PRINCE GEORGE’S
Loretta Shaw

QUEEN ANNE’S
SAINT MARY’S
Leone Gatton, Hollywood

SOMERSET
Mary Francis Whitelock, Deale Island/Chance

TALBOT
Mary Dulin, Cordova
WASHINGTON
Twylla (TC) Grove, Leitersburg
WICOMICO
Isabelle White, Willards
WORCESTER
Margie Anderson, Ocean City
CREDENTIALS
Fran Fusco, Chairman, Silver Hill
Mary Summers, Silver Hill
Mary Ann Kivett, Branchville
Missi Green, Union Bridge
Sharon Walker, Chillum-Adelphi
Linda Mudd, Odenton
Ellen Heinicke, Branchville
Teri Heinicke, Greenbelt
Linda Black, Manchester
Jennifer King, Forestville
Ruth B. Martin, Woodsboro
Brenda S. Harpster, Hampstead
EXHIBITS
Millie Huseman, 7th District
Bonnie Quade, 7th District
FIRE PREVENTION
Rose Pandolfini Chair, Gamber
Susan Hilton Co-Chair, Damascus
Bridget Weishaar, Gamber
Jane Huffman, Lake Shore
Peg Richardson, St. Leonard
Betty Mason Holley, Leonardtown
Cecilia Holley, Leonardtown
Michelle Gallion, Level
Barbara Schulz, Jarrettsville
Audrey Thurston, Forestville
Katherine Cuzzart, Anne Arundel County
Jeff Shorb, Pleasant Valley
Sandi Gallion, Level
Marlene Schaeffer, Wise Avenue
Lindia Scheide, Cockeysville
Dottie Katz, St. Leonard
Lucy Helwig, Manchester
Christine Jackson, Maryland City
Darlene Robinson, Maryland City
HALL OF FAME
Leone Gatton- Chairman, Hollywood
Clara Mae Buckmaster, North Beach
Kathie Lohman, Waldorf
Betty Grabenstein, District 16
Hazel Stagner, Hampstead
Virginia Wilhite, Forestville
Patti Kidwell, Odenton
Kathy Knipple, Junior # 2
Beverly Markline
INCOME TAX SUBTRACTION
Ann McGill–Chairman, West Lanham Hills
ALLYAN
Pam Kyle, Bowling Green
ANNE ARUNDEL
Patti Kidwell, Odenton
BALTIMORE
Linda Scheide, Cockeysville
CALVERT
Peg Richardson, St. Leonard
CAROLINE
Barb Christopher, Greensboro
Barbara Nashold, Greensboro
CARROLL
Pat Spangler, Reese
CECIL
Doris Lloyd, North East
CHARLES
Carol Flint, Waldorf
DORCHESTER
Mary Dulin, Cordova
FREDERICK
Debbie Perkins, Junior Fire Co. #2
GARRETT
HARFORD
Donita Dietz, Jarrettsville
HOWARD
Patti Thompson, Howard
KENT
Shirley Crater, Chestertown
MONTGOMERY
Mary Bladen, Laytonsville
PRINCE GEORGE’S
Ariel Bowman, West Lanham Hills
QUEEN ANNE’S
Debbie Shelton, Sudlersville
SAINT MARY’S
Becky Wathen, Ridge
SOMERSET
Mary Francis Whitelock, Deale Island/Chance
TALBOT
Mary Dulin, Cordova  
WASHINGTON  
**Not participating  
WICOMICO  
WORCESTER  
INSTALLING OFFICER  
PP Darby Byrd, Dentsville  
JUDGES & TELLERS  
Leone Gatton – Chairman, Hollywood  
Clara Mae Buckmaster, North Beach  
Suzann S. Barker, North East  
Linda Slicer, North East  
Traci LaMar, Branchville  
Carol Flint, Waldorf  
JaneAnn McAlpine, Goodwill  
Laura Anderson, Ocean City  
Dennis Skinner, North Beach  
LEGISLATIVE/SEVENTEEN STATE CIRCLE  
Carene Housenfluck – Chairman, Arundel  
Marian Nicholson, Laurel  
Elaine Huttenloch, Forestville  
Teresa Ann Crisman, Greenbelt  
Jane Huffman, Lake Shore  
LIAISON MSFA $10,000 RAFFLE  
Anna M. Jonske-Chairman, Joppa-Magnolia  
Carol Bair, Jarrettsville  
Susan Derlunas, Joppa-Magnolia  
Chris Cornes, Joppa-Magnolia  
Betty Byrne, Joppa Magnolia  
Linda Younger, Joppa-Magnolia  
Bonnie Haden  
Teresa McActon  
LIAISON MSFA FIREFIGHTER/AUXILIARY  
CANCER SUPPORT  
Darby Byrd, Chairman, Dentsville  
Flo Collins, Laurel  
Marcia Roth, Sandy Springs  
Rosa Maher, Red Knights Liaison, Laurel  
Carol Bair, Jarrettsville  
Teresa Ann Crisman, Greenbelt  
Judith Andrews, Salisbury HQ  
Kathy O’Bannon, Lineboro  
Tara Wood, Mechanicsville  
Penny Stewart, Northeast  
Sheryl Davis Kohl, Abington  
May Lynn Bayles, Laurel  
LIAISON MSFA TRANSPORTATION  
Carol Flint-Chairman, Waldorf  
LIAISON TO THE MARYLAND FIRE RESCUE SERVICE  
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, INC.  
Joyce Thorne—Co-Chairman, Forestville  
Betty Radisch -Co-Chairman, Chillum-Adelphi  
Carene Housenfluck, Arundel  
Teresa Ann Crisman, Greenbelt  
Sharon Owen, West Annapolis  
Bridget Weishaar, Gambr  
Jennifer Johnson-King, Forestville  
Rosa Maher, Red Knights Liaison, Laurel  
MEMBERSHIP  
Marcia Roth- Jr. Vice President, Sandy Springs  
ALL COUNTY ORGANIZERS  
MUSIC  
Susan Derlunas, Joppa-Magnolia  
PAGES  
Dorothy Rue, New Windsor  
Robyn Smith, Hollywood VFD LA  
Diane Gunther, Leonardtown VRS  
PARLIAMENTARIAN  
Elaine Huttenloch, Forestville  
PINS AND BADGES  
Marian Nicholson-Chairman, Laurel  
Susan Fricke, Laurel  
Kristi Harmon, Accokeek  
Carene Housenfluck, Arundel  
JoAnn Johnson, Forestville  
Brenda Harrison, Junior #2  
Jennifer Gheen, Accokeek  
Michelle Healy, Laurel  
PUBLIC RELATIONS  
Barbara Sue Nelson, President  
Vivian Boyd- Sr. Vice President, Capitol Heights  
Marcia Roth Jr. Vice President, Sandy Spring  
SAFETY  
Bobbie Lacey-Chairman, 7th District  
Debbie Fairfax, Ridge  
Aggie Owens, Ridge  
Tara Wood, Mechanicsville  
Diana Gunther, Leonardtown VRS  
Cathie Price, Cockeysville  
Ann Price Davis, Cockeysville
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Catherine Hill, 7th District
Foo Tippett, Leonardtown

SCHOLARSHIP
Peggy Zembower-Chairman, Beltsville
Kathy Knipple, Junior #2
Carol Bair, Jarrettsville
Teresa McActon

STANDARD PROCEDURES COMMITTEE
Marcia Roth, Chairman, Sandy Spring
darby byrd, Dentsville
Vivian Boyd-Sr. Vice President, Capitol Heights
Ann Price Davis, Cockeysville
Marcia Neal, Kentland
Harry Hetz, Beltsville
Lois Hetz, Beltsville

WAYS & MEANS
Gloria Schaffer – Co-Chairman, Western Enterprise

Kim Thomas – Co-Chairman, Pleasant Valley
Linda Lookingbill, Taneytown
Carol Musil, Union Bridge
Dottie Dean, Jessup
Joan Cumberland, Winfield
Twyllia (TC) Grove, Leitersburg
Wanda Schaeffer, Reese
Wendy Reil, North East
Linda Bowen, Reese
Cindy O’Hara, Pleasant Valley
Melissann Dutterer, Pleasant Valley
Bill Thomas, Pleasant Valley
Mary Ralls, Leitersburg

WEB PAGE AND EMAIL ALERTS
Sandi T. Lutz – Co-Chairman, Glenn Dale
Lesa D. Free – Co-Chairman, St. Leonard
Teri Heinicke, Branchville
Peg Richardson, St. Leonard
Nancy Jones, Indian Head VFD LA
Report of the President

This year has been a fantastic year celebrating with the MSFA their 125th Anniversary. They have come a long way with many changes over the past 125 years. Their ceremonies and celebration have been great and I’m sure the members that started the MSFA 125 years ago would be proud of how they’ve been honor at all the locations in Maryland starting at Arbutus Firehouse in August, Ridge firehouse in October, Junior Fire Co. # 2 in February, the VFW in Port Deposit in April and will now have the final event in Ocean City. I have been honor to be able to attend all of them and want to congratulate everyone that was involved in putting all the events together.

As the MSFA celebrate their 125th it’s also the LAMSFA 85th Anniversary. The LAMSFA started July 9th, 1931 at 2:30 PM in the convention hall in Ocean City with the consent of the MSFA with Mrs. Anna Burnett of Branchville acting as chairman and four counties were represented at the meeting. In 1932 they had a membership of eighteen auxiliaries and by 1933 they had twenty auxiliaries. Now as the LAMSFA celebrate their 85th year there is 170 auxiliaries that are members. The Ladies Auxiliary has come a long ways since they started 85 years ago with so many great Presidents and Officers leading in the right direction. I’m sure the ladies that started the LAMSFA would be proud of all the accomplishments the association has had.

It has been a great honor and a pleasure to have served as President of the LAMSFA for 2016 – 2017 on the 85th Anniversary as well as all the positions as I went up the ladder for this great association. This past year has gone by so fast but they say when you’re having fun time flies. The journey over the years has been a humble experience. Our State of Maryland is one of the greatest States and to travel it and represent the LAMSFA has been a great opportunity.

Thank you to all Auxiliaries, Fire Departments and Rescue Squads that have invited me to your events. There are so many dedicated members and it’s great to see so many men and women that are recognize for all they do. It was always a pleasure to attend your events and the hospitality was always great. Seeing old friends and meeting new ones was always a pleasure and I have so many great memories to cherish. Thanks also for all the wonderful gifts I have received.

To all my fellow officers thank you for all your hard work you have done this year. You all are dedicated to this association and it has been a pleasure to work with you. We’ve shared a lot of good times with a lot of laughs. I will treasure our friendship and I wish you all luck as you continue serving as officers of the LAMSFA and hope you all enjoy your journey as much as I have.

Thanks to all my committee chairs and their committees. You all have done a terrific
job. The committees are what keep the LAMSFA going by getting donations and selling their raffle tickets. Other than dues it’s the only income that the association has. I hope all member Auxiliaries support the committees.

To all the Past Presidents of the LAMSFA thank you so much for your guidance and for sharing all your knowledge. You all mean a lot to me and I hope I did as well as serving as President as all of you did. I’m now looking forward to the special Past President club. My advice to all the upcoming Officers if you have question call a Past President. They will have the answer or help you in any way they can.

Thanks to my Past President Joyce Thorne and my Page Bobbie Lacey for all your support and being there for me.

To my partner MSFA President Mike Davis, congratulations on your great year. It has been fun sharing the past year with you. I’ve had a great year working with you and we’ve had a lot of laughs. It has been an adventure. You are dedicated to the MSFA, the fire service and especially a dedicated Dad. I will treasure our friendship.

It has also been great working with 1st Vice President Mark Bilger, 2nd Vice President Rick Blair and all the other officers of the MSFA. Thanks for always including me and all my officers in your events. Thanks also to all the MSFA Committee chairs and their committees. It’s great seeing them always hard at work.

To the Ladies Auxiliary of the Southern Maryland Firemen’s Association thanks for all your confidence and support you have given me as I went up the chairs of the LAMSFA. I hope I represented you well as I travel around the State of Maryland. Thanks also to the Southern Maryland Firemen’s Association for all your support.

To Darby Byrd thanks for all the fun times we had over the years traveling together and getting lost in places we shouldn’t have been. We had so many laughs and we had a few more when Becky was on some of our adventures. I had to actually pay attention this year while I was driving and read the signs, with my glasses. To you and Ann Davis I guess I’m the last of the BBB’s to make it to the top of the ladder.

A BIG thanks to the Seventh District Fire Department and Auxiliary for all their help, support and great friendships. They are all my second family and I greatly appreciated all they have done for me. They are all a dedicated group and I know anyone would be proud to be a member with them.

Thanks to Millie Huseman and Bonnie Quade for being my conference chairs. It’s a big job and a learning experience and they did a great job at it.

Thanks also to the Seventh District Rescue Squad and Auxiliary for all their support.
A Special thanks to my husband Speedy for being my biggest supporter. You have been there for me as I started this journey and have helped me in any way you could. I greatly appreciate all you have done and still doing. Thanks for all your encouragement and being beside me along the way. Thanks to J. A. and Candi for all you do and thanks to Makenna and Brayden for keeping me a happy Grammy.

As I started this journey eleven years ago I had three special people that were going to help along the way but someone else had other plans for them. I finish my journey with three Angels watching over me, my Mom Lois Yates, my Mother in law Cely Nelson and Past President Bobbie McWilliams. Thanks to them for watching over me and keeping me safe. I know they have been beside me along the way.

As I end my journey as President of the LAMSFA I would once again like to thank everyone for your friendships and thanks to all Auxiliaries for your support and confidence in me and again a BIG thank you to my Family.

I would like to remind everyone to please check your smoke alarm or replace all smoke alarms in your home with the new 10 year sealed in battery. Check with your Family, Friends and anyone else to make sure they do the same. We need to make sure everyone is safe.

Please stay safe while in Ocean City and be careful as you travel home.

“Always Take Time to Enjoy the Simple Things in Life”

Sincerely,
Barbara Sue Nelson
President LAMSFA

Report of the Senior Vice President

To the MSFA & LAMSFA Officers and members, my husband Ron Boyd, my family, my home auxiliary Kentland VFD, life member station of Capitol Heights VFD, my county auxiliary of Prince George’s, PP Sharon Worthington, page Candy Mitchelle, and friends, I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for all of their support.

It continues to be wonderful working with a group of people so dedicated to their communities, counties and the state of Maryland. The Fire service is always there to provide, service, help, friendship, education and love to anyone they come in contact with.

This year’s 125 celebrations have been fabulous. Our association has shown the world how proud we are and how far we have come through the years. President Nelson and
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Davis have been good leaders and a credit to the 125th celebration. I am grateful for all the hard work that takes place in Annapolis to make what we do worthwhile so that our efforts will never go unnoticed.

As Senior Vice President of the LAMSFA, I have travelled across this state meeting new and familiar faces as I have been exposed to the differences in the way we do things, but in the end we all accomplish our goals. Congratulations to the current Presidents, Officers and committees and I look forward to working with our future president, officers and committees.

Sincerely,
Vivian M. Boyd
Senior Vice President

Report of the Junior Vice President

To the members and officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the Ladies Auxiliary, I want to say that it has been a pleasure, an honor, and definitely an experience of a lifetime serving this organization for the past nine years. I am looking forward to the next two with great anticipation. I have learned a lot and have had a wonderful time making many friends and attending many events. I am hoping that in these next two years I will be attending many more events (working at night it is difficult to attend all of the events I am invited to during the week).

I am hoping that we have a successful convention, and end this 125th celebration year for the MSFA and 85th year for the LAMSFA in great fashion.

There have been many trials along the way, but I have become better and wiser as a result. I want to thank all of those who have been behind me and have supported me: my husband Johnie, my children Eric and Rachel, my granddaughter Cristina, my home auxiliary of Sandy Spring, the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Association and its auxiliary, and especially my Past President Pat Deamond. You all have helped me more than you know. Also, a big thanks to those I have leaned on for help and advice.

I would like to congratulate Presidents Mike Davis and Barbara Sue Nelson on the year they have had. I wish the incoming Presidents Mark Bilger and Vivian Boyd a great and productive year. May you accomplish all of your goals.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Roth
Junior Vice President
President Nelson, Officers, Committee Chairs Members and Auxiliaries. It has been an honor and privilege working with all of you as your Chaplain this year. I also want to thank you for your continuing support and confidence in me. As I look forward in continuing to go up the chairs with this great Association.

I have been working with MSFA Chaplain John Long and Rev. Harry Hetz this year has been a great support to me. Rev. Harry Hetz has been my Savior on helping me getting ready the memorial information together. I also want to thank Lori Denbow in guiding me and also President Nelson in a few questions.

We have two special tribute for two ladies this year:

Marian E. Soderstrum
(State Officer- Historian 1969)
from English Consul Auxiliary and

from Waldorf Volunteer Fire Dept. & EMS Association Auxiliary

It has also saddened me that we have lost in our LAMSFA Association 52 members. Our members may have passed, but we do have memories and they will go on forever in our minds and heart.

God Bless All the MSFA and LAMSFA members for their support you that you have given me. I look forward to continue to work with you all through the years as I go up in the chairs.

The auxiliary members that have left us between January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016 are listed below.

Respectfully Submitted
Malea Daughton, Chaplain

Tributes
Marion Soderstron -English Consul Vol.Firemen’s Assoc. Aux
Mary Coates - Waldorf VFD and EMS Assoc. Aux.

Allegany
B. Carlo Barry - Bedford Road VFD Aux.
Orphia R. Long - Bedford Road VFD Aux.
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Helen M. Cunningham - Bowling Green VFD Aux.
Betty Mowley - Oldtown VFD

Anne Arundel
Marianne Gibons - Deale VFD and RS Aux.
Vera A. Tucker Epstein - Deale VFD and RS Aux.
Melaine L. Smith - Earleigh Heights VFC Aux.
Dolores A. Brown - Lake Shore VFC Aux.
Patricia A. Barger - Maryland City VFD&RS Aux.
Joan M. Dorsey - Odenton VFC Aux.

Baltimore
Barbara Howard - Ladies Aux. Cockeysville VFC
Marion Soderstrom - English Consul Vol.Firemen’s Assoc. Aux
Clara Ernest - Ladies Aux. Wise Ave VFC

Calvert
Betty K. Freesland - North Beach VFD Aux.

Caroline
Betty Shufelt - Federalsburg VFC

Carroll
Betty L. Hale - Aux. to the Hamstead VFD
William P. Camuti - Aux. to Mount Airy VFC
Brenda Gartner - Aux. to Mount Airy VFC
Clara Hobbs - Aux. to Mount Airy VFC

Cecil
Sara Louise “Sally” Aiken - Cecilton VFC
Carolyn Simkins - Community Fire CO of Perryville
Bobbie Ann Sheldon - Hacks Point Fire CO
Christine Stapp - Vol. Fire CO #1 of Chesapeake City
Nellie Hipkins - Water Witch Fire CO
Betty S. Edmanson - Wm M. Singerly Steam Fire Engine & Hook & Ladder & LA CO No#1 of Elkton
Shirley A. Mercer - Wm M. Singerly Steam Fire Engine & Hook & Ladder & LA CO No#1 of Elkton
Janice E. Rothwell - Wm M. Singerly Steam Fire Engine & Hook & Ladder & LA CO No#1 of Elkton

Charles
Mary Gallagher - Bryans Road VFD & Rescue Squad
M. Joanne Petrik - Bryans Road VFD & RS
Nora L. Willett - Bryans Road VFD & RS
Mary C. Coates - Waldorf VFD & EMS Assoc.

Dorchester
None

Frederick
Dorothy Thomas - Carroll Manor Fire CO
Garrett
Alice “Peanut” Spear - Friendsville Vol. Fire & Res. Dept. Aux
Janie Mae Foard - Harford Bel Air VFC
Betty J. Borden - Darlington VFC
Rita L. Harper - Joppa-Magnolia VFC
Jeanie S. White - Joppa-Magnolia VFC
Florence H. Springer - Susquehanna Hose CO

Howard
None

Kent
None

Montgomery
Ladies Aux. to the Silver Spring VFD. Inc. - Loretta Alberti
Ladies Aux. to the Silver Spring VFD. Inc. - Sara Engleman

Prince George’s
Annette “Sue” Powell - Bladensburg VFD and Rescue Squad
Dorothy Varnado - Brentwood VFD Ladies Aux.
Alice Moore - The Aux. of the Glenn Dale Fire Assoc.
Pauline Alice Bordas - Greenbelt VFD & RS Ladies Aux.
Joann Spittle - Hillside VFD
Maria McCoy - Laurel VFD #1 Aux.
Joann Spittle - Seat Pleasant VFC Ladies Aux.
Mary Grabau - Aux. of the West Lanham Hills VFD
Robin B. Parsons - Aux. of the West Lanham Hills VFD

Queen Anne’s
None

Somerset
None

St. Mary’s
Dorothy C. Barclift - Ladies Aux. Hollywood VFD
Alberta S. Simms - Ladies Aux. Hollywood VFD
Suzanne Henderson - Aux. of the Leonardtown VFD Inc.
Marsha Evans - Ridge VFD Aux.
Jean Lengel - Ridge VFD Aux.
Hilda M. Arnold - Seventh District Vol. RS Aux.
Sylvia Gibson - Seventh District Vol. RS Aux.

Talbot
None

Washington
Lorraine Bloom - Leitersburg VFC Aux.

Wicomico
Mary Elizabeth Bohnak - Fruitland VFD Ladies Aux.
Marguerite G. Smith - Fruitland VFD Ladies Aux.

Worcester
Vera Maiorana - Ocean City VFC
Dorothy M Willing - Pocomoke City Vol. Fire Co Aux.
Report of the Bessie Marshall Committee

The meeting of the Committee was held at Jarrettsville in July 2016. The changes to our processes were reviewed and are working well. The fund raising projects for the coming year were planned.

We are very appreciative of the continued support for the Bessie Marshall Benefit Fund. A special recognition to the Auxiliaries throughout the state of Maryland that hold special fund raisers for this committee. There are many and they make this effort annually. They are the backbone and make this committee the success that it is.

Special recognition to Mr. Steele for his contributions through the years of his wooden art. Each one surpasses the last in the fine workmanship.

As of May 1, 2017, we have paid a total of twenty-four cases at $900.00 each for a total of $21,600.00. The distribution of the cases paid is:

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<td>Prince George’s County</td>
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Our fund raising strategy includes the traditional lottery, the handcrafted pickup truck donated by Mr. Steele, a Spring Money raffle and a handmade blanket with the LAMSFA seal. These 4 raffles will be concluded at convention in June 2016. A gift card raffle is also planned for convention.

A very special thank you to the MSFA membership their continuing support of the Bessie Marshall Benefit Fund. Again, we sincerely appreciate all of the support you give to this committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Neal Co-chair Kitty Garner, Co-chair

Report of the Seventeen State Circle Committee

I would like to thank President Barbara Sue Nelson for the appointment as chairman of the Seventeen State Circle Committee. I have enjoyed working with committee members Jane Hufffman, Marian Nicholson, Teresa Crisman and Elaine Huttenloch. Our team reviewed 1199 Senate bills and 1661 House bills seeking to identify any
proposed legislation that might affect the interests of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Of those bills submitted, the MSFA identified bills to track their progress through the State legislature. The State Circle Committee closely monitored 45 bills of specific interest to the MSFA.

I would also like to express my appreciation to MSFA Seventeen State Circle Chairman PP Steve Cox, Vice Chairman Richard Smith and Charles Walker for all their help. We enjoyed working with them and the MSFA Officers and hope to have the opportunity to do so again. In closing, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the committee members for their devotion and hard work.

Best wishes for a successful convention.
Carene Housenfluck, Chairman

Report of the Fire Prevention Committee

Once again it has been an honor to serve as the LAMSFA Fire Prevention Chair. Thank you President Barbara Sue Nelson for my appointment. Additionally I want to thank the committee members for their assistance during the year. I also wish to thank my home company of Gamber & Community Fire Company for their aid with committee endeavors.

This year a raffle was held for a Fire Department/EMS/Auxiliary patch quilt. The Committee’s most sincere thanks to Ruth Toliver, from Abingdon Fire Company, for her hard work to make this beautiful quilt. At Convention and Conferences the committee has made accessible many fire prevention and safety literature materials for member auxiliaries.

A newsletter, the Siren Silencer, is produced by the committee for auxiliaries to share with their members containing information on seminars, fire prevention messages and safety reminders.

Two major awards are sponsored each year; The Silver Spring Award and the Jane Todd Fire Woman of the Year Award. There are many eligible Auxiliary members whose names should be submitted for these awards. It is unfortunate that so few are. Please consider nominating your dedicated Fire Prevention advocate for these awards. Now is the time to start collecting pictures, flyers, and other documents as part of the nomination. Please don’t let their dedication and efforts go unnoticed. Let them know how much their efforts are appreciated by nominating them next year. Rules for these awards can be found in the Auxiliary’s Procedure Book.
As you enjoy the season and visit with family, friends and neighbors ask them about their smoke alarms; is there at least one on every level, when were they last tested, how old are they, do you have an escape plan and do you close the bedroom doors? Let your family, friends and neighbors know that you care about their safety even if they themselves don’t think about it. Fire prevention should be a daily commitment and not just a one week project. The committee wishes everyone a safe and delightful summer.

Sincerely,
Rose Pandolfini, Chairman


ACCIDENT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - PO Box 50, 109 S. South Street, Accident, MD 21520; Garrett County. Telephone: 301-746-8800 Fax: 301-746-8800; E-mail accidentvfd@verizon.net; Organized: 1946; Joined MSFA: 1947. President: Shaina Saturday, Vice President: Jesse Deniker, Secretary: Shaina Saturday, Treasurer: Alva Rexrode, Chaplain: Alva Rexrode, Chief: Richard Carlson. Delegates: Tim Simmons, Kendra Deniker, Travis Pickett, Richard Carlson, Gary Teets. Alternates: Paul Custer, Jerry Maust, Alva Rexrode, Ed Livengood, Kendra Deniker.


ANTIETAM FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 790 Potomac Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21742; Washington County. Telephone: 301-733-3334; Fax: 301-733-9385; Website: www.antietamfirecompany.org; Organized: 1808; Chartered: 1818. President: James Forberger, Vice President: Charles Cunningham, Secretary: James Barkdoll, Treasurer: Robert Daveler, Chaplain: Robert McGhee, Chief: James Sprecher Jr. Delegates: James Sprecher Jr, Jeff Snyder, Tyrone Patterson, Ron Horn.


BALTIMORE PIKE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 359, 15010 Baltimore Pike, Cumberland, MD 21502; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-724-4170; E-mail: co4@allconet.org; Organized: 1947; Chartered: 1947. Joined MSFA: 1943. President: Gary Carpenter, Vice President: Robert Demoss, Secretary: Lisa Hout, Treasurer: Barbara Demoss, Chaplain: Jim Kasecamp, Chief: Sam Wilson. Delegates: Gary Carpenter, Lisa Hout, Steven Hout, Patty Hirst, Barbara Demoss. Alternates: Sam Wilson, Rita Hout, Linsa Carpenter, Colvin Athey, Lola Michaels.


BAY DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 1440, (Station 3 - 46900 Shangri-la Drive,) California, MD 20619; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-737-0654 Fax: 301-737-0353; E-mail bdvfd@bdvfd.org, Website: www.bdvfd.org; Organized: 1943; Chartered: 1943; Joined MSFA: 1944. President: Wayne Johnson, Vice President: Richard Sullivan, Secretary: Tom Eno, Treasurer: Tod Jackson, Chaplain: Keith Fairfax, Chief: Joe Gould. Delegates: Wayne Johnson, Richard Sullivan, Joe Gould, Joe Zienda, Tom Eno. Alternates: Keith Fairfax, Pat Stanley, Melvin Tennyson, Bruce Theden, Doug Medley.

BEDFORD ROAD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 13200 Bedford Road NE, Cumberland, MD 21502; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-724-3670 Fax: 301-724-1588; E-mail: stevestrappercoop@yahoo.com; Organized: 1943; Chartered: 1943; Joined MSFA: 1944. President: Chris Clark, Vice President: Robert Grabenstein, Secretary: Diane Schade, Treasurer: Debbie Helmstetter, Chief: Derek Crippen. Delegates: Tim Growden, Derek Crippen. Alternates: None Listed 2017.


BEL ALTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 37, 9765 Bel Alton-Newtown Road, Bel Alton, MD 20611; Charles County; Telephone: 301-932-1115 Fax: 301-932-1115; Website: www.bavfd.org; Organized:1962; Chartered:1962; Joined MSFA:1963. President: John H. Hackley Jr., Vice President: Billy Robertson Jr., Secretary: Katie Hayes, Treasurer: James Hoover Thompson, Chaplain: Julian Hayden, Chief: Chris Strybing. Delegates: John H. Hackley Jr., Billy Robertson Jr., James Hoover Thompson, Chris Strybing, Katie Hayes. Alternates: Jeff Hammett, Bo Black, Larry Fisher, Butch Hayden, Dave Williams.

BENEDICT VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 303, 18210 Hyatt Avenue, Benedict, MD 20612; Charles County; Telephone 301-274-3890 Website: www.bvfdrs.com; Organized: 1950; Chartered: 1950; Joined MSFA: 1952. President: Matthew Newman, Vice President: Francis Cusick, Secretary: Destiny Cusick, Treasurer: Katie Wells, Chaplain: Chief: Brian Cusick. Delegates: Matthew Newman, Francis Cusick, Brian Cusick, Destiny Cusick, Katie Wells. Alternates: Calvin Demarr Sr., Donna Demarr, Holly Newman, Joel Collins.


BETHESDA FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 30384, 6600 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20824; Montgomery County; Telephone 301-652-5602 Fax 301-656-3550; Website: www.bethesdafire.org; Organized: 1926; Chartered:1926; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Michael Kay, Vice President: Nat Finkelstein/, Secretary: Josh Perelman, Treasurer: Grant Davies, Chief: Lawrence J. Gaddis. Delegates: Lawrence J., Gaddis, Michael Kay. Alternates: Barbara Condos, Virginia Miller.

BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE RESCUE SQUAD, INC. - 5020 Battery Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814; Montgomery County; Telephone 301-652-0077; Fax: 301-656-6523; E-mail: ken.holden@bccrs.org; Website www.bccrs.org; Organized:1937; Chartered:1945. President: Kenneth B. Holden, Vice President: Robert Kretzmer, Secretary: Ryan Kelboy, Treasurer: James Hamilton, Chaplain: Chief: Edward Sherburne. Delegates:

**BETTERTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – 2 Howell Point Road, Betterton, MD 21610; Kent County; Telephone 410-348-5678 Fax 410-348-5300; Website: www.bvfc5.org; Organized:1938; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: W.R. Bud Campbell, Vice President: John M Jackie Luike, Secretary: Carrie Nicholson, Treasurer: Amanda Clark, Chaplain: Bill Carroll, Chief: Bill Carroll. Delegates: Bud Campbell, Chad Clark, Amanda Clark, Kip Matthews, Chip Campbell. Alternates: Jody Nicholson, Jason Owens, Karen Campbell, Monica Matthews, Louis Mancuso..


**BLADENSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC.** – P.O. Box 348, 4213 Edmonton Road, Bladensburg, MD 20710-0001; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-864-4415 Fax: 301-277-9366; Website: www.bv9fd.com ; Organized: 1922; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: Gary Katz Jr., Vice President: Gary Katz Sr., Secretary: Jason Byrnes, Treasurer: Donnie Wells, Chaplain: Rodgers Reinhart, Chief: Robert Pickel. Delegates: Gary Katz Jr., Randy Kunezli, Donald S. Wells, Robbie Pikel, Randy Kuenzli. Alternates: Gerell Lockett, Josh Jany, Kylie Schultz, Vince Pickel, Janson Brynes.

**BLOOMINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 12, 77 North Branch Avenue,(133 Meadow Drive) Bloomington, MD 21523; Garrett County; Telephone 301-359-3729; Organized:1938; Chartered:1938; Joined MSFA: 1941. President: Matthew Sweitzer, Vice President: Paul Wilson, Secretary: James Hearn, Treasurer: Jon Dowden, Chaplain: Donald Harvey, Chief: Daniel Bever. Delegates: Daniel Bever, Kathy Bever, Hunter McCrobie, Paul Wilson, Chris Feaster. Alternates: Matthew Sweitzer, James Hearn, Jon Dowden, Wayne Mayne, Lynn Sweitzer.

**BOONSBORO AMBULANCE AND RESCUE SERVICE, INC.** – PO Box 7, 7619 Old National Pike, Boonsboro, MD 21713; Washington County; Telephone:301-432-6979 Fax301-
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference


BORDEN SHAFT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1, INC. - 19303 Shaft Road, SW., Frostburg, MD 21532; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-689-1535; Email: co17@allconet.org; Website: www.shaftfire.com; Organized: 1938; Chartered: 1938; Joined MSFA: 1941. President: Roger Bennett, Vice President: Michael Neilson, Secretary: Andrea Bennett, Treasurer: Patricia McGowan, Chaplain: Aaron Winters, Chief: Scott Yates. Delegates: Aaron Winters, Scott Yates, Jesse Jeffries, Andrea Bennett, Samantha Bennett. Alternates: None Listed 2017.

BORING VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 14711 Old Hanover Road, Upperco, MD 21155; Baltimore County; Telephone 410-429-5200 Fax 410-429-5201; E-mail ca0420@bcvco.org. Organized: 1907; Chartered: 1911. President: Alexander Haslack, Vice President: Kyle Shropshire, Secretary: Courtney Brooks, Treasurer: Samuel Wesley, Chief: Charles Stinchcomb. Delegates: Walter Devillbiss, Eric Remmers, Scott Hale, Steve Miller. Alternates: None listed 2017.


BOWIE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. –15454 Annapolis Road,(6710 Laurel Bowie Road) Bowie, MD 20715; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-809-0122; E-mail: info@bowievfd.org; Website: bowievfd.org; Organized: 1928; Chartered:1928; Joined MSFA:1929. President: Buddy Gormley, Vice President: Mark Stegemeier, Secretary: Gary Blanton, Treasurer: Ed Oblas, Chaplain: Chief: Jonathan Howard. Delegates: Gary Blanton, Chris St. John, Mary Santa Bigony, Michelle Goodier, Michael White. Alternates: Edward Manuel, Buddy Gormley.


BOWMAN’S ADDITION VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 868, 11710 Boardwalk Avenue, Cumberland, MD 21502; Allegany County; Telephone 301-759-3272; Organized:1942; Chartered:1942; Joined MSFA: 1943. President: Dennis


BRANDYWINE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT – PO Box 238, 14201 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, MD 20613; Prince George’s County; Telephone 301-372-8507. See Volunteer Fire Department of Brandywine


BRUNSWICK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 156, 1500 Volunteer Drive, Brunswick, MD 21716; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-834-8300; Fax: 301-834-8081; Website: bvfd5.org; Organized:1893; Chartered:1894; Joined MSFA: 1910. President: Todd Webber, Vice President: Kenny Nicewarner, Secretary: Robin Bell, Treasurer: Kevin Myers, Chaplain: Chief: George Clary Jr. Delegates: George R. Clary Jr, Kevin Myers, Todd Webber, Dominique Beacht. Alternates: George Houser, Marc Nicholson, Anthony Smothers Jr, Jody Simmons, Jim Dixon.


BURTONSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 215, 13900 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20866; Montgomery County; Telephone: 240-773-8957 Fax 301-879-1487; E-mail: newmanlen@aol.com Website: bvfd.com; Organized:1947; Chartered: 1947. Joined MSFA: 1948. President: Tamera G. Bulla, Vice President: Drew Dunn, Secretary: Leonard Newman, Treasurer: Christine Dunn, Chaplain: Christine Dunn, Chief: Michael Ryman. Delegates: Kevin Henderson. Alternates: Tamera Bulla.

BUTLER VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 75, 15019 Falls Road, Butler, MD 21023; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-7913 Fax: 410-771-4103; E-mail cao490@bcvfa.org; Website: butlervfd.com; Organized:1953; Chartered:1954; Joined MSFA: 1958. President: Wayne Hackley, Vice President: Cary Rutledge, Secretary: Milton Curtis, Treasurer: Wayne Hackley, Chaplain:, Chief: Captain Matthew Underwood. Delegates: David Arbogast, Matthew Underwood, Wayne Hackley. Alternates: None Listed 2017

CABIN JOHN PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 41, 8001 River Road, Cabin John, MD 20818; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-365-2028 Fax: 301-365-2563; E-mail:firefighter@cjpvfd.org Website: cjpvfd.com; Organized:1930; Chartered: 1930; Joined MSFA:1931. President: Michael Harting, Vice President: Robert Roller, Secretary: Harry Goldman, Treasurer:James Fones, Chaplain:Katherine Bryant, Chief: James P Seavey Sr. Delegates: James Seavey Sr., Mary Morgal, Mary
Seavey, Robert McDonald, David Hanson. Alternates: Greg Karel, Christian Mage, James Lee Hunter, Satchel Kornfeld, Paul Krause.

**CALVERT ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT, INC** – 55 Security Blvd., Prince Frederick, MD 20678; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-535-0411; E-mail: chief10@calvertals.net; Website: calvertals.net; Organized: 1989; Joined MSFA: 2001; Charter: 1989. No Credentials were submitted for 2017.

**CAPE ST. CLAIR VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** - 1411 Cape St. Claire Road, Annapolis, MD 21409; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-757-3434; E-mail: webmaster@cscvfc.org Website: cscvfc.org; Organized: 1955; Chartered: 1955; Joined MSFA: 1957. President: Jessica Miller, Vice President: Tina Dembowski, Secretary: Nancy Wright, Treasurer: George Ryan, Chaplain: Chief: Drew Mutch. Delegates: Ronald Block, Jim Mekins Jr., Carol Mekins, Bob Seibel. Alternates: None Listed 2017.

**CAPITOL HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – 6061 Central Avenue, Capitol Heights, MD 20743; Prince George’s County; Telephone 301-883-7705. See Volunteer Fire Company #1 of Capitol Heights, MD.

**CARROLL MANOR VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 7, 2795 Adams Street, Adamstown, MD 21710; Frederick County; Telephone 301-874-5111; Fax 301-874-5101; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1954; Joined MSFA: 1954. President: Chris Benfield, Vice President: Rosemary Long, Secretary: Hilary Schaub, Treasurer: Ida Young, Chief: Mike Smallwood. Delegates: Joyce W. Shry, Buck Young.


**CHAPEL OAKS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC.** – PO Box 31309, 5544 Sheriff Road, Capitol Heights, MD 20731-0309, Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-883-2600 Fax: 301-925-4950; E-mail: gyfisher@gmail.com; Website: chapeloaksfire.com; Organized 1946; Chartered 1950; Joined MSFA 1967. President: Cathy Walker, Vice President: Hilmer Porter, Secretary: Guyanna Fisher, Treasurer: Deneen Lewis, Chaplain: Wanda Thomas, Chief: Johnathan Golden. Delegates: Johnathan Golden, Cathy Walker-Peters, Hilmer Porter, James Felder, Guyanna Fisher. Alternates: Deneen Lewis, Yusuf Ali, Eric Dunmore, Enola Pickett, Mike Clark


CHESTNUT RIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. -12020 Greenspring Avenue, Owings Mills, MD 21074; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-7781 Fax: 410-252-6111; E-mail: larryg500@comcast.net, Website: www.chestnutridgefire.com; Organized:1954; Chartered: 1957; Joined MSFA:1962. President: Larry Getlan, Vice President: Daniel Burton, Secretary: Cynthia Glace, Treasurer: Harry Kakel, Chaplain, Chief: Daniel Uddeme. Delegates: Larry Getlan, Dan Uddeme, Fred Cross, Harry Kakel, Charlie Cohen. Alternates: None listed 2017.


CHURCH CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 16, 1902 Church Creek Road, Church Creek, MD 21622; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-228-4156; Fax: 410-228-4156, E-mail: j_lewiscvfc@yahoo.com .President: Jeff Lewis, Vice
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference


CITIZENS TRUCK COMPANY #4 FREDERICK MD, INC. – PO Box 3855, 15 South Court Street, Frederick, MD 21705; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-600-1713 Fax: 301-600-1734; Organized: 1926; Chartered: 1927; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Robert Jacobs, Vice President: David Keller, Secretary: Vicky Keller, Treasurer: Timothy Ganley, Chaplain: John Elder. Delegates: Timothy Ganley, David Keller III, Robert Jacobs, David Ohler, Doug Fleming. Alternates: None listed 2017.

CLARYSVILLE FIRE COMPANY, INC.- 16304 Clarysville Road, SW, Frostburg, MD 21532; Allegany County; Telephone:301-689-3828; E-mail: co14@allconet.org; Organized: 1942; Chartered:1942. No credentials were submitted for 2017.


CLEAR SPRING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 400, 30 Mulberry Street, Clear Spring, MD 21722; Washington County; Telephone: 301-842-2300 Fax: 301-842-2794; Email:chief4reid@myactv.net; Website: clearspringfire.net; Organized;1935; Chartered:1935; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Terry Thompson, Vice President: Robert Downs, Secretary: Stacey Schlotterbeck, Treasurer: Charles Mundey, Chaplain: Theodore Hovemal, Chief: Michael Reid. Delegates: Robert Downs, Charles Mundey, Mike Reid, Jacob Altman, Paul Hottinger. Alternates: None listed 2017.

CLINTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 9025 Woodyard Road, Clinton, MD 20735; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-868-1333 Fax:301-868-0330; E-mail: ronmason3275@gmail.com, Website: clintonvfd.org; Organized: 1936; Chartered:1937; Joined MSFA:1937. President: Jerry Spence, Vice President: Scott Kaiser, Secretary: Sally Brown, Treasurer: Jim Ruby, Chaplain, Chief: Renaldo Mason. Delegates: Jerry Spence, Renaldo Mason, Sally Brown, Scott Kaiser, Theresa Kaiser. Alternates: Kathleen Maresch, Lisa Faunce, Robert McGhee, Dan Maresch.

COCKEYSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 344. 11210 York Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-1851 Fax: 410-527-3739; Email: treasure@cvfa.org; Website: cvfc.org; Organized: 1896; Chartered: 1896; Joined MSFA: 1952. President: Jean Roberts, Vice President: Kenny West, Secretary: Andrew Rosenblum, Treasurer: John Dixon, Chaplain: Boots Bannister, Chief: Kevin Roberts. Delegates: Kathy Milby, Lawrence Gribble, Kenneth Cole, Kevin Roberts, Jack Roberts. Alternates: David Crumble, Sonny Roberts.

COLLEGE PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 8115 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, MD 20740; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-901-9112; Fax: 301-901-9115; E-mail: webmaster@cpvfd.org Website: cpvfd.org; Organized: 1925; Chartered: 1927; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Pete Piringer, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary: Matt Chipard, Treasurer: Bob Ryan, Chaplain:, Chief: William Corrigan. Delegates: Carl Cimino, Pete Piringer, Kenneth Bush, Robert Ryan. Alternates: None listed 2017.

COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 248, 309 S. Camp Meade Road, Linthicum, MD 21090; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-859-0244; Organized: 1927; Chartered: 1928. President: Joseph T. Delisle, Vice President: Jean Reese, Secretary: Jason P. Pippen, Treasurer: Joseph T. Delisle, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Joseph Delisle, Jean Reese, Jason P. Pippen. Alternates: J. G. Delisle, David E. Reese III.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT OF BOWLEY’S QUARTERS & VICINITY, INC. - 900 Bowley’s Quarters Road, Middle River, MD 21220; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-5771; Organized:1944; Chartered: 1945; Joined MSFA: 1946; Email: jmheinz210@gmail.com; Website: bqvolunteers.org; Chartered: 1945; Joined MSFA: 1945. President: John E. Hammen, Vice President: Louis Hartmann, Secretary: Bernie Eckert, Treasurer: Paul G. Cusic Jr., Chaplain: Roy Elder, Chief: John Heinz. Delegates: Jerry Cusic, Paul J. Cusic, John Hammen, John Heinz. Alternates: None Listed.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY OF MILLINGTON, INC. – P.O. Box 255, 185 Sassafras Street, Millington, MD 21651; Kent County; Telephone: 410-928-3171; Fax: 410-928-3945; Organized: 1921; Chartered: 1923; Joined MSFA: 1926. President: Wayne Shank, Vice President: Jess Morales, Secretary: Jessica Morales, Treasurer: Roger Hicks, Chaplain: Kevin White, Chief: Richard McIntyre. Delegates: CJ Morales, Barry Edwards, Pat Powell, Brian Henton, Crystal Arzola. Alternates: None Listed.
COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY OF PERRYVILLE, MD INC. – P.O. Box 776, 920 Principio Furnace Road, Perryville, MD 21903; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-642-2647 Fax: 410-642-0266; E-mail: jajonesey@yahoo.com; Website: pvfd616.com; Organized: 1923; Chartered: 1926; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: John A. Jones, Vice President: Karen Reinhart, Secretary: Kristie Calahan, Treasurer: Dale K. Dewees, Chaplain: Sue Hornbarger, Chief: Bryan Jones. Delegates: Terri Grove, Daniel Skip Mahan, Charles Thomas, Karen Jones, James Richard Hall. Alternates: Samuel Anderson Jr, John A. Jones, Mark Fayer, Phillip Thomas.

COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY OF RISING SUN, INC. – PO Box 699, 300 Joseph Biggs Highway, Rising Sun, MD 21911; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-658-5115 Fax: 410-658-9899; E-mail: risingsunpresident8@gmail.com; Organized: 1921; Chartered: 1921. President: Stacy Zachry, Vice President: Tami Wiggins, Secretary: Stacy Zachry, Treasurer: Suzanne Wehry, Chaplain: Adam Haines, Chief: Donald Wehry. Delegates: Ken Morris, Stacy Zachry, Walter Funk, Karl Reichenbach, Donald Wehry. Alternates: Suzanne Wehry, John Hall.


COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY INC. DISTRICT No. 12 – PO Box 97, 18002 Tilghmanton Road, Fairplay, MD 21733; Washington County; Telephone: 301-582-0099; Email: fairplay12@earthlink.net; Organized: 1947; Joined MSFA: 1949. President: Jeb S. Eckstine, Vice President: Kevin Clipp, Secretary: Kim Van Meter, Treasurer: Cory Lescallett, Chaplain: Harry Harbaugh, Chief: Mark Kopp. Delegates: Roy Lescallett, Tracy McCleary, Tim Warrenfeltz, Chad Clipp, Darrin Eichelberger. Alternates: Scott Frey, Kevin Frey, Robert Asper, Robert Gordon, Mark Copp.

CONDUIT ROAD FIRE BOARD/GLEN ECHO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 5920 Massachusetts Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20816; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-229-9766 Fax:301-229-9767; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1932; Joined MSFA: 1932. SEE GLEN ECHO FIRE DEPARTMENT

CORRIGANVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 187, 12502 Corrigan Drive, Corriganville, MD 21524; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-722-7418, Fax: 240-362-7047; Organized: 1939. President: Brandon Cobb, Vice President: Josh VanMeter, Secretary: Megan Cobb, Treasurer: Megan Cobb/Jim VanMeter, Chaplain Jody Bucy, Chief: Jim VanMeter. No Delegates/Alternates listed 2017.

CRESAPTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 13109 Warrior Drive, SW, Cresaptown, MD 21502; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-729-1111 Fax: 301-729-1820; Email: ccage@atlanticbb.net Website: cresaptownvfd.com; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1933. President: Patrick Reid, Vice President: William McElvie, Secretary: Katrina Wolf, Treasurer: Susan Clark-Cecil, Chaplain: Pete Walbert, Chief: Christopher Cage. Delegates: Christopher Cage, Patrick Reid, Calvin “Pete” Walbert, Don Reid, Susan Clark-Cecil. Alternates: Sarah Cage, Tony Rotruck, Katrina Wolf, Andy Thomas, Josh Earnest.


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**DEAL ISLAND-CHANCE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 10090 Deal Island Road, Deal Island, MD 21821; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-784-2612; Website: dealislandchancevfc.com; Organized:1954; Chartered:1954; Joined MSFA:1956. President: Charles Jacopson, Vice President: George Mister, Secretary: Shaun Routh, Treasurer: Danny Webster, Chaplain: David Webster, Chief: Donald L. Ford. Delegates: Donald Ford, George Mister, Dave Webster, Susan Ford, Danny Webster. Alternates: None Listed.


DELTA-CARDIFF VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 15, 500 Main Street, Delta, PA 17314-0015; (near)Harford County; Telephone: 717-456-7133 Fax.; Website: deltacardiffvfc.com; Organized: 1898; Chartered:1910; Joined MSFA:1942. President: Dennis Emmel, Vice President: Laura Taylor, Secretary: Maxine Moul, Treasurer: Lori Robbins, Chaplain: Gale Parthree, Chief: Jeffrey Griffith. Delegates: James Williams, Jeffrey Griffith. Alternates: None Listed 2017.


DENTSVILLE VOLUNTEER EMS & AUXILIARY INC – PO Box 109, 12135 Charles Street, LaPlata, MD 20646; Charles County; Telephone: 301-392-0050; Website: dvems.org; Organized: 1998. President: Robin Windsor, Vice President: Joanne Hoffmaster, Secretary: Madison Brady, Treasurer: Darby Byrd, Chaplain: Pat O’Connor, Chief: Mark Kaufmann. Delegates: Darby Byrd. Alternates: None Listed.


DISTRICT HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 5900 Marlboro Pike, District Heights, MD 20747; Prince George’s County; Telephone 301-883-7726; Organized: 1942; Chartered: 1942; Joined MSFA: 1943. President: Kirk V. Ingram, Vice President: Tim Titcomb, Secretary: Olivia Turpin, Treasurer: Charles A. Norris, Chaplain, Chief: Jamaal Brooks Delegates: Kirk V. Ingram, Thomas C. Stommel, Charles A Norris, Jamaal Brooks, Tim Titcomb. Alternates: Bruce Beall, Dan Gorman, Cliff Moody, Olivia Turpin Mark Jackson.

DUNKIRK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 3170 West Ward Road, Dunkirk, MD 20754; Calvert County; Telephone: 301-855-8895; Email:billrector@dunkirk5.com, Website: dunkirk5.com; Organized: 1974; Chartered: 1975. President: Charles A. Hanko, Vice President: James Taylor, Secretary: Jaime Longfellow, Treasurer: Tommy Smith, Chaplain: Larry Patin, Chief: William Rector III. Delegates: Charles Hanko, James Taylor, Randy Smith, Howard Kelly, William Rector. Alternates: Toby Sealey, William Philpott, Tommy Howes, Tomas Smith, Donald Gibson.

EARLIE HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 547, 161 Ritchie Highway, Severna Park, MD 21146; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-647-1990, Fax: 410-647-9463; E-mail: 2002theend@gmail.com Website: www.ehvfc.org; Organized: 1918; Chartered: 1918; Joined MSFA: 1923. President: Andrew Condor,
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference


EASTERN GARRETT COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 401 Finzel Road, Frostburg, MD 21532; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-689-8388; Fax: 301-689-9554; E-mail: kitisd@yahoo.com; Organized: 1967; Joined MSFA: 1974; Chartered: 1967; Joined MSFA: 1967. President: James Raley, Vice President: Nicholas Wiland, Secretary: Penny Lewis, Treasurer: Charon Overstreet, Chaplain: David Kitis, Chief: Timothy Clark. Delegates: James Raley, Dwayne Kitis, David Kitis, Nicholas Wiland. Alternates: None listed 2017.

EAST NEW MARKET VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 280, 4020 East New Market Bypass, East New Market, MD 21631; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-943-3663; Organized: 1938; Chartered: 1939; Joined MSFA: 1942. President: Adam Tolley, Vice President: Tammy Wielgosz, Secretary: Ladd Heisler, Treasurer: Tracey Whiteley, Chaplain: Chief: Dave Thomas III. Delegates: Adam Tolley, Eric Blake, Mark Stivers, Justin Lauck. Alternates: None Listed.

EASTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 315 Aurora Park Drive, Easton, MD 21601; Talbot County; Telephone: 410-822-4848, Fax: 410-822-1970; E-mail: eastonvfd@goeaston.net; Website: eastonvfd.org; Organized: 1808; Chartered: 1917; Joined MSFA: 1914. President: Donald Abbatiello, Vice President: Jeff Meintzer, Secretary: Rebecca A. Caldwell, Treasurer: Kenneth E. Bush, Chaplain: Daniel Tarrant, Chief: John Harrison. Delegates: William E. Mullikin, Lyle Fuller, Rose Miles, Barry Slaughter, Chris Hash. Alternates: None Listed.

EASTPORT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 3332, 914 Bay Ridge Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403-0332; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 301-509-1005; Organized: 1886; Chartered: 1930; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Albert G. Kirchner, Jr., Vice President: Scott Bierman, Secretary: Mat Silverman, Treasurer: G. Danny Clark, Chaplain: Richard Hurlock, Chief: vacant. No Credentials submitted for 2017.

ELDORADO-BROOKVIEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 5752 Rhodesdale-Eldorado Road, Eldorado, MD 21659; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-943-4004; Email: kma6070@yahoo.com; Organized: 1947; Chartered: 1948; Joined MSFA: 1950. President: Robert Murphy, Vice President: Mark Adams, Secretary: Barb Warrell, Treasurer: Julie Adams, Chaplain: Jimmy Cole, Chief: Brad Murphy. Delegates: Debbie Wheeledton, Brad Murphy. Alternates: Robert Murphy.


ELLERSLIE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 237, 14200 Ellerslie Road, Ellerslie, MD 21529; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-777-0959; Website: www.evfc.org; Organized: 1946; Chartered: 1946; Joined MSFA: 1946. President: Richard DeVore, Vice President: Scott Williams, Secretary: Denoma Stallings, Treasurer: Rob Johnson, Chaplain: Jennifer Christner, Chief: Scott Williams. Delegates: Dick DeVore, Dave Christner, Austin Christner, Jennifer Christner, Wayne Shriner. Alternates: Edward Scott Williams, Mark Williams, Rob Johnson.


EWELL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 44, 3994 Smith Island Road, Ewell, MD 21824; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-425-5521; Organized: 1957; Chartered: 1957. no Credentials submitted for 2017.
FAIRMOUNT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 395, 27407 Fairmont Road, Upper Fairmount, MD 21867; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-651-2888; E-mail: taylorwirt@gmail.com; Organized: 1999; Chartered: 1999; Joined MSFA: 1999. President: Roger Olsen, Vice President: Charles Bagleym, Secretary: Linda Wirt, Treasurer: Sue Nevins, Chaplain: Frank Lusk, Chief: Charles Bagley. Delegates: None listed 2017.

FALLSTON VOLUNTEER FIRE & AMBULANCE CO., - PO Box 141, 2201 Carrs Mill Road, Fallston, MD 21047; Harford County; Telephone: 410-638-4890, Fax: 410-638-4889; E-mail: chief@fvfac.org, Website: fvfac.org; Organized: 1974; Chartered: 1974. President: Christopher Gibbons, Vice President: H. Alex Pafel, Secretary: Whitney Nigrin, Treasurer: Kim Weber, Chaplain: Mike Hayden, Chief: Will Rosenberg. Delegates: Hobart Howell, Christopher Gibbons, Ed Benesch, Cathy Pilachowski, Mark Pilachowski. Alternates: None Listed.

FEDERALSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. - PO Box 99, 208 N. University Avenue, Federalsburg, MD 21632; Caroline County; Telephone: 410-754-7400; Organized: 1900; Chartered: 1926; Joined MSFA: 1921. President: Michael Robinson, Vice President: Wendell Merrick, Secretary: Denise Hashen, Treasurer: Craig Ruf, Chaplain: Tom Blades, Chief: Steve Cox. Delegates: Kevin Mowbray, Denise Hashen, Wendell Merrick, Michael Robinson, Ken Trader. Alternates: None listed 2017.

FERNDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. - 4 Broadview Boulevard South, Glen Burnie, MD 21061; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-761-2131, Fax: 410-768-0487; Website: www.fvfc34.org; Organized: 1942; Chartered: 1943, Joined MSFA: 1946. President: Joseph M. Wojtowycz, Vice President: John Long, Secretary: Stephanie Evans, Treasurer: Craig A. Bidinger, Chaplain: John Long, Chief: Jay Olson. Delegates: Jay Olson, Jackie Olson, John Long, Cliff Odendhal, Gerard Varner. Alternates: Joseph Wojtowycz, Timmy Doegen, Stephanie Evans, Craig Bidinger, Jon Johnson.

FIFTH DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 5000 Signal Bell Lane, Clarksville, MD 21029; Howard County; Telephone: 410-313-7215; E-mail: fpmarlett@mfri.org; Website: fdvfd.com; Organized: 1942; Chartered: 1947; Joined MSFA: 1948. President: Miji Kim, Vice President: Carol Ann Stevens, Secretary: Edward Zepp IV, Treasurer: Roy Ferguson, Chaplain: vacant, Chief: Patrick Marlatt. Delegates: Wendy Norwitz, Pat Puglisi, Ron Price, Mark Nellis, Aaron Brnet. Alternates: None Listed.

**FIRST HAGERSTOWN HOSE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 4623, 33 South Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD 21742; Washington County; Telephone: 301-733-3339, Fax: 301-791-3154; Website: engineone.org; Organized: 1815; Chartered: 1823; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Dave Stevens, Vice President: Tiffany Long/Pamela Stevens, Secretary: Raymond Rushbaugh, Treasurer: Kathy Bartles, Chaplain: Harry Hawbker, Chief: Capt. Warren Royce. Delegates: Blaine Snyder, David Stevens, Gerald Saum, Pamela Stevens, Lisa Saum. Alternates: Joseph Miller, Heather Myers, Quinton Davis, Cillala Malloy, Dixie Lee Pierce.

FLINTSTONE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 105, 21707 Flintstone Drive, Flintstone, MD 21530; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-478-2311, Fax: 301-478-3324; Website: ffd12.webs.com; Organized:1943; Chartered:1944; Joined MSFA:1944. President: Bryan Adams, Vice President: Kermit Humbertson, Secretary: Jason Bennett, Treasurer: Dorothy Ruby, Chaplain: David Kyle, Chief: Steve Bowman. Delegates: David L. Kyle, Pamela Kyle, Randolph Bennett, Jason Bennett, Steve Bowman. Alternates: Allen Ruby, Dotty Ruby.

FORESTVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT #1, Inc. - 8321 Old Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-736-7170, Fax: 301-736-5796; E-mail:chief5876@gmail.com; Organized:1931; Chartered:1931; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Jennifer King, Vice President: Joseph Gray, Secretary: Kim Latham, Treasurer: Paul Thorne Jr., Chaplain: Anne Shepherd, Chief: Robert Dickinson. Delegates: Jennifer King, Robert Wilhite, Joseph Gray, Mark Worth, Ed Thurston. Alternates: Jeff Thorne, Paul Thorne, Jr., Jennifer Breen, Allison Worth, Will Seger.


FROSTBURG AREA AMBULANCE SERVICE –PO Box 75, 86 West Main Street, Frostburg MD 21532-0075; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-876-9155, E-mail: faas53@yahoo.com; Organized: 1975; Chartered: 1975; Joined MSFA: 2005. President: James Koon. Vice President: Richard DeVore, Secretary: Vacant, Treasurer: Vacant, Chief: Robert Pattison. Delegates: James Koon, Robert Pattison. Alternates: None listed 2017.

FROSTBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT NO. 1, INC. – PO Box 461, 75 S. Water Street, Frostburg, MD 21532-0461; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-689-8444; Fax: 301-689-2938. E-mail ebladen@frostburgfd.com; Organized: 1878; Chartered: 1878; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: John Jarvis, Vice President: William Price, Secretary: Emily A. Bladen, Treasurer: Dayne Lancaster, Chaplain: Harry W. Foer, Chief: Melvin Bladen. Delegates: J. Matthew McMorran, Joseph Hoffman, Thomas Bevan, Robert Taylor, Logan Harden. Alternates: None Listed 2017.

FUNKSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 670, 2 South Westside Avenue, Funkstown, MD 21734; Washington County; Telephone: 301-790-0090, Fax: 301-739-5244; E-mail: dfraley@funkstownfireco.org; Website: funkstownfireco.org; Organized:1930; Chartered: 1931. President: Gary Farrell, Vice President: Joey Royce, Secretary: Judith Ann Bowers, Treasurer: Joan Kotanko, Chaplain: Dan L. Fraley, Chief: Eric Fraley. Delegates: Edward Clopper, Jean Clopper, Dale Hill, Dave Harman, Linda Kendle. Alternates: None listed for 2017.

GAITHERSBURG-WASHINGTON GROVE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 801 Russell Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20879; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-948-0660, Fax: 301-948-6836; E-mail: kvk2@juno.com; Website: gwgvfd.org; Organized:1900; Chartered: 1927; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Steve Hayes, Vice President: Angela Blom, Secretary: Gary Timmons, Treasurer: Garry Walker, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Ken Knopp. Delegates: Garry Walker, Chris Carlson, Kevin Younkins, Angela Blom, Angelica Kania. Alternates: Steve Hayes, Philippe Ngoma, Ken Knopp, Nelson Anderson, Gary Timmons.


GALESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 174, 954 Main Street, Galesville, MD 20765-0174; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-867-1521. President: Nathaniel C. Scotten IV, Vice President: Raymond Hardesty Sr, Secretary: Gladys Sears, Treasurer: Albert P. Bembe, Chief: Terry McAllister. Delegates: Nathaniel Scotten IV, Raymond Hardesty Sr, Terry McAllister, Ronald Wood. Alternates: Mathew Zang, Carol Sherbert.

GAMBER & COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY, INC. - 3838 Niner Road, Finksburg, MD 21048; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-795-3445 Fax: 410-795-0208; E-mail: info@gambervfd.org Website: gambervfd.org; Organized: 1964; Chartered: 1964; Joined MSFA: 1967. President: Michael Franklin, Vice President: Dale Bollinger, Secretary: Jeannie Green, Treasurer: Clay Myers, Chaplain: Art Frotton, Chief: Charlie Green. Delegates: Dale Bollinger, Michael Franklin, Charlie Green, Dennis Leppert, Emily Franklin. Alternates: Chad Hastings.


GIRDLETREE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 25, 2739 Snow Hill Road, Girdletree, MD 21829; Worcester County; Telephone: 410-632-2128, Fax: 410-632-5664; E-mail: info@girdletree.org Website www.girdletree.org; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1953. President: John Merritt, Vice President: Jeff Lyter, Secretary: Raye Ellen Thomas, Treasurer: Jeff McMahan, Chaplain: Ralph Carman, Chief: Joe Truitt. Delegates: None listed 2017. Alternates: None Listed.

GLEN BURNIE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 1268, 15 Central Avenue, Glen Burnie, MD 21061; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 443-336-9378; E-mail: gdicus@verizon.net Website: gbvfd.org; Organized: 1922; Chartered: 1922; Joined MSFA: 1923. President: Thomas Nevin Jr, Vice President: Cynthia E. Dicus, Secretary: Michelle Davis, Treasurer: Paul Cogswell, Chaplain: Benjamin Umberger, Chief: Robert Galante. Delegates: Thomas Nevin Jr, Paul McGinnis, Robert Galante, Chris Younger. Alternates: William Hagedorn, Tori Hagedorn, Kevin Reilly.

GLENN DALE FIRE ASSOCIATION, INC. – 11900 Glenn Dale Boulevard, Glenn Dale, MD 20769; Prince George's County; Telephone: 301-805-2400; E-mail: lad18@firehouseemail.com; Website: www.gdvfd18.com; Organized: 1928; Chartered: 1929; Joined MSFA: 1929. President: Robert Stallings, Vice President: Laura Woods, Secretary: Katie Owens, Treasurer: Dinah Sosebee, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Chris Postell. Delegates: Robert Stallings, Lee A. Lutz, Laura Woods, Harve Woods Sr., Sandi T. Lutz. Alternates: Christopher Postell, Dinah Sosebee, Katie Owens, Hugh Owens, Quentin Meullion.

GLYNDON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 4812 Butler Road, Glyndon, MD 21071; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-833-1262; Website: GVFD40.org; Organized: 1904; Chartered: 1904. President: Susan Bollinger, Vice President: Paul Wilhelm, Secretary: Richard Cole, Treasurer: Doug Wolfenden, Chaplain: Joan Wolfenden, Chief: Reginald Robinson Jr. Delegates: Susan Bollinger, Kathy Reitz, Frank J. Corasaniti II, Paul Wilhelm, Scott Timberman. Alternates: None Listed

GOLDSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 35, 700 Old Line Road, Goldsboro, MD 21636; Caroline County; Telephone: 410-482-6196; E-mail goldsborofirecompany@yahoo; Website: goldsboro700.com; Organized: 1948; Chartered: 1948; Joined MSFA: 1948. President: Joel T. McGinnes III, Vice President: David Wothers, Secretary: Shelly Gray, Treasurer: Jody Luckett, Chaplain: Paster Doug Morley, Chief: Julius Bartz. Delegates: Shelly Gray, J T Bartz Jr, Ron Dixon, James Mayer. Alternates: David Wothers, Jody Luckett, Brian Cahall.

GOODWILL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 212 Broadway Street, Centreville, MD 21617; Queen Anne’s County; Telephone: 410-758-1422; E-mail: aaronslabs@verizon.net; Organized 1889, Chartered 1889. President: Raymond C. Aaron Sr., Vice President: Lester D. Downes III, Secretary: Cliff Green, Treasurer: Donald Dawkins, Chaplain: Mark Farnell, Chief: Ken Bloodsworth. Delegates: Floyd Kauffman, Dan Tabler. Alternates: None Listed.


GORMAN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 270 Gorman Road, Oakland, MD 21550; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-334-1600 Fax: 301-334-1600; E-mail: co120@gc911.org; Joined MSFA: 1953. President: Dan Tichnell, Vice President: Greg Tichnel, Secretary: Jennifer Landis, Treasurer: Sue Steyer, Chaplain: Stuart Harvey, Chief: Mike Steyer. Delegates: Mike Steyer, Johnny Mayne. Alternates: None Listed.

GRACEHAM VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 181, 14026 Graceham Road, Thurmont, MD 21788; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-271-2000; E-mail: electronicaddictions@msn.com; Joined MSFA: 1963 President: Louis Powell Jr., Vice President: William Morgan, Secretary: Hilary Blake, Treasurer: Brian Boller, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: James Kilby. Delegates: Valaria Kirby, Brian Boller, Lara Gosbee, Gary Keller, Chuck Farkas. Alternates: Louis Powell, Jr. Hilary Blake, Joshua Helman, William Ott, Diana Gouker.
GRANTSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 248, 178 Springs Road, Grantsville, MD 21536; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-895-5200, Fax: 301-895-3720; E-mail: steve.smith.em2@gmail.com; Organized: 1928; Chartered: 1936; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Stephen Smith, Vice President: Keith Durst, Secretary: Menno Yoder, Treasurer: Herman Yoder, Chaplain: Raymond D. Yoder, Chief: Duane Stein. Delegates: John Vought, Anthony Bittinger, Keith Durst, Doug Wilburn, Adam Rounds. Alternates: Stephen Smith, Michael Glotfelty, Bill Kelley, Anthony Hillegas, Brandon Downton.

GRASONVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 457, 4128 Main Street, Grasonville, MD 21638; Queen Anne’s County; Telephone: 410-827-8100; Website: www.qvfd2.com, E-mail: tsheahan02@aol.com; Organized: 1958; Chartered: 1960. President: James Tierron, Vice President: Thomas Shahann, Secretary: Laura Varvel, Treasurer: Phylis Black, Chaplain: John Redger, Chief: Jason Anthony. Delegates: Troy Tilghman. Alternates: None Listed 2017.

GREENBELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 125 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1804; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-345-7000, Fax: 301-345-2235; E-mail: t.ray@verizon.net Website: engine35.com; Organized: 1955; Chartered: 1955. President: John Wynkoop, Vice President: Brian Rudy, Secretary: Wayne L. Lewis, Treasurer: Lawrence E. Hughes, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Thomas Ray. Delegates: Wayne Lewis, Lawrence E. Hughes, Ashley R. Kozlowski, Matthew Kulle, Thomas Ray. Alternates: None Listed.

GREENSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 307, 116 North Main Street, Greensboro, MD 21639; Caroline County; Telephone: 410-482-8420; E-mail: rcovert67@comcast.net; Website: greensborovfc.com; Organized: 1927; Chartered: 1927. President: Rich Covert, Vice President: Shawn Starkey, Secretary: Jim Bruce, Treasurer: Vacant, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: William Biddle. Delegates: Jim Bruce, Danny Bruce. Alternates: None Listed 2017.

GUARDIAN HOSE COMPANY, INC. – 21 North Church Street, Thurmont, MD 21788; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-271-3413, Fax: 301-271-4990; E-mail: guardianhose@verizon.net Website:guardianhose.org; Organized: 1887; Chartered: 1934. No Credentials were submitted for 2017


HAMPSTEAD VOLUNTEER FIRE ENGINE & HOSE CO. NO. 1, INC. – P.O. Box 231, 1341 North Main Street, Hampstead, MD 21074; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-239-0523; Website: hampsteadvfd.org; Organized: 1899; Chartered: 1900. President:
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference


HANCOCK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 3 Fulton Street, Hancock, MD 21750; Washington County; Telephone: 301-678-7739, Fax: 301-678-7755; Website: www.hancockfire5.com; Organized: 1928; Chartered: 1928. President: Rick Rowe, Vice President: Thomas Leach, Secretary: Graham Snow, Treasurer: Mike Stewart, Chaplain: Graham Snow, Chief: Robert Hoopengardner. Delegates: Greg Yost, Robert Hoopengardner, Ben Hoopengardner, Graham Snow. Alternates: Rick Rowe, Michael Stewart.

HANCOCK RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 6 East Main Street, Hancock, MD 21750; Washington County; Telephone: 301-678-6774, Fax: 301-678-5399, E-mail: washcoph53@gmail.com; Chartered: 1969; Joined MSFA: 1998. President: Ernest Truax, Vice President: Tim Ward, Secretary: Beth Buskirk, Treasurer: Debbie Cohill, Chaplain, Chief: Stephen Barnhart. Delegates: Ernie Truax, Stephen Barnhart, Mary Dressel, Josh Unger. Alternates: None Listed.

HARNEY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 5130 Harney Road, Taneytown, MD 21787; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-756-6464; Website: harneyfireII.org; Organized: 1951; Chartered: 1951; Joined MSFA: 1958. President: James Waybright, Vice President: Charlie Blocher, Secretary: Richard Yingling, Treasurer: Leonard Bowers, Chaplain: Jennings Martin, Chief: Donald Yingling Sr. Delegates: None Listed 2017. Alternates: None Listed.


HEBRON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 300, 200 South Main Street, Hebron, MD 21803; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-749-3037, Fax: 410-749-0511; Organized: 1926; Chartered: 1937. President: Johnathon Blake, Vice President: Jake Travers, Secretary: Kyle Cole, Treasurer: Greg Howard, Chaplain: David Beach, Chief: Charles Smith. Delegates: Jon Blake, David Beach, Don Beach, Dean Beach, Joe Derbyshire. Alternates: Greg Howard, Zach Dehn, Jake Travers, Kyle Cole, Jason Abbott.

HERALD HARBOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, Inc. – 401 Hall Road, Crownsville, MD 21032; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-923-3990; Website: hhvfd.org; Organized: 1926; Chartered: 1926, Joined MSFA: 1926. President: Robert Jones, Vice

**HEREFORD VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION, INC.** – PO Box 262, 901 Monkton Road, Monkton, MD 21111; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-1935, Fax: 410-887-1935; E-mail: info@herefordemsrescue.org; Website: hvaa.org; Organized: 1952; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1955. President: Paul Tice, Vice President: Janek Bracken, Secretary: Victoria Schwatka, Treasurer: Nancy Aiken, Chaplain: Dave Crow, Chief: Daniel Burke. Delegates: Hope Bilger, Richard Bilger Sr, Paul Tice. Alternates: None Listed.

**HEREFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** - 510 Monkton Road, Monkton, MD 21111; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-1934; Website: herefordfire.org; Organized: 1924; Chartered: 1924; Joined MSFA: 1926. President: Ronald Campion, Vice President: Sue Croft, Secretary: Deborah Campion, Treasurer: Nancy Marsiglia, Chief: Kenneth Bollinger. Delegates: Ronald Campion, Kenneth Bollinger III, Herbert Taylor, Justin Kinsey, William Klapaska. Alternates: Susan Croft, Deborah Campion, Greg Leyko.

**HILLANDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.** - 10617 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20903; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-434-2403; E-mail: hvfdmail@yahoo.com Website: hvfd.org; Organized: 1941; Chartered: 1941; Joined MSFA: 1941. President: Russell S. Hartung, Vice President: John G. Bork, Secretary: Betty J. Phiefer, Treasurer: Earl Clime, Chief: Mike McAdams. Delegates: Russell S. Hartung, Mark Lamb, Mike McAdams, Frank Gaegler, Bruce Emmel. Alternates: Earl Clime, Michael Kranias, Val Schmale, Paul Cirincione, Matthew Gagernm.


HOOPERS ISLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 125, 2756 Hoopers Island Road, Fishing Creek, MD 21634; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-397-3311; Email: hivfc@safe.quik.com; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1956. President: Vacant, Vice President: Cindy Paul, Secretary: Teresa Flowers, Treasurer: Rosemary Dean, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Marcus Flowers. Delegates: Richard L. Yinger, Rick Yinger, Tina Yinger, Mark Flowers, Rosemary Dean. Alternates: None Listed 2017.

HUGHESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 15245 Prince Frederick Road, Hughesville, MD 20637; Charles County; Telephone: 301-274-4488, Fax: 301-274-9729; E-mail jrose@hvfdems.org Website:www.hvfdems.org Organized: 1946; Chartered: 1946; Joined MSFA: 1946. President: Michael Roberts, Vice President: Phillip Canter, Secretary: Thomas Hoffman, Treasurer: Jimmy Rose, Chief: Scott Herbert. Delegates: Mike Roberts, Phillip Canter, Jimmy Rose, Patty Therres, Scott Herbert. Alternates: None Listed 2017.

HUNTINGTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 482, 4030 Old Town Road, Huntingtown, MD 20639; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-535-3331; E-mail president@hvfd6.org Website: www.hvfd6.org; Organized: 1972; Chartered:1972. President: Dale Bowen, Vice President: Eugene Farrell, Secretary: Kaitlyn Rogers, Treasurer: Jason Jones, Chaplain: Larry Patin, Chief: Michael Clark. Delegates: Dale Bowen, Michael Clark, Monty Parks, Michael Hardesty, Kaitlyn Rogers. Alternates: None Listed.

HURLOCK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 178, 300 Charles Street, Hurlock, MD 21643; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-943-3110, Fax 410-943-4355; Website: Hurlock.firedept@comcast.net; Organized: 1924; Chartered: 1936; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: John Stichberry, Vice President: Brian Tolley, Secretary:Jane Coulbourne, Treasurer: Ward Higgins II, Chaplain, Chief: Jason Trego. Delegates: Gene Aaron, Bobbie Aaron, Jerry Rhue, Marlon Parker. Alternates: None Listed.

HYATTSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 6200 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-927-5770, E-mail: hyattsvillesq1@yahoo.com Website: www.hvfd.com; Organized: 1888. President: Thomas Falcone, Vice President: David Iannone, Secretary: Nova Johns, Treasurer: Jon Hoerner, Chaplain, Chief: Dave Hang. Delegates: Thomas Falcone, Dave Iannone, Kevin King, Nova Johns, Dave Hang. Alternates: Bill Moran, Ryan Pidgeon, Josh Wortman, Stephen Hulick, Mitch Kannry.

INDEPENDENT FIRE COMPANY No. 2, INC. – PO Box 1884, 720 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis MD 21404; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-757-1494; E-mail: rchambers@chamberscontracting.com; Organized:1838; Chartered: 1838. President: Reginald B. Chambers, Vice President: Thomas M. Newquist S., Secretary: James D. Powell, Treasurer: George D. Clark III, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Thomas Newquist Sr, Charles W. Cadle Jr. Alternates: George D. Clark III.

**INDEPENDENT HOSE CO. No. 1, INC.** - 310 Baughmans Lane, Frederick, MD 21702; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-600-9010; E-mail: crhandley@verizon.net; Website: ihc#1.org; Organized: 1818; Chartered: 1839; Joined MSFA:1893. President: Charles Handley, Vice President: Greg Fulmer, Secretary: Virginia Rinehart, Treasurer: Susan Smith, Chaplain: Tim May, Chief: Rodney Masser. Delegates: Walt Cramer, Virginia Rinehart, Clarence Rinehart, Tim May, Chuck Handley. Alternates: None Listed.

INDEPENDENT JUNIOR FIRE ENGINE CO. No. 3, OF HAGERSTOWN, INC. – PO Box 2185,100 Eastern Boulevard North, Hagerstown, MD 21742-2185; Washington County; Telephone: 301-733-3335, Fax:301-733-3335; Website: enginethree.org; Organized: 1871; Chartered: 1871. President:Woody Morris, Vice President: Robert Chaney, Secretary: Marsina Taulton, Treasurer: Terry L. Smith, Chaplain: Henry Ingram, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Woodrow Morris, Sherry Smith, Brian Elgin, Robert Chaney, Marsina Taulton,. Alternates: Donna Delauter-Smith, Jen Johnson, Rick Hemphill, Christa Stallings.

INDIAN HEAD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. - 4095 Indian Head Highway, Indian Head, MD 20640; Charles County; Telephone: 301-753-9400; Fax: 301-753-6130; Website:ihvfd@aol.com; Organized:1948; Chartered:1975; Joined MSFA: 1951. President: Richard Bowie, Vice President: Donald Chappell, Secretary: Molly Valentine, Treasurer: Larry Johnson, Chaplain: MikeO’Neil, Chief: Jeffrey Williams. Delegates: Richard Bowie, Jeffrey Williams, Mike O’Neil, Joanna Simpson. Alternates: None Listed 2017.


JACKSONVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. - PO Box 471, 3600 Sweet Air Road, Phoenix, MD 21131; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-7780, Fax: 410-
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference


JEFFERSON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 578, 4603A Lander Road, Jefferson, MD 21755; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-473-5150, Fax: 301-473-9789; E-mail: aclakin20@comcast.net; Website: jvfc20.com; Organized: 1955; Chartered: 1960; Joined MSFA: 1970. President: David Remsburg, Vice President: Ronald Ahalt, Secretary: Ashley Crum, Treasurer: Susan Corun, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Thomas Lakin. Delegates: David Remsburg, Thomas Lakin, James Lakin, Richard Zecher.

JEFFERSON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 146, 7891 Blob’s Park Road, Jessup, MD 20794; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-799-1314; E-mail: smaceiko@mfri.org, Website: jessupvfd.org; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1938; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Mark Hartz, Vice President: Dorothy Anderson, Secretary: Delta Priest-Hacallo, Treasurer: Kathryn Morgan, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Stephan Mace. Delegates: Stephen Macen, Mark Hertz, Delta Priest-Maceiko, Kathryn Morgan, Dorothy Anderson. Alternates: Stephen Maceiko Sr, Kathy Morgan.

JOPPA MAGNOLIA VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 1403 Old Mountain Road South, Joppa, MD 21085; Harford County; Telephone: 410-679-1055; Website: jmvlc.org; Organized: 1951; Chartered: 1951; Joined MSFA: 1953. President: Danny Adkins, Vice President: Ben Lay, Secretary: Ron Sollo, Treasurer: Gary Skillman, Chaplain: Margaret Bullock, Chief: Bill Vanarsdale Jr. Delegates: Ron Sollo. Alternates: None Listed.


KENT ISLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 1610 Main Street, Chester, MD 21619; Queen Anne’s County; Telephone: 410-643-5454 Fax: 410-643-5457; Website: kivfd.org; Organized: 1947; Chartered: 1947; Joined MSFA: 1949. President: Jody Schulz, Vice President: Joe Cvach, Secretary: Annie Gardner, Treasurer: John Cahill, Chaplain: Pastor Bobby Timms, Chief: Buddy Thomas. Delegates: None Listed.

KENT-QUEEN ANNE’S RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 126, 140 Morgnec Road, Chestertown, MD 21620; Kent County; Telephone: 410-778-4495, Fax: 410-810-0346; E-Mail: mddecoy12@hotmail.com; Website: kentrescuesquad.com; Organized: 1961; Chartered: 1961. President: Allan Schauber, Vice President: Robert Coleman, Secretary: Mary Grussing, Treasurer: James Siemen, Chaplain: Kevin Kerr, Chief: Allan Schauber. Delegates: Allan W. Schauber, Kevin Kerr, Larry Hastings, Kathy Hastings, Travis Nelson. Alternates: Maurice King, Alex Dolgos, Robert Coleman, William Lobley, Mary Grussing.

KENTLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - 7701 Landover Road, Landover, MD 20785; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-883-7733, Fax: 301-773-2410; E-Mail: tkelleher33@gmail.com Website: www.kentland33.com; Organized: 1950; Chartered: 1950; Joined MSFA: 1953. President: John Burns, Vice President: Joseph Neville, Secretary: Jonathan Clifford, Treasurer: Bret Bestpitch, Chaplain: Cameron McKay, Chief: Roger Steger. Delegates: John Burns, Kenny Holderness, Mark Trader, Loretta Shaw, Tyrone Bodrick. Alternates: Anthony Kelleher, Matt Loiacono, Roger Steger, Ray McRae, Olge Pelekhaty.

KINGSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 65, 11804 Bellvue Avenue, Kingsville, MD 21087; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-5773 Fax; Website: kvfc.com; E-mail: swfth2048@aol.com; Organized: 1954; Chartered: 1954; Joined MSFA: 1957. President: Robert Chaney, Vice President: Stephen Belkoff, Secretary: Scott Taylor, Treasurer: Victoria Clyton, Chaplain: Ronald Cassett Sr., Chief: Captain

**KITZMILLER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.** – PO Box 438, 249 East Main Street, Kitzmiller, MD 21538; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-616-3007; E-mail: paugh@ymail.com Website: kvfd70.org; Organized: 1932; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Sharon Paugh, Vice President: James A. Browning Jr., Secretary: Missi Nesselrodt, Treasurer: Ronnie Bray Jr., Chaplain: Kirsten Welch, Chief: Shawn Nesselrodt. Delegates: Sharon Paugh, Missi Nesselrodt, Justin Nesselrodt, Jim Browning Jr, Kirsten Welch. Alternates: None Listed

**LA PLATA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.** – PO Box 728, 911 Washington Avenue, LaPlata, MD 20646-0728; Charles County; Telephone: 301-934-9201 Fax: 301-934-4217; E-mail: president@laplatafiredepartment.com Website: laplatafiredepartment.com; Organized: 1929; Chartered: 1929; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Matthew Gilroy, Vice President: Israel Burch, Secretary: Mary E. Gilroy, Treasurer: Lynn D. Gilroy, Chaplain: Joseph Gardiner Jr, Chief: Jason Moore. Delegates: Matthew Gilroy, William A. Frazier, Lynn D. Gilroy, Mary Gilroy, Ronnie Spittle. Alternates: Michael Furman, Stephan Shahan, Thomas Swann Sr.

**LAVALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.** – 421 National Highway, LaVale, MD 21502; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-777-0871; E-mail: reichert2@yahoo.com; Organized: 1933; Chartered: 1933. President: Kimberly Reichert, Vice President: Edward Kidwell, Secretary: Kimberly C. Reichert, Treasurer: Vacant, Chaplain: Earl T. Pryor III, Chief: Ryan N. Reichert. Delegates: Christopher Pryor, Kimberly Pryor, James Cook, Jr. Alternates: None listed.

**LAVALE VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC.** – PO Box 3343, 977 National Highway, LaVale, MD 21504-3343; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-729-4458 Fax: 301-729-8191; E-mail: adam.m.miller@lavalerscue.org Website: lavalerscue.org; Organized: 1969; Chartered. President: Raymond Shipley, Vice President: Dianne G. Shoemaker, Secretary: Pamela DeVore, Treasurer: Scott C. Whetsell, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Corey Vodicka. Delegates: None listed. Alternates: None listed.

**LAKE SHORE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 1057, 4498 Mountain Road, Pasadena, MD 21122; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-255-2401; E-mail: achall20@aol.com Website: www.lsvfc.org; Organized: 1940; Chartered: 1941. Joined MSFA: 1944. President: John E. Thursby, Vice President: Melvin Clark, Secretary: Tina Wright, Treasurer: Debbie Kartub, Chaplain: Bob Belford, Chief: Timothy Hall Sr. Delegates: Michelle Bell. Alternates: None listed.

**LAKES & STRAITS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – 2103 Farm Creek Road, Wingate, MD 21675; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-397-8154; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1953. President: Carl Willey, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary: Lesli Wilson, Chaplain: Scott Wilson, Chief: Debbie Hayward. Delegates: Carl Willey, Dickie Dawson, Virginia Lee Todd. Alternates: None listed 2017.
LANDEOVER HILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 2357, 6801 Webster Street, Hyattsville, MD 20784; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-883-7730; E-mail: jroberts@co.pg.md.us Website: eng30ine.com; Organized: 1945; Chartered: 1945; Joined MSFA: 1947. President: Dawn M. Rowe, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary/Treasurer: Nancy L. Roberts, Chaplain, Chief: John R. Roberts. Delegates: John R. Roberts, Dawn M. Rowe, Nancy L. Roberts. Alternates: Christopher M. Saputo, Keith A. Mitchell.

LANSDOWNE VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION #1, INC. – PO Box 7374, 140 Lavere Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21227; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-1472; E-mail: cao360@bcvfa.org Website www.lansdownevfd.com; Organized: 1902. President: Michael Sparks, Vice President: John Purkey, Secretary: Britni Sparks, Treasurer: William Kerns, Chaplain: Kristi Kunkel, Chief: Michael Kratochvil. Delegates: Larry Riley, Doug Brinkley, Donald Riley III, Edward Lindsay, Bernard Smith. Alternates: Joe McDevitt, Wendy Bonnell, Marty Biddle.

LAUREL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT #1, INC. – PO Box 699, 7411 Cherry Lane, Laurel, MD 20725; Prince George's County; Telephone: 301-776-3600, Fax: 301-776-2026; E-mail: chief@laurelvfd.org Website www.laurelvfd.org; Organized: 1902; Chartered: 1902; Joined MSFA: 1952. President: Victor Whipple, Vice President: Robert Grant, Secretary: Mike Sellner, Treasurer: Rosa Maher, Chaplain: Hubert Litchfield, Chief: DJ Hull. Delegates: Joseph Robison, Victor Whipple, Robert Grant, DJ Hull. Alternates: Craig Moe, Rosa Maher, Tommy Scaggs, Brian Cavanaugh.

LAUREL VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 1278, 14910 Bowie Road, Laurel, MD 20708; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-604-5055, Fax: 301-725-0654; E-mail: barry.johnson@laurelrescue.org Website: laurelrescue.org; Organized: 1952; Chartered: 1952; Joined MSFA: 1978. President: Michael Skidmore, Vice President: Richard Sien, Secretary: Richard Walker, Treasurer: Pam Docarmo, Chaplain: Rajah Rose, Chief: Michael Haggerty. Delegates: John Nicholson. Alternates: None Listed.

LAYTONSVILLE DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 21400 Laytonsville Road, Laytonsville, MD 20882; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-948-1677; Fax: 301-948-8227 E-mail: Gregory.albrecht@montgomerycountymd.gov, Website: ldvfd.org; Organized: 1952; Chartered: 1952; Joined MSFA: 1958. President: Gregory Albrecht, Vice President: Michael Evans, Secretary: Mike Russ, Treasurer: Murphy Richards, Chaplain: Clark Beall, Chief: Geoff Burns. Delegates: Linda Albrecht, Robert Blaser. Alternates: None listed.


LEONARDTOWN VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 299, 22855 Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown, MD 20650; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-475-8509, Fax: 301-475-1825; E-mail: president@lvrs.org, Website: lvrs.org; Organized: 1975; Chartered: 1975, Joined MSFA: 19. President: Peter Woodburn, Vice President: David Wright, Secretary: Mary Cox, Treasurer: Jaime Weber, Chaplain: Michael Overs, Chief: Mary Ellen Borland. Delegates: Mary Della Trossbach, David Wright, Amy Smith, Jaime Weber, Shirley Copado. Alternates: Mary Ellen Borland, Mary Cox, Lisa Cooksey, Chris Risso, Megan Anderson.

LEVEL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 3633 Level Village Road, Havre De Grace, MD 21078; Harford County; Telephone: 410-638-3826; Fax: ; E-mail: kelopes@comcast.net. Website: levelvfc.com; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1954. President: Sandra M Gallion, Vice President: Charles D. Burkins, Secretary: Karen E. Lopes, Treasurer: Sharon Worthington, Chaplain: Diana Caudill, Chief: Nolan Gallion Jr. Delegates: Sandra Gallion, Charles Burkins, Nolan Gallion Jr, Jeff Standiford, Mike Deckard. Alternates: Pat Ely, Herman Schwheers.

LEWISTOWN DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 11101 Hessong Bridge Road, Frederick, MD 21701; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-898-9988; Website: lewistownfire.org; Organized: 1970. President: Donald R. Stull Sr; Vice President: Charles Jenkins; Secretary: Karen Stull; Treasurer: Lena Stull; Chaplain: Scott Martin, Chief: Wayne Watcher. Delegates: Vicky Martin, Donald Martin, Wayne Stull, Steve Stull. Alternates: None listed 2017.

LEXINGTON PARK VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 339, 21685 FDR Boulevard, Lexington Park, MD 20653; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-862-3331; Email: president@lpvrs.org Website: lvpr.org; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1986. President: Pat Davidson, Vice President: Anthony Guzman, Secretary: David Miedzinski, Treasurer: James Dension, Chaplain, Chief: Shawn Davidson. Delegates: Linda S. Miedzinski. Alternates:

LIBERTY ROAD VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 10010 Liberty Road, Randallstown, MD 21133; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-0651; Website: lvfc.org; Organized: 1947; Chartered: 1947. President: Mirla Martin, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary: Terrie Bixler, Treasurer: Lee Stern, Chaplain, Chief: Bernard Habershaham. Delegates: Mirla Martin, Stephen Miller, Krista Remmers, Eric Remmers,
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference


LIBERTYTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 33, 12027 South Street, Libertytown, MD 21762; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-888-9193; E-mail: daniel.p.more@gmail.com; Organized: 1964; Chartered: 1964; Joined MSFA: 1967. President: Michael Naill, Vice President: Mark Vassallo, Secretary: Britney Lowman, Treasurer: Richard Hemp, Chaplain, Chief: Chip Stevens. Delegates: Chip Jewell, Mike Naill, John Lowman, Arthur Pruitt, Joan Pruitt. Alternates: Doug Welsh, Marty Fuller, Thomas Fuller, Nick Rippeon, Ken Rippeon.

LINEBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 4224 Main Street, Lineboro, MD 21102-3125; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-374-2197, Fax: 410-374-9254; Website: lineborovfd.org; Organized: 1915; Chartered: 1919; Joined MSFA: 1915. President: Vacant, Vice President: Joseph Lankford, Secretary: Patricia Alexander, Treasurer: Bette Sheperd, Chaplain: Dave Dickmyer, Chief: Kevin Kidd. Delegates: Donald Fair, Marianne Warehime, Kevin Kidd, Linda Saurusaits, Marianne Warehime, David Green. Alternates: Donald Fair, E. Tim Warehime, Charles Myers, Michael Buckley.


LISBON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 40, 1330 Woodbine Road, Lisbon, MD 21765; Howard County; Telephone: 410-489-4646; Fax: 410-489-7632; E-mail: dws8364@gmail.com; Website: lisbonvfco.org; Organized: 1944; Chartered: 1946; Joined MSFA: 1944. President: Curtis Lowrey, Vice President: Donald Bowman, Secretary: Christopher Bowman, Treasurer: Simone Rockstroh, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Carey McIntosh. Delegates: Carey McIntosh, Tommy Esworthy, Eric McIntosh, Dean Smith, Paul Atwill. Alternates: None listed 2017.

LLOYDS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 1499, 1616 Hudson Road, Cambridge, MD 21613; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-228-6235; E-mail: mpepper@pepupinc.com; Organized: 1958; Chartered: 1958; Joined MSFA: 1963. President: Randy Travers, Vice President: Rick Travers Jr., Secretary: Linda Horsman, Treasurer: Melissa Meredith, Chaplain, Chief: Martin Pepper. Delegates: Linda Horsman, Randy Travers, Adam Pritchett. Alternates: Robert Travers, Tim McCarter.

LONG GREEN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 4009, 4506 Long Green Road, Glen Arm, MD 21057; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-592-8337, Fax: 410-592-5776; Website: lgvfc.com; Organized: 1930; Chartered: 1930; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Skip Hayes, Vice President: Richard Eyre, Secretary: Anna Clarkson, Treasurer: Amber Butcher, Chaplain, Chief: Ronald Harrison. Delegates: Richard Eyre,
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Joel McCrea, Greg Stolins, Amy Eyre, Ron Harrison. Alternates: Sharon Eyre, Bill Delcher, Katie Eyre, Ken Monks, Matt Tirocchi.

LONGMEADOW VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY – 19307 Longmeadow Road, (13524 Marsh Pike) Hagerstown, MD 21742; Telephone: 301-797-5504; Email: fireco27@aol.com. Website: www.longmeadowfire.com; Organized: 1970. President: Brian Pile, Vice President: John Latimer IV, Secretary: Terry Martin, Treasurer: Pat McCleary, Chaplain: Carol Mazzola, Chief: Jason Eckstine. Delegates: Joe Kroboth, Jason Eckstine, Carol Mazzola, Emily Burkett. Alternates: None listed 2017.


LUKE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 236, Westernport, MD 21562; 300 Grant Street, Luke, MD 21540; Allegany County; Telephone 301-359-3311x3240; Email: tddayton@pennwoods.net; Organized: 1922; Chartered: 1926; Joined MSFA: 1926. President: William Squires, Vice President: Danny Bever, Secretary: Jim Jenkins, Treasurer: Ron Files, Chaplain: Philip Whetstone, Chief: Timothy Dayton. Delegates: Wayne Rounds, Dan Bever, Jim Jenkins, Justin White, Phil Whetstone. Alternates: None Listed.

**LUTHERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 232, 1609 Bellona Avenue, Lutherville, MD 21094; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-7778, Fax: 410-252-3099; E-mail: jbkakel@comcast.net; Website: lvfc.com; Organized: 1909; Chartered: 1909. President: Michael L. Huber, Vice President: James Cahn, Secretary: Janet M. O’Rourke, Treasurer: Josh Kakel; Chaplain, Chief: Capt. Mark Goodwin. Delegates: Michael L. Huber, Mark Goodwin, James Cahn, Joseph Murphy Sr, Steve Weatherby Josh Kakel. Alternates: James Doran, Janet O’Rourke, Benjamin Donovan, Josh Kakel.


MANCHESTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 416, 3209 Main Street, Manchester, MD 21102; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-239-2286; Organized: 1885; Chartered: 1885; Joined MSFA: 1885. President: Richard Dell, Vice President: Elwin Wagner, Secretary: Ralph Dull, Treasurer: Corrie Sander, Chaplain: Vacant; Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Ralph Dull, Richard Dell, Elwin Wagner, Gary Eppley, Lauren Pirschalski. Alternates: Alviun Renoll, Malcolm Helwig.
MARDELA SPRINGS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 299, 100 Station Street, Mardela Springs, MD 21837; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-749-5997 Fax: 443-944-0549; Organized: 1927; Chartered: 1927; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Jackie Maddox Jr, Vice President: James Adkins, Secretary: Bryan Hooper Sr, Treasurer: David Whitelock, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Harold Lee McFarlane. Delegates: None Listed 2017. Alternates: None Listed.

MARION VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 143, 28390 Chrisfield Marion Station Road, Marion Station, MD 21838; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-623-3791; Organized: 1930; Chartered: 1937; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Robert Purnell III, Vice President: Mark Wigglesworth, Secretary: David Evans Jr, Treasurer: Lee Brumley, Chaplain: Henry Ward Jr., Chief: David Evans Sr. Delegates: Donald L. Howard. Alternates: None Listed.

MARLBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 195, 14815 Pratt Street, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-952-0938; Fax: 301-952-8942; E-mail: mvfdc20@aol.com Website: marlborofire.com; Organized: 1925; Chartered: 1928; Joined MSFA: 1931. President: Donald Strine, Vice President: Heather Bivens, Secretary: Edith Rippy, Treasurer: Eric Van Tassel, Chaplain: Kevin Beavers, Chief: Robert Beavers. Delegates: Donald Strine, Jay Tucker, Jeff Wyvill, Eric Vantassel, Heather Bivens. Alternates: Edith Rippy, James Atchison, Chris Hunter, Robert Beavers, Kevin Hodges.


MARYLAND CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 3498 Fort Meade Road, Laurel, MD 20724; Anne Arundel County; Telephone 301-222-8227; Website: mcvfd.org; Organized: 1969; Chartered: 1970. President: Brian Strickland, Vice President: Joshua Strenger, Secretary: Casey Green, Treasurer: David Tibbets, Chaplain, Chief: Rayburn Smallwood. Delegates: Joshua Strenger, Heather Bosson, Marylouise Snidow, Casey Green, Nello Burrian Jr. Alternates: None listed 2017.

MARYLAND LINE FIRE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION – PO Box 70, 21631 York Road, Maryland Line, MD 21105; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-1932; Fax: 410-343-0906; E-mail: co450@bcvfa.org; Website: marylandlinefire.com; Organized: 1943; Chartered: 1943. Joined MSFA: 1945. President: Robert Pearce, Vice President: Edward Pearce, Secretary: Carolyn Rosier, Treasurer: Kelly Decker, Chaplain: Gladys Pearce, Chief: Steve Pearce. Delegates: Edward Pearce, Steve Pearce, Gladys Pearce. Alternates: None listed 2017.
MAUGAN'SVILLE GOODWILL VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 716, 13730 Maugansville Road, Maugansville, MD 21767-0716; Washington County; Telephone: 301-739-8515; Fax: 301-739-8516; E-mail: mgvfc@myactv.net Website: mgvfc.com. Organized: 1928; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Phil Ridenour, Vice President: Stephanie Garrett, Secretary: Jill Webb, Treasurer: Heather Ridenour, Chaplain: Leonard Horst, Chief: Brandon Grinder. Delegates: Floyd Aldridgem, Kelly Aldridge, Amber Aldridge. Alternates: Robert Resh, Lacey Cochran, Phillip Ridenour.

MECHANICSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 37, 28165 Hills Club Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-884-4709 Fax: 301-884-4139; E-mail president@mvfd.com Website www.mvfd.com; Organized: 1934; Chartered: 1937; Joined MSFA: 1937. President: John Montgomery, Vice President: Dennis Bellevou, Secretary: Daren Kleinsorgen, Treasurer: Tommy Kidwell, Chaplain, Theresa Palmer, Chief: Mark Trowbridge. Delegates: William Wilkerson, John Montgomery, William Smith, Paul Colonna, Scott Bellevou. Alternates: Andy McWilliams, Harold Anderson, Larry Greenwell, Theresa Palmer, Bobby Johnson.

MECHANICSVILLE VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 15, 28120 Old Flora Corner Road, Mechanicsville, MD 20659; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-884-2900; Website: www.co29.org; Organized: 1959; Chartered: 1959; Joined MSFA 1990. President: Diane M. Mangel, Vice President: Kathy Suite, Secretary: Diane Dangel, Treasurer: Linda Talton, Chief: Jessica Vallandingham. Delegates: None listed.


MIDDLEBOROUGH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 16634, 1913 Middleborough Road, Essex, MD 21221; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-686-0214; E-mail: cao230@bcvf0326a.org; Website: www.23fire.com; Organized: 1943; Chartered: 1943; Joined MSFA: 1946. President: Mark Drawbaugh, Vice President: William Hill, Secretary: Robin Dranbaugh, Treasurer: Robert Smith, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Mark Drawbaugh. Delegates: William Hill, Ed Sittlen, Mark Drawbaugh, Robin Drawbaugh, Michael Hill. Alternates: None Listed.

MIDDLETOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY – PO Box 322, 13 South Church Street, Middletown, MD 21769; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-371-6907, Fax: 301-371-8986; E-mail: president@middletownvfd.org Website: middletownvfd.org; Organized: 1895; Chartered: 1935; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Richard Keyser Sr, Vice President: Christopher Ayers, Secretary: Kimberly Kefauver, Treasurer: Patricia Hansen, Chaplain: Alan Cahoe, Chief: Brenton Harne. Delegates: Steve Nalborczyk Jr., Janie E. Nalborczyk, Wayne Smith, Debbie Smith, Brenda Cobletz. Alternates: None Listed.
MIDLAND FIRE COMPANY #1, INC. – 14823 Broadway Avenue, Midland, MD 21532; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-463-6631 Fax: 301-463-6631; Organized: 1900. President: James Reno, Vice President: John Cullen, Secretary: Nicole O’Rourke, Treasurer: Craig Alexander, Chaplain: Robert Blair, Chief: Michael McGowan. Delegates: Robert Knippleburg, Corey Gatian, Jesse James, J R Monahan, Jeremy Shirk. Alternates: Andy Cesnick, Robert Blair, Michelle McGowan, Dan Monahan, Mary Beeman.

MORNINGSIDE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 6200 Suitland Road, Morningside, MD 20746; Prince George's County; Telephone: 301-736-4343; E-mail: mvfd27@digizen.net Website: morningsidevfd27.com. Organized: 1944, Joined MSFA: 1947. President: Thomas Groom, Vice President: Mark Hendley, Secretary: Lisa McKlveen, Treasurer: Jamie Hansen, Chaplain, Les Hedrick, Chief: Michael Poetker. Delegates: Thomas A. Groom, Mike Poetker, Mike Stout, Mark Hendley, Charlie Phillips. Alternates: David Riley, Seth Astwood.


MOUNT SAVAGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 533, 15701 Iron Rail Street, Mount Savage, MD 21545; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-264-3333, Fax: 301-264-3145; E-mail: co15@gmail.com; Organized: 1896; Chartered: 1896; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: Chad Robison, Vice President: Patti Carter, Secretary: Kay Tharp, Treasurer: Paula Winebrenner, Chaplain: Lloyd Wade, Chief: Rick Robison. Delegates: Gerard McGann, Lloyd Wade, Kay Wade, Mary Kay Leighty, Wayne Leighty. Alternates: Lacey Robison, Chad Robison, Rick Robinson.

MOUNT VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 27440 Mt. Vernon Road, Princess Anne, MD 21853; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-651-2100; Website: mtvernonvfc@live.com; Organized:1982; Chartered: 1982; Joined MSFA:1982. President: Dallas Tatum, Vice President: Joe Webster, Secretary: Vacant, Treasurer: Cindi Pietroski, Chaplain, Chief: Kevin Jones. Delegates: Emmons K. Horner, Kevin Jones, John Barnette, Bobby Harris. Alternates: None listed 2017.
MYERSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 95, 301 Main Street, Myersville, MD 21773; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-293-9817, Fax: 301-293-9828; Email: rebeccajustin*@yahoo.com Website: myersvillevfc.com; Organized: 1925; Chartered: 1925; Joined MSFA: 1939. President: Carol Linton, Vice President: Justin Clipp, Secretary: Linda Frushour, Treasurer: Ellen Crutchley, Chaplain: Glenn Lantz, Chief: Wayne Neal. Delegates: Carol Linton, Katelyn Smith, Timothy Linton. Alternates: Linda Frushour, Travis Routzhan.


NECK DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 954 Cooks Point Road, Cambridge, MD 21613; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-228-2434; E-mail: neckdistrictvfc@gmail.com; Organized: 1951; Chartered: 1951; Joined MSFA: 1953. President: Michael McKinley, Vice President: Lisa Howard, Secretary: Sonya Parham, Treasurer: Sandy Russum, Chief: Dennis Russum. Delegates: None listed 2017. Alternates: None Listed.

NEW MARKET DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 925, 76 W. Main Street, New Market, MD 21774; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-600-9150 Email: fpdep1@xecu.net; Organized: 1954; Chartered: 1955; Joined MSFA: 1957. President: Paul Hackey, Vice President: Gary Fossett, Secretary: Jessica Decker, Treasurer: Matthew Thews, Chaplain: Gary White, Chief: Benjamin Nalborczyk. Delegates: Benjamin Nalborczyk, Paul Hackey, Matthew Thews, Kelly Nalborczyk, James Betts. Alternates: none listed 2017.

NEW MIDWAY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 67, 12019 Woodsboro Pike, New Midway, MD 21775; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-898-0543; E-mail: emtb01nmvfc9@aol.com; Organized: 1926; Chartered: 1926. President: George Nicholson Jr, Vice President: Nancy Keller, Secretary: Judy Smith, Treasurer: Joseph C. Lenhart, Chaplain: Monroe Main, Chief: Darrell Johnson. Delegates: Nancy Keller. Alternates: None listed 2017.

NEW WINDSOR FIRE AND HOSE COMPANY #1, INC. – PO Box 247, 101 High Street, New Windsor, MD 21776; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-635-6373 Fax: 410-848-6711; Email: info@nwfd10.org Website: nwfd10.org; Organized: 1948; Chartered: 1948. President: Rick Fritz, Vice President: Dan Wolfe, Secretary: Sarah Lowman, Treasurer: Jack Coe, Chaplain: Neal Roop, Chief: Tom Coe. Delegates: Rick Fritz, Richard Warrenfeltz, Felix Hill, Dianne Gunderson, Tom Coe. Alternates: Dave Coe, Brad Kreimer, Byron Welker.
NEWARK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 82, 8338 Newark Road, Newark, MD 21841; Worcester County; Telephone: 410-632-3980, Fax.; E-mail: jbarbely@aol.com; Organized: 1929. President: James C. Barbely, Vice President: Mike Donaway, Secretary: Jackie Carey, Treasurer: James Scott, Chaplain: Rev K C, Chief: Steve Orth. Delegates: None listed 2017. Alternates: None Listed.

NEWBURG VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD AND FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 9, 12265 Rock Point Road, Newburg, MD 20664; Charles County; Telephone: 301-259-2105, Fax: 301-259-4059; Website: nvsrd.org; Organized: 1988; Chartered: 1989; Joined MSFA. President: Stephan Johnson, Vice President: Charles Thomas, Secretary: Benita Bivins, Treasurer: Terry Langley, Chaplain: Pastor James Royster, Chief: Andrew Spalding. Delegates: Andrew Spalding, Ronnie Wright, Daniel Butler, George Edelen, Lis Yates. Alternates: Mike Ivie, Steve Shifflett, George Hayden.


NORTH BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 86, 8534 Bayside Road, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20714; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-257-6564, Fax.; E-mail: nbvfdpresident@gmail.com; Website: northbeachfire.com; Organized: 1926; Chartered: 1947; Joined MSFA: 1927. President: Robert E. Allen, Vice President: Matt Weber, Secretary: Debbie Whittington, Treasurer: Eric Brumley, Chaplain: Pastor Kizer, Chief: Joey Keller. Delegates: Jimmy Dickerson, Robert E. Allen, Joey Keller, Matt Weber, William Gee. Alternates: Justin Kivett, Mark Tyrrell, Dustin Bruce.

NORTH EAST FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 210 South Mauldin Avenue, North East, MD 21901; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-287-8222, Fax.; Email:admin@nefc4.com Website: nefc4.com; Organized: 1921; Chartered: 1922. President: Patricia Deamond, Vice President: William Divirgilio, Secretary: Valerie Combs, Treasurer: Dollie Isaacs, Chaplain: Phil Meekins, Chief: David Penhollow. Delegates: Howard Flower, John Hamilton IV, Patricia Deamond, Charles Stewart, Monica Penhollow. Alternates: Jayne Hamilton, George Hollenbaugh.

NORTH POINT EDGEMERE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 7500 North Point Road, Baltimore, MD 21219; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-7554; E-mail: palcher687@aol.com; Website: npevfd26.org; Organized: 1936; Chartered: 1936; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Albert L. Palcher Jr, Vice President: Shane Davies, Secretary: Patricia Pace, Treasurer: Albert L. Palcher Jr, Chaplain: James Caris, Chief: Matthew Paul. Delegates: James Harvey, Shane Davies, David Merritt, Jonathan Tarburton, Albert Palcher. Alternates: James Riegel Sr.
NORTHERN GARRETT COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 293, 124 Miller Street, Grantsville, MD 21536; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-895-5520, Fax:; E-mail: ngcrs@verizon.net; Organized: 1972; Chartered: 1972. President: Terry Spear, Vice President: William Beavers III, Secretary: Nancy Savage, Treasurer: Harold Fike, Chaplain: Chief: Cody Wilt. Delegates: Terry Spear, Michael Simmons, Gary Teats. Alternates: None Listed.


OCEAN CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – P.O. Box 27, 1409 Philadelphia Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842; Worcester County; Telephone: 410-289-4346, Fax: 410-289-8421; E-mail: robertboduke@hotmail.com; Website: www.ocvfc.com; Organized: 1905; Chartered: 1926. President: James Jester, Vice President: Sean Goggin, Secretary: Sean Donovan, TreasurerConner Braniff, Chaplain: Phillip Turk, Chief: David Cropper. Delegates: Roger Steger Sr, Reggie Bell, J. Paul Adkins, Charles Bunting, Skip Carey. Alternates: Jim Smith, David Coleman, Joey Lessman,Jerry Priestley, Moe Cropper.


ODENTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 1425 Annapolis Road, Odenton, MD 21113; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-674-4444 Fax: 410-672-0758; Email joinovfc@verizon.net, Website: ovfc28.org; Organized: 1931; Chartered: 1931; Joined MSFA: 1934. President: David Lewis, Vice President: Wylie L. Donaldson, Secretary: Mike Davis, Treasurer: Pat Rose, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Paul A. Gunshol. Delegates: David W. Lewis, Wylie L. Donaldson, Charles Rogers, Robert Rose, Wilbert Lewis. Alternates: Michael C. Davis, Paul Gunshol, Craig Harman, Mark Telfer, Tracey Berry.

OLDTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 83, 18712 Oldtown Road SE, Oldtown, MD 21555-0083; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-478-5151, Fax:301-478-5400; E-mail: co13@allconet.org Website: www.fire-ems.net/firedept/view/oldtownmd. President: Robert Piper, Vice President: Kevin Bender, Secretary: Cindy Crabtree, Treasurer: Dennis Mallery, Chaplain: Rodger Long, Chief: Ken Wolford Jr. Delegates: Robert Piper, Dennis Mallery, Rodger Long, Justin Hetrick, Ken Wolford. Alternates: Kevin Bender, Cindy Crabtree, Royce Crabtree, Mark Crabtree, Issac Haines.
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION 125TH ANNUAL CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE

ORCHARD BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 654, 7549 Solley Road, Pasadena, MD 21123; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-255-1505, Fax: 410-437-3496; E-Mail: orchardbeach11@yahoo.com Website: orchidbeachvfd.com; Organized: 1930; Chartered: 1930; Joined MSFA: 1932. President: Walter Snyder, Vice President: Mike Maurer, Secretary: Donna Bushong, Treasurer: Wayne Snyder, Chaplain: William Rambo, Chief: James Evans. Delegates: Walter Snyder, Donna Bushong, James Evans, Wayne Snyder, Mike Maurer. Alternates: None listed 2017.

ORLEANS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 12210 Orleans Road, NE, Little Orleans, MD 21766; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-478-2229 Fax: 301-478-3699; E-mail: orleans43@hotmail.com . President: Janet M. Elbin, Vice President: Robert Littleton, Secretary: Pamela Pyles, Treasurer: Judith Sowers, Chaplain: Robert Littleton, Chief: John Clingerman. Delegates: Michael Yonker, Randy Pyles, Donna Littleton, Joe Marshall. Alternates: Danny Pyles, Shannon Elbin, Alex Sebarn.


OXFORD FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 300 Oxford Road, Oxford, MD 21654; Talbot County; Telephone: 410-226-5110; E-mail: henryshale@gmail.com Website: www.oxfordfireco.org; Chartered: 1926. President: John Hanes, Vice President: Tim Kearns, Secretary: Ashlea Foxwell, Treasurer: Connie Greenhawk, Chaplain: Rev. Kevin Cross, Chief: Jon Fox. Delegates: Ashley Foxwell, Richard Smith, Steve Mroczek, Graham Norbury, Paus Callahan. Alternates: None listed 2017.

OXON HILL VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 259, 7600 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, MD 20750; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-369-2112, Fax: 301-839-0925; Organized: 1929; Chartered: 1930; Joined: MSFA: 1932. President: Mark Adkins Sr, Vice President: Mark Parks, Secretary: Napoleon Epps Sr, Treasurer: David D. Jones Sr, Chaplain: Kenneth Burke, Chief: Darryl E. Lowery Sr. Delegates: Mark Adkins Sr, Darryl Lowery Sr, Napoleon Epps Sr, David Jones Sr, Mark Parks. Alternates: James Bright, Patrick Wise, Linwood Armstrong, Dan Smith, Linwood Armstrong.

PARSONSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 208, 33030 Old Ocean City Road, Parsonsburg, MD 21849; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-742-2408, Fax: 443-260-0725; E-mail: sewmedic@yahoo.com Website: parsonsburgfire.com; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: Jeff Willis, Vice President: Michael Parsons, Secretary: Chelsea Massey, Treasurer: Carol Fisher, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Eric Tyler. Delegates: Justin Shockley, Ricky McCoy, Eric Tyler, Patrick Naumann, Jeff Willis. Alternates: Morris Arvey, Michael Parsons, Steve Jones, Chelsea Massey, Jim Brown.

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PIKESVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 40 East Sudbrook Lane, Pikesville, MD 21208; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-486-9834, Fax: 410-602-8583; E-mail: cao320@bcvfa.org Website: pvfd32.org; Organized: 1897. President: John W. Berryman Jr, Vice President: Samuel Dansicker, Secretary: John Pelton, Treasurer: Phil Goldsmith, Chaplain: Kathleen M. Resnick, Chief: Scott Goldstein. Delegates: Stuart W. Carter, Kathleen Resnick, John Pelton, Aaron Robinson, Richard Udell. Alternates: Glenn Resnick, Roger N. Powell, Alan Roody, Dennis Genzel, Nadav Korman.

PIONEER HOOK & LADDER COMPANY TRUCK 1, INC. – PO Box 2799, 21West Franklin Street, Hagerstown, MD 21741; Washington County; Telephone: 301-733-3338, Fax: 301-733-3368; Organized: 1872; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Jared Hebb, Vice President: James Burdett, Secretary: Frances Marshall, Treasurer: Steve Ashby, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: None listed 2017. Alternates: None Listed.

PITTSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 387, 7442Gumboro Road, Pittsville, MD 21850; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-835-2323, Fax: 410-835-2424; E-mail: wknap2@aol.com Website: pvfd.4t.com; Organized: 1929; Chartered: 1929; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Ronald Adkins, Vice President: Cathy Hall, Secretary: Gene Peavley, Treasurer: Jennifer Hammond, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: George Whited III. Delegates: Essel Ted Farlow Jr, Essel Tad. Farlow III, George Whited III, Roland Adkins, Mark Bratten. Alternates: George Whited Jr, Shawn Townsend, Steve Records.

PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 2030 South Pleasant Valley Road, Westminster, MD 21158; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-848-1977 Fax: 410-848-6008; E-mail: mgist@pleasantvalleyfire.org Website: pleasantvalleyfire.org; Organized: 1931; Chartered: 1931; Joined MSFA: 1934. President: Michael Stewart, Vice President: James Mora Sr, Secretary: Susan Mott, Treasurer: John Wagner, Chaplain: Donna Geiman, Chief: Forrest Shaw. Delegates: Richard Smith, John Wagner, James Mora Sr, Charlie Simpson, Michael Swartzbaugh. Alternates: None Listed.


POTOMAC HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 73 Glymont Road, Indian Head, MD 20640; Charles County; Telephone: 301-743-7700, Fax: 301-743-6814; Website: phvfd.com; Organized: 1950; Chartered: 1950; Joined MSFA: 1952. President: Jeff Clements, Vice President: Matthew Rogers, Secretary: Lisa Berry, Treasurer: Steve Rison, Chaplain: Charles W. Wills, Chief: Justin Lucas. Delegates: Jeff Clements, C. Dan Carpenter III, Charles W. Wills, Robert Collins, Steve Winkler. Alternates: Kevin Grinder.

POTOMAC VALLEY FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 2202 Dargan School Road, Sharpsburg, MD 21782; Washington County; Telephone: 301-432-2130; E-mail: ac11@myactv.net; Website: potomacvalleyfire.com; Organized: 1966; Chartered: 1967; Joined MSFA: 1975. President: Adam McMillen, Vice President: Amber Hewett, Secretary: Lacrysta Payne, Treasurer: Terry Rohrer, Chaplain: Henry Ingram, Chief: Eric L. Gray. Delegates: Clarence Webber, Henry Ingram, Ronnie Gray, Roy Tarmon, Nancy Tarmon. Alternates: Jeff Martin, Arnold Martin, Roger Otzleberger Jr, Donald Warfield, Charles Payne.

POWELLVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 5085 Powellville Road, Pittsville, MD 21850; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-835-8181; Fax: 410-835-2059; E-mail: cward@powellvillefire.com; Website: www.powellvillefire.com; Organized: 1962; Chartered: 1962; Joined MSFA: 1965. President: Chuck Ward, Vice President: John Hilton, Secretary: Christina Hilton, Treasurer: Kevin White, Chaplain: Charles Ward, Chief: Willis Disharoon. Delegates: Chuck Ward, John Hilton, John Tyler. Alternates: None listed.

PRESTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 3680 Choptank Road, Preston, MD 21655; Caroline County; Telephone: 410-673-7874, Fax: 410-673-1138; Website: pvfc200.com; Organized: 1927. President: Richard Dukes, Vice President: Mike Bradley, Secretary: Andy Garvy, Treasurer: Lori Jeter Childers, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Bryan Miligan. Delegates: Richie Childers. Alternates: None Listed.

PRINCE FREDERICK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 976, 450 Solomons Island Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-535-9875 Fax: 410-414-3655; Email: pfvfdjwo@verizon.net; Website: pfvfd.org; Organized: 1940; Chartered: 1942. President: Patrick F. Hassler, Vice President: James Cox, Secretary: Vicki Delehanty, Treasurer: Alan Billings, Chaplain: Michael Bowen, Chief: Fred Holzberger IV. Delegates: Dwight Armiger, Michael Bowen, James Cox, Thomas Scott III, Nancy Scott. Alternates: Jack Boswell, Tim Delehanty, Joe Reamy, Patrick F. Hassler, Fred W. Holzberger IV.

PRINCE FREDERICK VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 346, 755 Solomons Island Road, Prince Frederick, MD 20678; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-535-9836; Email:jwelpf@hotmail.com; Website: pfvrs.org; Organized: 1965; Chartered: 1968; Joined MSFA: 1968. President: Bobby Francis, Vice President: Roland “Sonny” Brady, Secretary: Robin Ferrier, Treasurer: Robert Francis, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Stanis Inscoe. Delegates: Clarke Rawlings, Stanis Inscoe, Brenda Agamber, Lakeshe Estep. Alternates: None Listed.

PRINCESS ANNE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 11794 Somerset Avenue, Princess Anne, MD 21853; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-651-2144; E-mail: pavfc@verison.com; Organized: 1914; Joined MSFA: 1921; President:, Vice President:, Secretary:, Treasurer:, Chaplain:, Chief:. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED 2017

PROVIDENCE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 9702, 1416 Providence Road, Towson, MD 21284; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-828-9029; E-mail: joseph.henham@gmail.com, Website: 222pvfc29.org; Organized: 1947; Chartered: 1948; Joined MSFA: 1950. President: Bryan Wolbert, Vice President: Joe Conrad, Secretary: Susan Denning, Treasurer: Bennett Carroll, Chaplain: Jim Westervelt, Chief: Dean Denning. Delegates: Bryan Wolbert, Jeff Mims, Joe Conrad, Bennett Carroll, Susan Denning. Alternates: Dean Denning, Jack McClean, Phil Darr, Colin Campbell.

QUEEN ANNE-HILLSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 266, 13512 First Street, Queen Anne, MD 21657; Queen Anne’s County; Telephone: 410-364-5612; Website: qahvfc.com; Organized: 1945; Chartered: 1945; Joined MSFA: 1945. President: Philip Starkey Jr, Vice President: Scott Roe, Secretary: Dolly Starkey, Treasurer: Tom Difatta, Chaplain: Danny Lister. Delegates: Dolly Starkey, Philip Starkey Jr, David Chaires. Alternates: None Listed.

QUEENSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 118, 7110 Main Street, Queenstown, MD 21658; Queen Anne’s County; Telephone: 410-827-8377, Fax: 410-827-8926; Organized: 1934; Chartered: 1934; Joined MSFA: 1936. President: Franklin Russum, Vice President: Jeffrey Lewis, Secretary: Candy Miller, Treasurer: Franklin Russum, Chaplain: Rev Charles Osburger, Chief: Franklin. Delegates: James O. Lewis Jr, Lonnie Anthony.

RAWLINGS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 229, 18900 Volunteer Drive, Rawlings, MD 21557; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-729-8229; Email ronniecarr@hotmail.com; Organized: 1985; Chartered: 1985; Joined MSFA:1986. President: David T. Wilson, Vice President: R. Garth Nasser, Secretary: Cynthia Bray, Treasurer: Jeremy Athey, Chaplain: Wesley Foer, Chief: Ronald Carr III. NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED FOR 2017.

REESE AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. - 1745 Baltimore Boulevard, Westminster, MD 21157; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-848-7172; E-mail: reesecono9@ccpl.carr.org Website: reesevfc.org; Organized: 1948; Chartered: 1948; Joined MSFA: 1949. President: Matthew Stansbury, Vice President: Norman Schaeffer, Secretary: Barbara McComas, Treasurer: Marion Davidson Jr., Chaplain:
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Robert Alexander, Chief: Jimmy Love. Delegates: Norman Schaeffer, Matthew Stansbury, Michael Knight, Jerry Dayton, Marion JR Davidson. Alternates: None Listed

REISTERSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 108 Main Street, Reisterstown, MD 21136; Baltimore County; Telephone: 301-833-1370, Fax: 410-833-0258; Website rvfc.org; Organized: 1913; Joined MSFA: 1916. President: James Snyder, Vice President: William Franklin, Secretary: William Franklin, Treasurer: Mike Snyder, Chaplain: Brian Quick, Chief: Craig Hewitt. Delegates: Timothy Feeseer, James Snyder, William Franklin, Craig Hewitt, Jeff Hale. Alternates: Ted Schultz, John Wright, Fred Linker, Brian Quick.


RIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.– PO Box 520, 13820 Point Lookout Road, Ridge, MD 20680-0520; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-872-5571, Fax: 301-872-0632; E-mail: secretary@ridgevfd.org; Website: ridgevfd.org; Organized: 1948; Chartered: 1949; Joined MSFA: 1950. President: Joseph Bradburn Jr, Vice President: Ronald Hafner, Secretary: Carley Dodge, Treasurer: John E. Wathen Jr, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Ray Mercure. Delegates: Joseph Bradburn Jr, Francis Raley, Ray Mercure, Robert, John E. Wathen Jr. Alternates: Paul Balta Jr, Bruce Raley, Philip Ridgell, George Gatton, Ronald Hafner.


RIDGELY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 425, 101 Sunset Blvd, Ridgely, MD 21660; Caroline County; Telephone: 410-634-2424 Fax: 410-634-2798; E-mail: tjgunderson10@comcast.net Website: rvfd400.com; Organized: 1905; Chartered: 1928. President: Timothy J. Gunderson, Vice President: Lou Hayes, Secretary: Tammy Taylor, Treasurer: Bryan Ebling, Chaplain, Chief Eric Kellner.

RITCHIE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 1415 Ritchie Marlboro Road, Capitol Heights, MD 20743; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-336-3731, Fax: 301-499-5916; E-mail: info@ritchie37.com Website: ritchie37.com; Organized: 1964; Chartered: 1966; Joined MSFA: 1967. President: Steve Wilson, Vice President: Nick Ragucci, Secretary: Ralph Downs, Treasurer: Steve Bernard, Chaplain, Chief: Chris Wilson. Delegates: Larry Lee, Steve Wilson, Chris Wilson, Steve Wilson, William Cunnungham Sr, William Cunnungham Jr. Alternates: Steve Bernard, Nick Ragucci.

RIVA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - PO Box 602, 3123 Riva Road, Riva, MD 21140; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-956-1299; Organized: 1940; Chartered: 1940; Joined MSFA: 1947. President: John H. Fluharty Jr, Vice President, Secretary: Vacant, Treasurer: David E. Carr, Chaplain, Chief. Delegates: John Fluharty, David E. Carr. Alternates: None listed 2017.

RIVERDALE HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 6101 Roanoke Avenue, Riverdale, MD 20737; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-883-7713; Email: info@rhvfd.org; Website: rhvfd13.org; Organized: 1925; Chartered: 1925; Joined MSFA: 1926. President: Robert Goninan, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary: Shawntel Collins, Treasurer: Sarah Dofflemyer, Chaplain, Chief: Aldo Zambrana. Delegates: Robert Goninan, Aldo Zambrana, Shawntel Collins, Todd Reedy, Sarah Dofflemyer. Alternates: Shariff Thomas, Brian Clements, Nathan Belle.

RIVERDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 4714 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-927-0356; E-mail: chief7b@gmail.com Web Site: www.riverdalevfd.org. Organized 1923, Chartered: 1927, Joined MSFA 1923;Delegates: Alternates: No Credentials were submitted for 2017

RIVIERA BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 301, 8506 Fort Smallwood Road, Pasadena, MD 21122; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-255-1314; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1932. President: Jason Gallo, Vice President: Todd Sink, Secretary: Chelsea Davey, Treasurer: Amy Kiser, Chaplain: William Zamostny, Chief: George Smith Sr. Delegates: Jay Shipley, David Rictor, Russel Schlick, Jim McKenna, Tim Johnson Sr. Alternates: Diane McKenna.


ROCKVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 1547, 380 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20849; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-424-0310, Fax: 301-294-4721; E-mail: president@rvfd.org Website: www.rvfd.org; Organized: 1921; Chartered: 1921. President: Eric N. Bernard, Vice President: Mathew Frank, Secretary: Russell W. Dawson, Treasurer: Andrea Lazar, Chaplain: Father Valentine Keavney, Chief: Scott E. Emmons. Delegates: Eric N. Bernard, Scott E. Emmons, Christopher Hinde, Tom Kavanagh, Mathew Frank. Alternates: Jack Ferguson, Guy Poirier.


ROSEDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY. – PO Box 9661, 8037 Philadelphia Road, Rosedale, MD 21237; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-0519; Email: charles.leiss@capitalone.com Website: rosedalevfd.com; Organized: 1930; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Eileen Endryas, Vice President: Kate Shawler, Secretary: Michelle Harding, Treasurer: Chuck McJilton, Chaplain, Chief: Chuck Leiss. Delegates: Bill Pearson, Eric Endrayas, Eileen Endryas. Alternates: None listed 2017.


SALISBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION #1 – PO Box 3215, 1100 Beaglin Park Drive, Salisbury, MD 21802; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-548-3127; E-mail: folskeychuck@yahoo.com Website www.salisburyfd.com; Organized: 1986; Chartered: 1986; Joined MSFA: 1986. President: David Elliott, Vice President: Charles Foskey, Secretary: Justin Elliott, Treasurer: Eric Foskey, Chaplain: Terry Jones, Chief: Cory Polidore. Delegates: Justin L. Elliott, David Elliott, Eric Foskey, Cory Polidore, Rob Johnson. Alternates: Charles Foskey.

SANDY SPRING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 295, 17921 Brooke Road, Sandy Spring, MD 20860; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-774-7400, Fax:301-774-4821; E-mail: info@ssvfd.com Website: www.ssvfd.com; Organized: 1924; Chartered: 1925; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: Johnie Roth Jr, Vice President: Brendan Bonita, Secretary: Michael Valente, Treasurer: Mitch Dinowitz, Chaplain: Deacon Rory Crawford, Chief: Michael Kelley. Delegates: George Brown, Johnie Roth Jr, Michael Kelley, Brendan Bolita, Michael Valente. Alternates: John Lindner, Michael McTighe, Kevin Parker, Joseph Aceto.

SAVAGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 905, 8525 Lincoln Street, Savage, MD 20763; Howard County; Telephone: 410-313-8754, Fax: 410-313-8768; E-mail: goofman2320@yahoo.com; Organized: 1937; Chartered: 1937; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Michael Hitt, Vice President: Norman Wines, Secretary: Charisa Carkhuff, Treasurer: Alan Conway, Chaplain: Mary McNamee, Chief: Ronald Hunley. Delegates: Michael Hitt, Terry Thompson, Norman Wines, Ronald Hunley, Alan Grimes. Alternates: David Hunley, M Patrick Lepore, George Clayton, Kevin Larkins Sr, Jeff Hatton.


SECRETARY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 56, 115 Myrtle Street, Secretary, MD 21664; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-943-3545 Fax: 410-943-0330; E-mail: pfefferlenny@gmail.com; WebSite: www.secretaryvfc.com; Organized: 1937; Chartered: 1937; Joined: MSFA: 1938. President: Michael Larrimore, Vice

SEVENTH DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - PO Box 206, 21660 Colton Point Road, Avenue, MD 20609; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-769-3600, Fax: 301-769-3602; E-mail sdvd5@msn.com; Website: sdvd5.com; Organized: 1949; Chartered: 1949; Joined MSFA: 1951. President: John D. Nelson, Vice President: Michael R. Huseman, Secretary: Anthony Hammett, Treasurer: Mark Pettit, Chaplain: John Nelson Jr, Chief: John A. Nelson. Delegates: John D. Nelson, Michael R. Huseman, Anthony Hammett, John A. Nelson, Justen Hall. Alternates: None Listed.

SEVENTH DISTRICT VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – PO Box 7, 21530 Colton Point Road, Avenue, MD 20609; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-769-2287; Organized: 1960; Chartered: 1960; Joined MSFA: 1988. President: Donald Phetteplace, Vice President: Mathew Colliflower, Secretary: Amy Farr, Treasurer: Steve Lawrence, Chaplain: George Kennett, Chief: Hattie Norris. Delegates: Melissa Friess-Bailey, George Kennett, Joan Raley, Jennifer Huntington, Donald Phetteplace. Alternates: Richard Colliflower, Francis Gibson.

SHAFT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1, INC. - 19303 Shaft Road, SW., Frostburg, MD 21532; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-689-1535 Fax:301-687-0121; Email: co17@allconet.org; Organized: 1938; Chartered: 1938; Joined MSFA: 1939. See BORDEN SHAFT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1, INC.

SHARPSBURG AREA EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC. –110 ½ West Chapline Street, Sharpsburg, MD 21782; Washington County; Telephone 301-432-5348 Fax 301-432-6456; E-mail: lester.bussard@saems19.org; Website: saems.com; Organized: 1968; Chartered: 1968. President: Dianne Reid, Vice President: Harry Gossard, Secretary: Vacant, Treasurer: Mack Neikirk, Chaplain: Delancy Catlett, Chief: Pricilla Myers. Delegates: Robert Moncrief. Alternates: None Listed.

SHARPSBURG VOLUNTER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 297, 110 West Chapline Street, Sharpsburg, MD 21782; Washington County; Telephone: 301-432-6321, Fax: 301-432-5167; E-mail: brandenb@comcast.net; Website: sharpsburgfire.com; Organized: 1943; Chartered: 1944; Joined MSFA: 1944. President: Jay Brandenburg, Vice President: Daryl Benner, Secretary: Dolly Jones, Treasurer: Ron Delauney, Chaplain: Rev. Delancy Catlett, Chief: Chris Mullendore. Delegates: Harry E. Gossard, Jay Brandenburg, Allen James, Jay Morgan, Heather Gossard. Alternates: Dolly Jones, Henri Jones, Chris Mullendore, Daryl Benner.

SHARPTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 307, 402 Church Street, Sharptown, MD 21861; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-883-3131, Fax: 410-883-3043; E-mail: president@sharptown.net Website: www.sharptown.net;


**SILVER HILL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC.** – 3900 Old Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD 20746; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-899-3624, Fax 301-316-9149; E-mail silverhillvfd@comcast.net; Website: silverhillvfd.com; Organized: 1945; Chartered: 1948, Joined MSFA: 1949. President: Charles A. Diana, Vice President: Tyrone Harrington, Secretary: Jheri Gregory, Treasurer: Mike Alfieri, Chaplain, Chief: Matthew Fowler. Delegates: Charles A Diana, Matthew Fowler, Michael Alfieri, Diana M. Diana, Jeffery Kramer. Alternates: Wayne Higdon, Christopher Gregory, Jheri Gregory, Linda Talton, Ronnie Talton.

**SILVER SPRING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.** - 1145 Seminary Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-587-3400, Fax: 301-588-3548; Email: deana.o@montgomerycountymd.com; Website: www.silverspringvfd.org; Organized: 1915; Chartered: 1918; Joined MSFA: 1917. President: Claire Cramer, Vice President: Margaret Fowke, Secretary: Susan Myatt, Treasurer: Gerald Leener, Chaplain, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Harold Tarver, Margaret Fowke, Burton Brenner, George Peet. Alternates: None listed 2017.

**SINGERLY FIRE COMPANY** – PO Box 444, 300 Newark Avenue, Elkton, MD 21922-0444; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-398-2078, Fax: 410-620-0797. **SEE - WILLIAM M. SINGERLY STEAM FIRE ENGINE AND HOOK & LADDER COMPANY NO.1 OF ELKTON CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND, INC.**

**SMITHBURG COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.** – PO Box 32, 22 North Main Street, Smithsburg, MD 21783; Washington County; Telephone: 301-824-2889, Fax: 301-824-3880; E-mail: president@smithsburgvfc.org; Website: www.smithsburgvfc.org; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1933. President: Sam Keister, Vice President: Glenn Fishack Sr., Secretary: Barb Miller, Treasurer: Barry Gipp, Chaplain, Paster Julie Bigaman Chief: Dale Fishack Jr Delegates: Dale Fishack, Glenn Fishack, Margaret Fishack, Chandler Fishack, Paige Fishack. Alternates: None listed 2017.

**SMITHBURG EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.** – 8 Maple Avenue, Smithsburg, MD 21783; Washington County; Telephone: 301-824-3314, Fax: 888-557-6158; E-mail: sems@erols.com; Organized: 1981; Chartered: 1981; Joined MSFA: 1986. President: Jon Witmer, Vice President: Melvin Smith, Secretary: Joanie Gerber,


SOUTH HAGERSTOWN FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 409 West First Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740; Washington County; Telephone: 301-733-3337; E-mail: southhagerstownfire@myactv.com; Organized: 1932; Chartered: 1932. President: Alan Gladhill, Vice President: Jack Coffelt, Secretary: Todd Cochrane, Treasurer: Jerry L. Cummings, Chaplain: James Baurdette, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: Jerry Cunningham, William Hastings. Alternates: None Listed.

SOUTHERN GARRETT COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD, INC - PO Box 378, 200 Baltimore Avenue, Oakland, MD 21550; Garrett County; Telephone: 301-334-3000, Fax: 301-334-3000; E-mail: emtmayne@gmail.com Organized: 1973; Chartered: 1973; Joined MSFA: 2000. President: Ron Swartzentrube, Vice President: Karen Royer, Secretary: Naomi Swartzentrude, Treasurer: Melissa Harvey, Chaplain: Sam Moon, Chief: Vacant. Delegates: None Listed. Alternates: None Listed

ST. LEONARD VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE CO. 7, INC. – PO Box 101, 200 Calvert Beach Road, St. Leonard, MD 20685; Calvert County; Telephone: 410-586-1713, Fax: 410-586-3200; E-mail: president@slvfd.com Website:slvfd.com; Organized: 1982; Chartered: 1982. President: Mike Williams, Vice President: Ricky Weems Sr, Secretary: Ginger Weasenforth, Treasurer: Mark Carrico, Chaplain: Chief: Richard D. Weems II. Delegates: Ricky Weems II, Mark Carrico, Richard D. Weems Sr, DO Baker, Mike Williams. Alternates: Tommy Buckmaster, Craig Eckels, Michelle Weems, Joseph Anderson Cora Stockhausen.

ST. MARY’S COUNTY ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT - PO Box 2421, 41550 Doctor’s Crossing Way, Leonardtown, MD 20650; St. Mary’s County; Telephone: 301-690-2044, Fax: 301-690-2044; E-mail: president@smcals.org; Website: smcals.org; Organized: 1983; Chartered: 1983; Joined MSFA: 1994. President: Carol Boehm, Vice President: Katherine Koch, Secretary: Hattie Norris, Treasurer: Debbie Kenney,
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference


**SUSQUEHANNA HOSE COMPANY, INC.** – 911 Revolution Street, Havre De Grace, MD 21078; Harford County; Telephone: 410-939-1920; Organized: 1902. President: Joe Miller, Vice President: Paul Ishak, Secretary: Gail Reeder, Treasurer: Joe Westherstien, Chaplain: Frank Roth. Chief: Scott Hurst. Delegates: Scott Pentz, Frank Roth, J. Frank Hawley, Ronald Cardwell, Elaine Burchette. Alternates: Chad Myers, Mike Towles, Alex Jackson, Ken Perry Jr.

**SYKESVILLE FREEDOM DISTRICT FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.** – PO Box 275, 6680 Sykesville Road, Sykesville, MD 21784; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-795-8021; E-mail: sfdfd@ccpl.carr.lib.md.us Website:www.sykesvillefire.org; Organized: 1933; Chartered: 1933; Joined MSFA:1935. President: David Kreimer, Vice President: Brian Bowman, Secretary: Elizabeth Leubberman, Treasurer: Susan Tarrant, Chaplain: Deacon Charles Barnhart, Chief: Glen E Ruch Jr. Delegates: Gary McGinnis, Dennis Beard, Lynn Gabler. Alternates:None Listed.

**TAKOMA PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.** – 7201 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912; Montgomery County; Telephone: 240-773-8954; Fax:301-270-1906; E-mail: elmer.hamm@montgomerycountymd.gov Website: tpvfed.org; Organized: 1894; Chartered: 1922; Joined MSFA: 1924. President: Elmer E. Hamm, Vice President: Richard Willey, Secretary: Stephen Novik, Treasurer: Bruce Allen, Chaplain: David Hooker, Chief: Thomas Musgrove. Delegates: James E. Jarboe, Thomas Musgrove, Elmer Hamm, Richard Willey, Jorge Alfaro. Alternates: Enrique Alfaro, Stephen Novik, Bruce Allen.

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TANEYTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 39 East Baltimore Street, Taneytown, MD 21787; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-751-0506; Website: tvfc5.org; Organized: 1897. President: James Haines, Vice President: Thomas Hogg Jr, Secretary: Daniel Haines, Treasurer: James Parker, Chaplain: Gordon Brauning, Chief: Craig Austin. Delegates: Thomas Hogg Jr, Craig Austin, Phil Petry, Steve Aberts, Jim Parker. Alternates: None Listed.

TAYLOR’S ISLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 277, 501 Taylor’s Island Road, Taylor’s Island, MD 21669; Dorchester County; Telephone: 410-397-3524; E-mail: myislandlady@gmail.com, Joined MSFA: 1962. President: Patti C. Tieder; Vice President: Anna Grossnickle, Secretary: Ed Bacon, Treasurer: Anna Grossnickle, Chaplain: Rev. Robert Kirkley, Chief: JB Tieder. Delegates: Patti C. Tieder, JB Tieder, Anna Grossnickle, Ed Bacon. Alternates: Griff Livingston, Jack Smakow, Will Bethea.

TENTH DISTRICT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 522, 7035 Poorhouse Road, Marbury, MD 20658; Charles County; Telephone: 301-743-2080; Fax: 301-743-6096; E-mail: dhudson@comcast.net, Website: tdvfd8.com; Organized: 1951; Chartered: 1951; Joined MSFA: 1951. No Credentials were submitted for 2017

THURMONT COMMUNITY AMBULANCE SERVICE, INC. – 27 North Church Street, Thurmont, MD 21788; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-271-7550, Fax: 301-271-0167; E-mail: lke2807732@aol.com, Website: www.thurmontambulance.com; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1953; Joined MSFA: 1985. President: Lowman Keeney, Vice President: Robert, Secretary: Joyce Stitely, Treasurer: Judy White, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Dennis Ott. Delegates: None listed. Alternates: None Listed.

TILGHMAN ISLAND VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 297, 5978 Tilghman Island Road, Tilghman, MD 21671; Talbot County; Telephone: 410-886-2101, Fax: 410-886-2677; E-mail: tivfc@verizon.net; Organized: 1925; Chartered: 1938; Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Timothy Fluharty, Vice President: Eileen Reiss, Secretary: Linda Gottleib, Treasurer: Charlotte Fluharty, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: Billy Lednum. Delegates: David McQuay, Chris Hood. Alternates: None listed.

TRAPPE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 4001 Powell Avenue, Trappe, MD 21673; Talbot County; Telephone: 410-476-3535; E-mail: trappevfd@verizon.net; Organized: 1935; Chartered: 1935; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: Ben Diefenderfer, Vice President: Lou Diefenderfer, Secretary: Drew Dickerson, Treasurer: Mike Marshall, Chaplain: Gary Moore, Chief: Nick Newman. Delegates: George McCracken. Alternates: None Listed.

TRI-TOWNS AMBULANCE AND RESCUE SERVICE, INC. – 59 Main Street, Westernport, MD 21562; Allegany County; Telephone: 301-359-3067, Fax: 301-359-0479; E-mail: co50@allconet.org; Website: ttems.org; Organized: 1974; Chartered: 1974; Joined MSFA: 1999. President: Brendon Gardner, Vice President: John Gray, Secretary: Kayla
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference


TYLER TON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD INC – PO Box 655, 21140 Tuff Street, Tylerton MD 21866; Somerset County; Telephone: 410-425-2420 Fax: 410-425-2420; Organized: 1985; Chartered: 1985. No Credentials were submitted for 2017

UNION BRIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 1050, 8 West Locust Street, Union Bridge, MD 21791; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-775-7422, Fax: 410-857-8775; E-mail: tomgarber@aol.net; Website: www.ubfc8.org; Organized: 1887; Chartered: 1889; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Eugene Curfman, Vice President: Freddie Green, Secretary: Linda Bostian, Treasurer: S. Michael Kreimer, Chaplain: Rev. Richard Michael, Chief: Chad P. Green. Delegates: Eugene Curfman, Jerry Harris, George Wentz, Chad Green, Brenda Burdette. Alternates: Freddie Green, Chris Harris, Lindsay Murphy, David Musil, Thomas M. Garber.

UNITED COMMUNITIES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 939, 9406 Romancoke Road, Stevensville, MD 21666; Queen Anne’s County; Telephone: 410-643-1162 Fax: 410-643-1163; E-mail: rsiarnicki@aol.com Website: www.ucvfd.org; Organized: 1972; Chartered: 1972; Joined MSFA: 1974. President: Ronald J. Siarnicki, Vice President: Kent Whalen, Secretary: Pat Neil, Treasurer: Charles, Chaplain: Andy Cole, Chief: Chris Tona. Delegates: Doug Guare, Kent Whalen, Mike Levasseur, Kate Tomanellt, Rachael Hatcher. Alternates: Tim Thomas, Lisa Tona, Brad Childress, Daren Finlay.

UNITED STEAM ENGINE FIRE COMPANY NO.3, INC. – 79 South Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-600-1711; E-mail: ufcgraham@comcast.net; Website: ufc3.org; Organized: 1845; Chartered: 1845; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: James Graham, Vice President: Neil Keilen, Secretary: Angie Hummer, Treasurer: Chris Apperson, Chaplain: Tim May, Chief: Marc McNeal. Delegates: Jerry Dorsey, Tamy Dorsey, Rick O’Brien, Marie O’Brien, Keith Duvall. Alternates: None listed 2017.

UPPER MONTGOMERY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 19801 Beallsville Road, Beallsville, MD 20839; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-972-8719, Fax: 301-407-0453; E-mail: umcvfd@hotmail.com Website: umcvfd.org; Organized: 1946; Chartered: 1946. President: Ross L. Meem, Vice President: Jeffery Eck, Secretary: Penny Jones, Treasurer: Lynne Bodmer, Chaplain: Fr. Kevin O’Reilly, Chief: Michael Burns. Delegates: Ross Meem, Mike Burns, Robby Bliss, Jeffrey Eck, Pat McTighe. Alternates: Dick Bauer

URBANA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – 3602 Urbana Pike, Frederick, MD 21704; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-831-1155, Fax: 301-662-7935; Website: http://www.urbanavfd.org; Organized: 1973; Chartered: 1973;
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference


VIGILANT HOSE COMPANY, INC. - PO Box 171, 25 West Main Street, Emmitsburg, MD 21727; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-447-2728, Fax: 301-447-1724; E-mail: HN181@aol.com Website: www.vhc6.com; Organized: 1884; Joined MSFA: 1930. President: A. Frank Davis, Vice President: David Stonedifer, Secretary: Steve Valentine, Treasurer: Steve Hollinger, Chaplain: Father Charles Krieg, Chief: Chad Umbel. Delegates: Frank Davis, Steve Hollinger, James Click, Elysa Cool. Alternates: None Listed.

VIOLETVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 7359, 4000 Benson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21227; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-242-3131Fax: 410-877-1470; E-mail: williamswann410@gmail.com Website: violetvillevfd.com; Organized:1906; Chartered: 1945. President:, Vice President:, Secretary:, Treasurer:, Chaplain:. Delegates:. Alternates: NO CREDENTIALS SUBMITTED 2017


VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1 OF CHESAPEAKE CITY, INC. – 215 Lock Street, Chesapeake City, MD 21915; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-885-5951; E-mail:
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

terryferguson31@yahoo.com; Website: chesapeakecity2and12.com; Organized: 1911; Chartered: 1911; Joined MSFA: 1925. President: Randall McLennan, Vice President: Terry Ferguson, Secretary: Christina Long, Treasurer: Ed Long Sr, Chaplain: Robert Loller, Chief: Thomas Morris. Delegates: Randall McLennan, Terry Ferguson, Donnie Briscoe, James Wadkins, Robin Sheldon-Hahn. Alternates: Thomas Morris, Alexander McLennan, Timothy Emory.


VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT OF HYDE PARK, INC. – 1449 Sussex Road, Essex, MD 21221; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-887-0329 Fax: 410-391-4718; E-mail: bfastboats@hotmail.com; Organized: 1945; Chartered: 1946; Joined MSFA: 1946. President: Matthew Wooden, Vice President: Anthony Schield, Secretary: Rebecca Schield, Treasurer: William Stump, Chaplain: Nicholas Eck, Chief: John J. Alban III. Delegates: John Alban Jr, Anthony Schield, John Alban III, Rebecca Schield, William Stump. Alternates: Josh Horton, Ryan Cruickshank, Nicholas Eck, Joshua Leary, James Francis.

WALDORF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – 3245 Old Washington Road, Waldorf, MD 20601; Charles County; Telephone: 301-645-3000 Fax:301-870-0136; Email:jrhayden12awvfd@yahoo.com Website: waldorfvfd.com; Organized: 1949; Chartered: 1949; Joined MSFA:1950. President: David C. VanGasbeck, Vice President: Ron Marth, Secretary: Bonnie Snyder, Treasurer: Mike Strain, Chaplain, Chief: Benjamin Jenkins. Delegates: Bobbie Stevens, William Cooke, David VanGasbeck, Thomas Edwards, Dan Stevens. Alternates: J. R. Hayden, Jerry Hardy, Ben Jenkins, Ron Marth, Michael Strain.

WALKERSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 425, 79 West Frederick Street, Walkersville, MD 21793; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-845-2644; E-mail: jtzimmerman@verizon.net; Website: www.walkersvillefire.com; Organized: 1939; Chartered: 1940; Joined MSFA: 1940. President: John Zimmerman, Vice President: Brian Hildebrand, Secretary: Brenda Staley, Treasurer: Jim Graham, Chaplain: Chad Weddle, Chief: Randy Williams. Delegates: Brian Hildebrand, Bill Horne, Matt Staley.

WALKERSVILLE VOLUNTEER RESCUE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 202, 73 W. Frederick Street, Walkersville, MD 21793; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-845-8875, Fax: 301-845-6058; E-mail: smaxey2@aol.com; Website: www.wrc24.com; Organized: 1977; Chartered: 1977; Joined MSFA: 1978. President: Michael Marchesani, Vice President: Cindy Cramer, Secretary: Lindsey Kelly, Treasurer: Chuck Hanfman, Chaplain: Pam
Eubanks, Chief: Topper Cramer. Delegates: Michael Marchesani, Topper Cramer, Cindy Cramer, Jeff Huggins, Charles Hanfman. Alternates: None Listed

WATER WITCH FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 324, 15 North Main Street, Port Deposit, MD 21904; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-378-4133, Fax: 410-378-9343; E-mail: circled@zoominternet.net Website: http://wwfco.com; Organized: 1844. Chartered: 1880; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: William Dill, Vice President: Donald Poist, Secretary: Ashley Hennemuth, Treasurer: Brad Snyder, Chaplain: Paula Honda, Chief: Gregory Miller. Delegates: Wayne Tome Sr, Donald Poist, Karen Mott, Tony Dimauro Sr, Andrew Bannon Sr. Alternates: None Listed.

WEST ANNAPOLIS VOLUNTEER FIRE AND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY, INC. – 121 Jennifer Road, Annapolis, MD 21401; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-266-8066; E-mail: pwbeal19@aacounty.org; Website: wavfd.org; Organized: 1911; Chartered: 1945. President: Douglas M. Beall, Vice President: Lindy Burkhart, Secretary: Andrew Clemenko, Treasurer: Kenneth Blackwell, Chaplain: James Caufield, Chief: Robert E. Vice Jr. Delegates: Gayle C. Bender, Sharon Owen, Robert Vice Jr, Douglas Beall. Alternates: Lindy Burkhart, Ken Blackwell, Andy Clememko.

WEST FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEER FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION, INC. – PO Box 439, 12535 Old Frederick Road, West Friendship, MD 21794-0439; Howard County: Telephone: 410-313-5403, Fax: 410-313-4822; E-mail: ciroles58@comcast.net; Website: wfvfd.org; Organized: 1944; Chartered: 1944. President: Gary W. Unverzagt, Vice President: Peter Konold, Secretary: Jennie Reed, Treasurer: Steven Fleming, Chaplain: Ryan Eglseder, Chief: H. Mitchell Day. Delegates: Carl Buell, Norma Spicer, Scott Christiansen, Tyeler Redman, Trent Fuller. Alternates: Will Spicer, Theresa Collins, Howard “Mickey” Day, Peter Konold, Mark Miller.

WEST LANNAM HILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT & RESCUE SQUAD, INC – P.O. Box 1348, 7609 Annapolis Road, Hyattsville, Maryland 20784, Prince George’s County; Telephone 301-577-0777, Fax: 301-731-5163; Organized: 1945; Chartered: 1945. President: Scott Vazquez, Vice President: Vacant, Secretary: Ryan Emmons, Treasurer: Amy Soloman, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: John Alter. Delegates: John Alter, Scott Vazquez, Richard Clemens, Jesse Pacheco, Ryan Emmons. Alternates: None Listed.

WESTSIDE-BIVALVE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. - PO Box 85, 21045 Nanticoke Road, Bivalve, MD 21814; Wicomico County; Telephone 410-873-2140, Fax: 410-873-2170; E-mail: Donald_sue@comcast.net Website: westsidevfd@verizon.com; Organized: 1938; Chartered: 1938. Joined MSFA: 1938. President: Donald Messick, Vice President: Jerry Nelson, Secretary: Lisa Hart-White, Treasurer: Paul Dennis, Chaplain: Vacant, Chief: John Wilson. Delegates: Joe Dickerson, Grady Romblad, Brian Catlin, Riley Scott, John Catlin. Alternates: Don Messick, Dana Gross, Pat Tobat, Carol Dickerson.
WESTERN ENTERPRISE FIRE COMPANY #4, INC. – 526 Washington Square, Hagerstown, MD 21740; Washington County; Telephone: 301-733-8615, Fax: 301-739-9124; E-mail: wefc@myactv.net; Organized: 1872; Chartered: 1872, Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Cherry Rohrer, Vice President: Charles Barr, Secretary: Tania Leather, Treasurer: Devin Mills, Chaplain: Richard Bower, Chief: Rick Blair. Delegates: Cherry Rohrer, Rick Blair, Richard Bower, Devin Mills, Tania Leather. Alternates: Jon Dobbins, Adam Semler, Rosalyn Levine, Rhonda Dayhoff, Clyde Tressler.

WESTMINSTER FIRE ENGINE & HOSE CO. NO. 1, INC. – PO Box 357, 28 John Street, Westminster, MD 21158; Carroll County; Telephone: 410-848-1800, Fax: 410-848-3407; E-mail: president@westminstervfd.org; Website: westminstervfd.org; Organized: 1823; Chartered: 1823; Joined MSFA: 1893. President: Robert Cumberland, Vice President: Daniel Plunkert, Secretary: Jamie Petry, Treasurer: Caroline Babylon, Chaplain: Kevin Dayhoff, Chief: Jason Tyler. Delegates: Robert Cumberland Jr, Fred Plunkert, Daniel Plunkert, Kevin Dayhoff, Caroline Babylon. Alternates: None Listed.

WHEATON VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD, INC. – P.O. Box 1577, 11435 Grandview Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902; Montgomery County; Telephone: 301-949-9673, Fax: 301-942-0740; E-mail: gam@wvrs.org Website: wvrs.org; Organized: 1955; Chartered: 1955. President: Gamunu Wijetunge, Vice President: Brian McGinness, Secretary: Rhonda Cohen, Treasurer: William Dunlap, Chaplain: Rory Crawford, Chief: Mark Dempsey. Delegates: Paul Sterling Jr, Robert Lawson, Charles Cox, Roger Marks. Alternates: None Listed.

WHITE MARSH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY –PO. Box 319, 5419 Ebenezer Road, WhiteMarsh, Maryland 21162; Telephone: 410-335-5112; E-Mail: president@wmvfc.org Website: wmvfc.org. President: Kevin Palmer Jr, Vice President: Michael Connelly, Secretary: Kelly Murphy, Treasurer: Vicky Davidson, Chaplain, Chief: Rick Blubaugh III. Delegate: Rick Breach, Michael Connelly, Joe Kempcke, Kevin Palmer, Reynold Blubaugh III. Alternates: Barry Betts, Dave Hepner, Kelly Murphy, Frank Ward.

WHITEFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY,INC. – PO Box 222, 1407 Pylesville Road, Whiteford, MD 21160; Harford County; Telephone: 410-452-8425, Fax: 410-638-3630; E-mail: 6063@wvvmfc.com Website: whitefordvfc.com. President: Dave Leftwich, Vice President: Josh Schueler, Secretary: Kathy Monath, Treasurer: Charles Mohr, Chaplain:, Chief: Frank Krick. Delegates: James R. Williams, John Monath, David C. “Rusty” Leftwich, Jimmy Williams. Alternates: None Listed.

THE WILLIAM M. SINGERLY STEAM FIRE ENGINE AND HOOK & LADDER COMPANY
NO. 1 OF ELKTON CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND, INC. – PO Box 444, 300 Newark Avenue, Elkton, MD 21922-0444; Cecil County; Telephone: 410-398-2078; E-mail: president@singerly.com; Website: www.singerly.com; Organized: 1892; Joined MSFA: 1896. President: Phillip B. Scott, Vice President: Steven Horah, Secretary: Heidi Coleman, Treasurer: Henry Metz, Chaplain: Karen Bunnell, Chief: Timothy Poore. Delegates: William R. Caldwell, Kay Trego, John J. Denver. Alternates: None listed.


WISE AVENUE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 214 Wise Avenue, Dundalk, MD 21222; Baltimore County; Telephone: 410-877-7262; E-mail: cao270@bcvfa.org Website: www.wavfc.org; Organized: 1942; Chartered: 1972; Joined MSFA: 1943. President: Robert Frances, Vice President: Thomas Lugwig, Secretary: Emily Taylor, Treasurer: Jason Reid, Chaplain, Chief: Thomas Jugan. Delegates: Robert Francis, Joe Bruzdzinski. Alternates: None Listed.

WOLFSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – 12464 Wolfsville Road, Myersville, MD 21773; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-293-1453; E-mail: dafddf21@aol.com; Organized: 1968; Chartered: 1968; Joined MSFA: 1968. President: David Fox, Vice President: David Doyle, Secretary: Sherrie Necessary, Treasurer: Gerald Lewis, Chaplain, Chief: Stefan Nalborczyk. Delegates: David Fox, Debbie Fox, David Doyle, Steve Nalborczyk, Diana Lewis. Alternates: Larry Narne.

WOODLAND BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. – PO Box 236, 529 Londontown Road, Edgewater, MD 21037; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-956-3100; E-mail: jmandsaconnell@aol.com Website: woodlandbeachvfd.com; Organized: 1944; Joined MSFA: 1952. President: James Howard, Vice President: William Lehew Jr, Secretary: Candycye Hilgenberg, Treasurer: Vicki Ogilvie, Chaplain: Candycye Hilgenberg, Chief: Bobby Howlin. Delegates: Paul Mills, Melissa Bailey, Rick Steer Jr, Christine Duelley, Karen Pollock. Alternates: Laura Gray, Kim Bettis-Clawson, John Sweeney, Scott McDonald, Guy Schellenhourse.

WOODSBORO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC. – PO Box 153, 2 South Third Street, Woodsboro, MD 21798; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-898-5100, Fax:301-898-8443; E-mail: rjklind@comcast.net; Website: woodsborovfc.org; Organized: 1953; Chartered: 1956; Joined MSFA: 1956. President: Robert Lind, Vice President: Donald Beyer, Secretary: Sue Mosholder, Treasurer: James Writer, Chaplain: Kay Ensor, Chief: Michael Fyock. Delegates: Michael Fyock, Diane Fyock, James Lind, Robert Lind. Alternates: None listed 2017.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

ANNE ARUNDEL ALARMERS ASSOCIATION, INC. – 115 Glenmont Avenue, Glen Burnie, MD 21061; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-766-4221 Organized:1958.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER’S ASSOCIATION - PO Box 881, Millersville, MD 21108; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-222-8200, Fax: 410-987-2904; Organized: 1932; Joined MSFA: April 2007.

BALTIMORE COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION – 700 E Joppa Road, Towson, MD 21286, Baltimore County, Telephone: 410-887-4885.

BOX 414 ASSOCIATION


CITY OF ANNAPOLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT – 1790 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401; Anne Arundel County; Telephone: 410-263-7975.

CITY OF SALISBURY FIRE DEPARTMENT – 325 Cypress Street, Salisbury, MD 21802; Wicomico County; Telephone: 410-548-3120.
FREDERICK COUNTY DIVISION OF FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES – 5370 Public Safety Place, Frederick, MD 21704; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-600-1536, Fax: 301-600-2592.

FREDERICK COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION - 340 Montevue Lane, Frederick MD 21702; Frederick County; Telephone: 301-846-2282, Fax:301-631-3466; E-mail: ckwn@starpower.net, Website: www.co.Frederick.md.us/govt/esd/dfrs; Organized: 1989; Joined MSFA: 2000

HARFORD COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE & EMS ASSOCIATION – 343C Granny Road, Forest Hill, Maryland 21050.

HARFORD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES – 2220 Ady Road, Forest Hill, MD 21050; Telephone: 410-638-4900

HARFORD – CECIL VOLUNTEER FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION

HOWARD COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARSON INVESTIGATORS – 2111 Baldwin Ave., Suite 203, Crofton, MD 21114: Telephone: 410-451-3473

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF FIRE AND RESCUE ACADEMIES - 25 W. Church Street, Hagerstown, MD 21740

MARYLAND FIRE & RESCUE INSTUTITE -MFRI, University of Maryland, 4500 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park, MD 20742; Telephone: 1-800-275-6374

MARYLAND FIRE SERVICES PERSONNEL QUALIFICATION BOARD –E-mail:egraf@mfri.org.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & RESCUE -101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD 20850; Montgomery County; Telephone: 240-777-2400 Fax: 240-777-2443

MONTGOMERY COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE ASSOCIATION -101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD, 20850; Montgomery County; Telephone: 240-777-2400 Fax: 240-777-2443

PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT – 9201 Basil Court, Suite 452, Largo, MD 20785; Prince George’s County; Telephone: 301-883-5204; Fax: 301-883-5212; E-mail: sltaylor@co.pg.md.us Website: pgfd.org

WASHINGTON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION – 1501 Pennsylvania Ave., Hagerstown, MD: Washington County: Telephone: 301-714-0812

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

PROVIDENT AGENCY - PO Box 11588, 272 Alpha Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15238; Telephone: (800)-447-0360 Fax: 412-963-0415; Email:cbens@providentbenefits.com; Website providentbenefits.com.

VOLUNTEER FIREMEN’S INSURANCE SERVICES - PO Box 2726,183 Leaders Heights Road, York, PA 21030
“The Mission of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association is to Serve, Promote, Advocate, and Represent the interest of the Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services of Maryland”
CHARTER OF THE ASSOCIATION

An Act to Incorporate the Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Section 1 - Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, that J. Roger McSherry, Charles T. Holloway, Edward Israel, Edward S. Eichelberger, Edward Koontz, Benjamin H. Blackison, Frank Spates, Thomas E. McCardell, E. M. Mobley, G. A. Einwachter, William M. Crimmons, Hiram R. Heck, O. D. Golbert and their associates and successors in office, be and they are hereby constituted and made a body corporate and politic, under the name and style of “The Maryland State Firemen’s Association”, and by that name shall have perpetual succession and be capable in law to hold and dispose of property, real and personal, to sue and be sued, complain and defend in any court of law and equity; to have and use a common seal and alter and renew the same at pleasure; to make and adopt a constitution and bylaws for the government of said body corporate and its affairs provided the same shall not conflict with the constitution and laws of this State or the United States; to elect officers and directors and generally to do every other act or thing to carry into effect the provisions of this act, or to promote the objects and designs of the said corporation.

Section 2 - And be it enacted, That the object and purpose of this corporation shall be to form a more perfect organization among the volunteer firemen and volunteer ambulance and rescue personnel of Maryland to establish harmony of action, to provide pecuniary support in cases where firemen and volunteer ambulance and rescue personnel who have been injured while in the performance of their duty, to insure prosperity and success, to promote the best interests of the volunteer firemen and volunteer ambulance and rescue personnel of Maryland, to encourage the cultivation of fraternal fellowship, to promote the formation of volunteer fire, ambulance and rescue companies in towns and villages in the State that are now without adequate protection from fires and other emergencies requiring rescue and/or emergency ambulance services, to compile statistics of information concerning the practical working of various systems and the merits of various apparatus in use for the aforementioned purposes and to report on the finds and make recommendations to the Association from time to time.

Section 3 - And be it enacted, That the volunteer fire and ambulance and rescue companies of the State of Maryland, comprising the members of this corporation, shall annually in June, elect a President, Fires and Second Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, one Trustee (to serve for five years) and a Chaplain; and that the President shall annually appoint such number as the Executive Committee; who together with the other officers named, shall have the general management of the affairs of the corporation, as respectively set forth in the Constitution of the Corporation.

Section 4 - And be it enacted, That the said corporation hereby formed shall have full power to receive subscriptions, donations, devises and bequests of money, or real or personal property, in trust or otherwise, and to purchase or otherwise acquire, and hold such property, to be applied by it to the objects of its incorporation.

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Section 5 - And be it enacted, That J. Roger McSherry, Charles T. Holloway, Edward Israel, Edward E. Eichelberger, Edward Koontz, Benjamin R. Blackison, Frank Spates, Thomas E. McCordell, E. M. Mobley, G. A. Einwachter, O. D. Gilbert, William M. Crimmins and Hiram R. Heck shall be officers and managers of said corporation until the second Thursday in June, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, and shall serve as such until their successors are elected.

Section 6 - And be it enacted, that this act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved March 8, 1894.

STATE OF MARYLAND
STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION
301 WEST PRESTON STREET
BALTIMORE 21201

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT the within instrument is a true copy of the ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT OF THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION as approved and received for record by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of Maryland, November 21, 1975 at 8:30 o’clock A.M.

RICHARD H. KELLER
CHARTER SPECIALIST II
ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT
TO THE CHARTER OF THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION

FIRST: That the General Convention of the members of the Corporation, called by its governing body, and duly convened pursuant to the Constitution of the Corporation on June 17, 1975, upon recommendation of the Officers and Directors of the Corporation, the membership has voted to amend the Charter as follows:

SECOND: The Resident Agent of the corporation shall be: JAMES C. ROBERTSON, 301 West Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

THIRD: The principal of the Corporation shall be located at the Fire Service Extension Building, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.

FOURTH: The Charter is amended by striking out Section 2 and section 3 of the Charter and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Section 2. And be it enacted, that the object and purpose of this Corporation shall be to form a more perfect organization among the Volunteer Firemen and Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue personnel of the State of Maryland, to establish harmony of action, to provide pecuniary support in cases where firemen and volunteer ambulance and rescue personnel have been injured while in the performance of their duty, to ensure prosperity and success, to promote the best interests of the Volunteer Firemen and volunteer Ambulance and Rescue personnel of Maryland, to encourage the cultivation of fraternal fellowship, to promote the formation of Volunteer Fire,
Ambulance and Rescue Companies in towns and villages in the State that are now without adequate protection from fires and other emergencies requiring rescue and/or emergency ambulance service, to compile statistics of information concerning the practical working of various systems and the merits of various apparatus in use for the aforementioned purposes and to report on the findings and make recommendations to the Association from time to time.

Section 3. And be it enacted, that the Volunteer Fire and Ambulance and Rescue companies of the state of Maryland composing the members of this Corporation shall annually, in June elect a President, First and Second Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, one Trustee (to serve for five years), and a Chaplain; and that the President shall annually appoint such number of persons as may be provided by the Constitution of the Corporation to act as the Executive Committee; who, together with the other Officers named, shall have the general management of the affairs of the Corporation, as respectively set forth in the Constitution of the Corporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Maryland State Firemen’s Association has caused these presents to be signed in its name and on its behalf by its President and its Secretary, and to affix its Corporation seal hereunto this 17th day of June, 1975.

ATTEST:
CHARLES B. BURTON, Secretary

THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
by C. EDWIN TURNER SR., President

STATE OF MARYLAND, TO WIT:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 17th day of June, 1975, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public of the State of Maryland, personally appeared C. EDWIN TURNER SR., President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, a Maryland Corporation, and in the name and on behalf of said corporation, and pursuant to the authorization of its membership, acknowledged the a foregoing Articles of Amendment to be the corporate act of the said Corporation; and at the same time personally appeared CHARLES B. BURTON who made oath in due form of law that he was the Secretary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association at the time of the general convention wherein the a foregoing Amendments were enacted and that the said Amendments were adopted and that the matters and facts set forth in the a foregoing Articles of Amendment are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

AS WITNESS my hand and notarial seal the day and year last above written.

Notary Public

Articles of Amendment To The Charter Of The Maryland State Firemen’s Association

The Maryland State Firemen’s Association having had notice of proposed Charter Amendments in accordance with the Constitution of the Maryland State Firemen’s
Association as recommended by the Officers and Directors, and having had notice having attended the annual Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, and a quorum of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association having been present, and the ballots having been distributed, and the question of the Amendment having been passed as certified by the election judges of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, this Amendment to the Charter of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association,

Witnesseth:

FIRST: That the Resident Agent of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association shall be until his successor is duly appointed, Leonard T. King, 6047, Melbourne Avenue, Deale, Maryland, 120751.

SECOND: The principal office of the corporation shall be 6200 Pontiac Street, Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740.

THIRD: Section 3 of the Charter of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association is amended to add to the designated elected officers, the office of Financial Secretary.

FOURTH: With the incorporation of the amendments to its Charter hereinbefore made, the Maryland State Firemen’s Association does reaffirm and republish its Charter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Maryland State Firemen’s Association has caused these presentees to be signed in its name and on its behalf by its President and attested to by its Secretary, this 26 day of August, 1996.

TEST: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Leonard T. King, Secretary

By: Stephan D. Cox, President

STATE OF MARYLAND: COUNTY OF Baltimore: TO WIT: 1996, before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public in and for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, a Maryland Corporation, and in the name and on behalf of the said corporation and pursuant to the authorization of its membership, and acknowledged the a foregoing Articles of Amendment to be the corporate act of the said corporation; and at the same time personally appeared LEONARD T. KING, who made oath in due form of law that he was the Secretary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association at the time of the general convention when on June 18, 1996, the a foregoing Amendments were enacted and that following proper notice to its membership, that said Amendments were voted on adopted, and that the matters set forth in the a foregoing Articles of Amendment are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

AS WITNESS my hand and seal this 26 day of August, 1996.

Judith Lapide

SEAL

Notary Public
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
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Appendix A  MSFA Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

***CONSTITUTION***

ARTICLE I- NAME AND MEMBERSHIP

Section 1- The name of the Association shall be "The Maryland State Firemen's Association". "MSFA" shall be considered to represent the name of the Association when used, subsequent to this Section, in the Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2- Regular Membership- Regular members shall be the Volunteer Fire Companies or Departments, Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Companies whose stations are located in the State of Maryland, having equipment, personnel and facilities which comply with the provisions of this Constitution, and who have paid the initiation fee, yearly dues, and have elected delegates and alternates to attend the Annual Convention and Conference of the Association. Nothing in this Article shall
be constructed as affecting the membership status of any volunteer fire company or department, which was a member of the Association on July 1, 1975. The words "Member Companies" as used in the following articles of the Constitution and By-Laws shall include "Volunteer Fire Companies or Departments, and Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Companies", except in those instances where it is necessary to differentiate.

Each company desiring to hold membership in this Association shall pay an initiation fee of five dollars ($5.00). Each active company shall pay to the Financial Secretary on or before the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference each year the sum of Two hundred dollars ($200.00) as annual dues or in the case of new members, a pro rata amount for the current year (payable with the initiation fee), said sum constituting dues for the current fiscal year. Twenty dollars ($20.00) of the annual dues shall be donated to the MSFA Foundation specially identified for scholarships.

**Section 3-** The MSFA is authorized to suspend a membership, so issued, at any time it determines that the Member Company is proven to be in violation of or no longer meets the qualifications as prescribed under this Article.

**Section 4- Associate Membership-** Any fire, rescue or ambulance company which does not otherwise meet the standards for membership in the MSFA, and any organization which provides direct services either in supporting any volunteer fire company, rescue company, or ambulance service, by the provision of collateral services which aid the volunteer fire, ambulance and rescue companies of the State of Maryland in providing their services, shall be entitled to apply and upon approval to become Associate Members of the MSFA. Such application would require review and approval by a majority vote of the Executive Committee for election to Associate Membership. Action of the Executive Committee is subject to reversal by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership registered and voting at the next Annual Convention and Conference. In order to qualify as Associate Member, the applicant organization must provide services, which directly benefit career or volunteer fire, ambulance or rescue companies of the State of Maryland, such as providing for services at the scene of an emergency, fund raising for such organizations or other similar purposes. The application shall contain a statement of the purpose of the organization applying for Associate Membership, and that it is effectively a non-profit organization; that it is an organization which does not exist for the profit of any individual member thereof, but for humanitarian purposes.

The annual dues for Associate Membership would be fifty dollars ($50.00). The first year's dues plus a five-dollar ($5.00) initiation fee must accompany the application. Twenty dollars ($20.00) of the annual dues shall be donated to the MSFA Foundation specially identified for scholarships.

Associate Members, once approved as such, are entitled to attend activities of the MSFA. However, Associate Members shall not be entitled to a vote with regard to the
Section 5- Sustaining Membership- Any organization which desires to provide pecuniary support or otherwise collaterally support any program or purpose of the MSFA, and the existence of which as an entity does not otherwise contain any conflict with respect to the purposes of the MSFA, may apply to the MSFA as a Sustaining Member. The application for such membership would be required to be submitted to the Executive Committee of the MFSA for review and approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee for election to Sustaining Membership. Action of the Executive Committee is subject to reversal by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership registered and voting at the next Annual Convention and Conference.

The application shall identify the applicant with regard to the name of the applicant, whether the applicant is a sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation, the primary business of the applicant, the nature of activities in which the applicant is involved, other than its primary business, the reason for the application, the type of pecuniary or collateral support the applicant proposes to provide to the MSFA, and the nature and constituency of its directors or membership or any other persons having a directorial or managerial interest in the applicant organization. The application will be accompanied by the first year's annual dues of two hundred and fifty dollars ($250.00), plus a five-dollar ($5.00) initiation fee. Two hundred dollars ($200.00) of the annual dues shall be donated to the MSFA Foundation specially identified for scholarships.

The applicant, upon approval as a Sustaining Member, would be entitled to attend the Annual Convention and Conference of the MSFA and, by invitation, selected meetings of the Executive Committee of the MSFA, but would have neither a right to a seat in the Annual Convention and Conference nor a right to vote with respect to the affairs of the MSFA. The Sustaining Member shall receive the Maryland State Firemen's Association Trumpet magazine, window decal, and an appropriate recognition award as approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 6- The President shall designate a Special Committee to study and report on the application of any person, firm or corporation for either Associate or Sustaining Membership and to, thereafter, report to the Executive Committee its recommendations with respect to the applicant. Such Special Committee would consist of no less than two (2) members of the Executive Committee, two (2) past presidents of the MSFA, the Chairman of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, the Chairman of the Legislative Committee, and the Chairman of the Standards Committee. In addition, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, up to three (3) additional members-at-large may be appointed to the Special Committee to study and make a recommendation with respect to the application for Associate or Sustaining Membership. This committee shall not exist beyond the recommendation for any subject application.

Section 7- The Executive Committee shall report on the approval of all Associate or
Sustaining Memberships at the Annual Convention and Conference. Such report shall be made prior to the preparation and distribution of ballots, thereby providing the right of the delegates registered and voting to call for reversal of action by the Executive Committee with regard to such approval or disapproval of Associate or Sustaining Memberships. This reversal shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership registered and voting at the Annual Convention and Conference.

**Section 8**- The Ladies Auxiliary of the Maryland State Firemen's Association is a member of the MSFA, without voting privileges and without obligation to pay dues.

**Section 9**- Member companies of the MSFA and members of those companies shall conduct themselves in a manner, which will be a credit to the MSFA. Any Member Company or members of those companies who are accused of misconduct as defined in the Constitution and By-laws of the MSFA shall be subject to a hearing by the Executive Committee.

Misconduct shall be defined as acting in such a manner and fashion so as to expose the MSFA or the Maryland Volunteer Emergency Services to negative publicity and ridicule by failing to act to remedy an event of misconduct by a member(s) of its Company.

Upon a Member Company or member(s) of a company violating this provision, the Executive Committee shall direct the MSFA Secretary to notify the company, in writing, of the specifics of the misconduct and request a representative of the company to appear before the Executive Committee at a specific time and place.

The Executive Committee in executive closed session shall conduct a formal hearing on the misconduct and/or Constitution and By-laws violation. The accused shall be accorded due process during the hearing and shall have the right to be heard. After the formal hearing the Executive Committee may dismiss the charges, suspend membership privileges, fine or expel the member.

**ARTICLE II- ANNUAL AND SPECIAL CONFERENCES AND CONFERENCES**

**Section 1**- The Annual Convention and Conference shall be held annually in June. Business sessions shall be at the call of the President. The President shall develop an Order of Business for the Annual Convention and Conference, to be approved by the Executive Committee at the first Executive Committee Meeting in the new calendar year. The Order of Business shall enumerate the business session planned and provide, at a minimum, for Reports of Officers; Reports of Committees; Nomination of Officers; Voting for Officers and Constitution and By-Laws changes; Unfurnished Business; New Business; Good of the Association; and any other Business to come before the Annual Convention and Conference in the Business Sessions. The location of the Annual Convention and Conference shall be chosen by a majority of the
votes of the Delegates, Alternates, or others qualified, present and voting on the official ballot, at least three (3) years in advance. Each Member Company shall be entitled to cast five (5) votes and the Past Presidents one (1) vote each.

Section 2- Should there, for any cause, be a need to change the place and/or time for the holding of the Annual Convention and Conference, the Executive Committee shall have the power to select the place and the Secretary shall notify the Member Companies of the place chosen, three (3) months prior to the time of the meeting. In case the Annual Convention and Conference is not held for any cause at the time fixed in Section 1, then it shall be held at a subsequent date during the year. The date to be determined by the Executive Committee and notice thereof to be given to the Member Companies by the Secretary.

Section 3- After the holding of the Annual Convention and Conference, the President shall call the delegates to attend Special Conventions and Conferences at times and places named by him, whenever the Executive Committee shall deem Special Conventions and Conferences necessary. Counting from the Centennial, the Association shall schedule a Special Convention and Conference, to be held thereafter, on each 25th year anniversary.

Section 4- All Past Presidents shall be entitled to seats in and participate in the proceedings of the Annual Convention and Conference. (See Article B of these By-Laws).

Section 5- Parliamentary Procedure- Rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the meetings of the MSFA in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws and any special rules that the MSFA may adopt.

ARTICLE III- REPRESENTATION AND RULES

Section 1- Each active Member Company shall be entitled to the benefits of the Association in full.

Section 2- Each active Member Company shall be entitled to elect annually five (5) delegates and five (5) alternates to attend the Annual Convention and Conference, who shall be the representatives of their respective organizations for one (1) year and entitled to participate in the proceedings of the Annual and Special Conventions and Conferences during the year for which the dues of their Member Company has been paid in accordance with Article I, Section 2. No delegate may represent more than one (1) Member Company and no delegate's name shall appear on more than one (1) Credential List.

Section 3- Each Member Company electing delegates and alternates to the Annual Convention and Conference shall furnish said delegates and alternates with proper
credentials certifying to their election, and signed by the President or Secretary of the organization, which shall be forwarded to the Recording Secretary of the Association on or before the third day of June in each year.

Section 4- Any Member Company, who is delinquent in paying their dues by the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference, shall automatically be suspended. The Secretary shall notify the Member Company that it has been suspended for failure to pay dues and shall not be permitted to register at the Annual Convention and Conference. If the suspended Member Company does not pay its dues by the Executive Committee meeting, held at least thirty (30) days following the Annual Convention and Conference, the suspended Member Company's membership will be terminated. The terminated company may reapply for membership, pursuant to Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution, and shall pay all dues, in arrears, with the application.

Section 5- Membership and Voting- Member shall be defined and qualified as recited in Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution.

Qualified new members shall have the right to participate in the business of the MSFA at Annual and Special Conventions and Conferences as provided in Article III, Sections 2 and 3.

Delegates or Alternates otherwise qualified pursuant to terms of this Constitution shall have the right to vote on all matters properly submitted during Annual and Special Conventions and Conferences.

Past Presidents shall have the right to participate as voting Delegates during the Annual Convention and Conference as provided by Article II, Section 4.

Section 6- Fiscal Year- The Fiscal Year of the MSFA shall be July 1st through June 30th. Following the close of the Fiscal Year, the books of the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer shall be reviewed by the Financial Committee and a financial report conducted by an outside accounting service of their status made to the Executive Committee, prior to the next Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 7- There shall be a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Manual maintained by the Constitution and By-laws Committee which shall contain administrative and operational procedures approved by the President and the Executive Committee. SOPs shall be developed in accordance with SOP A001 "Preparation and Control of Standard Operating Procedures."

ARTICLE IV- OFFICERS

Section 1- All elected officers of this Association shall be from the active membership of their Active Member Companies, in good standing, and shall consist of a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary,
Treasurer, Chief Chaplain, and a Board of five (5) Trustees.

The President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Recording Secretary, and Chief Chaplain shall hold their offices for one (1) year or until their successors are elected. One (1) Trustee shall be elected each year for a term of five (5) years to fill the vacancy in the Board of Trustees occasioned by the expiration of the term of one (1) of the Trustees.

The Financial Secretary and the Treasurer shall hold their offices for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected. The Treasurer and the Financial Secretary shall be elected in alternate years, so that their terms of office do not end in the same year. This initial transition to alternating years will result in the Treasurer being elected for a two (2) year term and the Financial Secretary being elected to a one (1) year term at the June 2007 Convention and Conference. The Financial Secretary will then be elected for a full two (2) year term at the June 2008 Convention and Conference.

Section 2- A majority of the votes of those qualified present and voting shall be required to elect. Each Member Company shall be entitled to five (5) votes. Voting shall be by printed ballot or voting machine.

For any office or place of next Annual Convention and Conference where there is only one (1) nominee, the nominee shall be declared elected or chosen and the office and place shall not be listed on the ballot.

Section 3- Whenever there are more than two (2) candidates, after each ballot when there shall be a failure to elect, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped until two (2) remain.

Section 4- The President shall preside at all conventions and conferences, appoint all committees and in collaboration with the Chief Chaplain, the Treasurer, the Financial Secretary, and the Recording Secretary and appoint Chaplains, Assistant Treasurers, Assistant Financial and Recording Secretaries, if required. The President shall sign orders on the Treasurer for payment of money, and countersign all orders issued by the Board of Trustees for the payment of benefits. In making committee appointments, the President shall be guided by the concept of regionalization as provided for in the Constitution, Article VIII (Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board).

The President shall visit or cause to be visited by the First and/or Second Vice-Presidents as many Active Member Companies and respective bodies of Active Member Companies as possible, the delinquent Member Companies, and the companies or departments that do not belong to this Association.

The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. They shall make an
annual report to the Association and shall perform all other duties as may be required of them by the Association.

The President, after conferring with the Executive Committee, shall annually meet with the Governor with regard to the State Budget to provide for funding requests for the funds to be administered by the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board.

It shall be the duty of the President to invite through the Secretary, the Governor of the State of Maryland to attend the Annual Convention and Conference of the Association. The invitation shall go forward to the Governor at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the Annual Convention and Conference, and the President shall provide a period of time on the program to suit the Governor’s pleasure.

Section 5- It shall be the duty of the First Vice-President in the case of the death, resignation or inability to act of the President to assume the duties of the President. In the event of the death of both the President and the First Vice-President, or if either be unable to attend the duties of the President, the Second Vice-President shall assume these duties, if necessary.

Section 6- In the absence of the President, the First and Second Vice-Presidents from any convention and conference, one of the delegates shall be called to the chair by a vote of the convention and conference.

Section 7- The Recording Secretary shall keep in an appropriate medium a complete record of all Annual and Special Conventions and Conferences and all meetings of the Executive Committee, and shall publish each year the proceedings book of each Annual Convention and Conference. The Recording Secretary shall receive and answer all communications pertaining to the Association and keep a record thereof. The Recording Secretary shall make an annual report to the Association and also such reports from time to time as the President and Executive Committee may require. The Recording Secretary shall, provide to the meeting of each Annual Convention and Conference, a roll of Member Companies entitled to representation therein, by reason of having complied with the provision of Section 1, Article III, and another roll of Past Presidents, delegates and alternates entitled to a seat in the convention and conference and deliver the rolls together with credentials of the delegates and alternates-elect to the committee on credentials appointed by the convention and conference. The Recording Secretary shall give bond to be approved by the Executive Committee, who shall fix the amount thereof, and it shall be held by the President.

Section 8- The Financial Secretary shall receive all monies and turn them over to the Treasurer. The Financial Secretary shall keep in an appropriate medium, provided for that purpose, a complete record of all the monies received by the MSFA. The Financial Secretary shall give bond, to be approved by the Executive Committee, who shall fix the amount thereof, and it shall be held by the President. The Financial Secretary shall
mail bills to each Member Company in January of each year. Said bills to contain a notice, prominently displayed, that dues are payable in advance and will be considered in arrears after the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference.

**Section 9**- The Treasurer shall receive from the Financial Secretary and safely keep all monies belonging to the MSFA. The Treasurer shall sign all checks for the payment of bills of the MSFA, along with the President, the Financial Secretary, or Committee Chairman on whose budgeted funds the check is being drawn, after the expense has been submitted to the Budget and Revenue Committee and approved by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall make a report at the first session of each Annual Convention and Conference, giving an itemized statement of receipts and disbursements, accompanied by the vouchers thereof. The Treasurer shall give bond to be approved by the Executive Committee, who shall fix the amount thereof, and it shall be held by the Financial Secretary.

**Section 10**- The Board of Trustees shall have control and management of the money annually appropriated to the MSFA by the State of Maryland, and shall not order the expenditure of any of it for any other purpose than paying of the benefits provided for in Article VI.

The Board shall meet after the adjournment of each Annual Convention and Conference and organize by the election of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary from among its number, who shall hold their offices for one (1) year or until their successors are elected. The Board shall also meet prior to the first session of each Annual Convention and Conference and at such other times and places as it may be called together by its Chairman. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees shall receive and mark, tie and keep a record of all claims for benefits and perform all other duties as prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws. The Board of Trustees shall make a report, in writing, to the MSFA at each Annual Convention and Conference.

**Section 11**- The Chief Chaplain shall have had formal training of the Word of God, shall have served as a Priest, Rabbi, or Minister; and shall be recognized as a clergyman by the religious group of which he is a member; and shall be elected from any of the Member Companies of this Association, and his duties shall be those that the President shall call for him to perform. If because of Ministerial duties or other reasons he requires assistants, he shall submit his request to the President, together with names. The President may appoint a Chaplain or Chaplains, with the approval of the Executive Committee, to serve until the next Annual Convention and Conference. The Chaplains shall have the responsibilities of conducting the Memorial Service at the Annual Convention and Conference, including the compilation of a list of deceased members.

**Section 12**- No Officer, Committee Chairman, or Member shall at any time or in any way, by writing or otherwise, take into their hands any matter being handled by an
Officer or Committee, without first consulting said Officer or Committee Chairman in charge.

Section 13- Failure of an Officer to perform their duties shall be deemed just and sufficient cause for suspension from office in the MSFA by the Executive Committee.

Section 14- Travel reimbursement for Officers attending the MSFA Executive Committee shall be in accordance with SOP A003 "Travel Reimbursement".

Section 15- The appointed officers of the MSFA shall be from the active membership of their Active Member Companies, in good standing, and shall consist of the Executive Committee Members, Office of the Parliamentarian, and Office of the Attorney. The appointed officers shall hold their office for one (1) year or until their successors are appointed by the President of the MSFA.

Section 16- The immediate Past President, who shall be an ex-officio member and twelve (12) appointed members shall constitute the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee Members shall be appointed with the provision that no more than one (1) appointed member shall be from any one (1) region represented in the Association.

The Executive Committee shall hold at least three (3) meetings during each year, one (1) within thirty (30) days after their appointments, one (1) at least twenty (20) days before each Convention and Conference, and others at the discretion of the President at such times and places as shall be designated by the President. Other meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by a majority of the Committee.

The Executive Committee shall fix the amount of and approve the bonds of the Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers, if applicable; make all contracts for work to be done or supplies to be provided by this Constitution; and approve Committee Chairman out of pocket expenses incurred by them incident to the performance of their duties. The Executive Committee shall approve the budget as submitted by the Budget and Revenue Committee, with the right to alter the budget as submitted, within its discretion, as in the best interest of the MSFA.

Any vacancy occurring in an elective office shall be filled by an individual recommended by the President and approved by the Executive Committee. The officer so selected shall serve until the next Annual Convention and Conference; if the term, for which the vacancy occurred does not expire at that Annual Convention and Conference, the term of the successor elected there shall be for the balance of the vacant term.

The Executive Committee shall have the power to call Special Conventions and Conferences through the President. The Executive Committee shall make an annual
report to the MSFA and shall look after its interest generally. At all of its meetings a majority shall constitute a quorum and a majority of those present shall decide all questions. (The Executive Committee shall only receive or make payment of money or contracts during its period of office.)

The Executive Committee shall take an annual inventory of all equipment, supplies, etc., owned by the Association, listing name of article, value of same and in whose custody said article is maintained. This inventory shall be published in the Annual Proceedings Book. No property belonging to the Association shall be disposed of without the consent of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee and the Elected Officers shall manage the affairs of, and the Executive Committee shall transact all business of the MSFA requiring action between the Annual Conventions and Conferences.

The Executive Committee shall review and approve, or disapprove with recommendations all recommendations for grants, loans, or low interest loans made by the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board. The Executive Committee shall confer with the President of the MSFA, with respect to requests for funding to be made for the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board, to be presented to the Governor by the President of the MSFA.

The Executive Committee shall review and approve the creation and/or presentation of any new awards based upon the review and recommendations of the Awards Committee.

**Section 17-** The Office of the Parliamentarian shall be consultant to and advise the President or other Officers and Committee Chairman on any questions that may arise in interpreting the Constitution and By-Laws. The Parliamentarian shall be present at all meetings during the Annual Convention and Conference to assist the presiding officer on questions of parliamentary inquiry and to call attention of the presiding officer to any error in the proceedings that may affect the substantive rights of any member or may otherwise do harm. The Parliamentarian shall speak when requested by the presiding officer.

**Section 18-** The Office of the Attorney shall render advice and assistance to the officers and committees on all legal matters involving the MSFA, as requested.

**Section 19-** All elected and appointed officers and committee members shall turn over to the Executive Committee, all records, equipment, monies and any other property of the Association, upon completion of their term of office or service on a committee.

**Section 20-** Any officer who requires an assistant, may request, of the President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, to appoint one (1) or more assistants. An assistant officer shall serve until the next Annual Convention and Conference, unless
removed earlier by the President with the concurrence of the Executive Committee. The duties of each assistant officer shall be within the scope of the duties of, and as determined by, the elected Officer to whom that assistant assists.

Section 21- MSFA Officers will be reimbursed for expenses occurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with SOP A002 "Expense Reimbursement".

Section 22- The MSFA presidential vehicles are provided for the use of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents for official business of the Association as authorized by the Executive Committee. Rules for the operation and maintenance of the President's vehicles shall be in accordance with SOP A004 "Operation and Maintenance of the President's Vehicle Fleet".

ARTICLE V- COMMITTEES

Section 1- The Standing Committees of the MSFA shall be:

17 State Circle Committee- At least three (3) members, all to be appointed annually.

Awards Committee- To be appointed annually, and to include as members the Chairman of all awards committees and a Chairman, not a member of any such committee.

Budget and Revenue Committee- Six (6) members, plus the Treasurer and the Financial Secretary shall constitute the Budget and Revenue Committee. Two (2) to be named each year for terms of three (3) years.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee- At least five (5) members, all to be appointed annually.

Convention and Conference Committee- At least five (5) members, all to be appointed annually.

Data Systems Committee- At least six (6) members, two (2) to be appointed each year for a three (3) year term.

Emergency Medical Services Committee- At least nine (9) members, three (3) to be named each year for terms of three (3) years.

Financial Committee- The Committee shall consist of the Office of the Financial Secretary, the Office of the Treasurer, the Budget and Revenue Committee Chairman and a representative of the Executive Committee.

Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee- At least nine (9) members, three (3) to be named each year for terms of three (3) years.
Firefighter of the Year Committee- At least nine (9) members, appointed annually.

Grants Committee- At least five (5) members, all to be appointed annually.

Hall of Fame Committee- At least six (6) members, two (2) to be appointed each year for a three (3) year term.

Historical, Archives, and Volunteer Firefighter's Room Committee- At least seven (7) members, all to be appointed annually.

Incentive Programs Committee- A Chairman and at least nine (9) members, but not more than twenty-three (23) members, who shall cover the various areas of the state.

Legislative Committee- Chairman and one (1) member from each county represented in the MSFA, all to be appointed annually.

Planning Committee- At least five (5) members, all to be appointed annually.

President's Vehicle Committee- At least three (3) members, all to be appointed annually.

Public Relations Committee- At least five (5) members all to be appointed annually.

Recruitment and Retention Committee- At least seven (7) members, all to be appointed annually.

Residential Sprinkler Initiative Committee- At least eleven (11) members, all to be appointed annually.

Risk Management Committee- At least three (3) members, all to be appointed annually.

Safety Committee- At least five (5) members, terms of two (2) years with three (3) members to be appointed in odd-numbered years and two (2) members appointed in even-numbered years.

Scholarship Committee- At least seven (7) members, three (3) to be appointed every even year for a two (2) year term and four (4) to be appointed in odd years for a two (2) year term.

Sergeant-At-Arms Committee- At least five (5) members, all to be appointed annually.

Standards Committee- At least seven (7) members, terms of two (2) years, with four (4) members to be appointed in odd-numbered years and three (3) members to be appointed in even-numbered years.

Statistical Committee- At least three (3) members, all to be appointed annually.
Training Committee- At least nine (9) members, three (3) to be named each year for terms of three (3) years.

Transportation Committee- At least five (5) members, terms to be for two (2) years, with two (2) members appointed in even years and three (3) members appointed in odd years.

Ways and Means Committee- At least six (6) members, all to be appointed annually.

Section 2- The Standing Committees shall be appointed annually by the President, within thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the Annual Convention and Conference, with members of Active Member Companies of the Association.

A subcommittee for a specific purpose may be appointed under any Standing Committee. Such subcommittee shall be appointed by the President, with approval of the Executive Committee. The Chairman of the subcommittee shall be a member of the Standing Committee. Reports from the subcommittee shall be presented through the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

Section 3- Committee members shall meet and transact business, meeting as and when scheduled by the Chairman.

The Committee Chairman shall report the activities of the committee, as directed by the President, to the Executive Committee and to members of the MSFA in convention and conference assembled. The failure of a committee member to perform prescribed duties shall be reported to the President, in writing, by the Committee Chairman. The President may remove and replace the offending committee member, who will be notified, in writing, by the MSFA Secretary. Said offending committee member may request, in writing, a hearing by the Executive Committee at its next scheduled meeting. In that event, the Executive Committee will either support or reverse the President's action.

Any appointee to a Standing or Special Committee of the MSFA, or to any Government, Regular or Special board, Commission, study group or administrative agency of this State; or any appointee to any committee or commission of another State or political subdivision; or any appointee to any organization shall report on his or her committee's or commission's activities to the Executive Committee and to the Member Companies of the MSFA in convention and conference assembled. A list shall be appended to the By-Laws, naming such personnel and the non-MSFA bodies on which they are serving; listing terms of appointment, including date each person's term ends; describing briefly the purpose of each group; and showing a minimum schedule of reports to the MSFA, the schedule to be set by the Executive Committee. Such list shall be updated continuously (without need for the Amendment process) as information becomes available or as Executive Committee reporting requirements change.
Section 4- Except as otherwise provided in the Constitution, the President shall fill any unexpired term vacancy in any committee. In newly established committees with staggered terms, lots shall be drawn to determine length of terms of those initially appointed.

Section 5- Travel reimbursement for Committee Chairman or their designated representative shall be in accordance with SOP A003 “Travel Reimbursement”.

ARTICLE VI- BENEFITS ADMINISTERED BY THE TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees shall act in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article on Public Safety, Section 7-201, et. Seq. to provide and administer Line of Duty death benefits to spouses and children, or other family members, of volunteer firefighters, volunteer rescue squad personnel, volunteer ambulance personnel, and volunteer advanced life support personnel who have been determined to have died in the Line of Duty.

The Board of Trustees will also provide and administer Line of Duty injury and disability benefits as provided in the Article on Public Safety, Section 7-201, et. Seq.

The Board of Trustees reserves the right to increase death and/or disability benefits subject to available funding and in a manner consistent with the provisions of the Article on Public Safety, Section 7-201, et. Seq.

Specific rules and application procedures for the award of benefits shall be published in a manual which shall be made available to the membership of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, and any changes thereto shall be presented to the Executive Committee. The manual shall be reviewed and/or updated at least annually.

ARTICLE VII- AMENDMENTS

Section 1- This Constitution may be amended or revised at any Annual Convention and Conference by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those entitled to vote and present and voting on the amendments, provided the proposed amendment or revision shall have been submitted, in writing, by the Executive Committee or a member company of this Association and forwarded to the Executive Committee at least ninety (90) days prior to the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference. The proposed amendment or revision to be in the hands of the Secretary, at least sixty (60) days prior to the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 2- Upon receipt of the amendment by the Executive Committee, in accordance with section 1, the Recording Secretary shall mail or distribute by an appropriate means at least forty-five (45) days prior to the first session of the Annual Convention and Conference, copies of the proposed amendments to all member companies in order that the amendments may be acted upon by the said member companies before
ARTICLE VIII- VOLUNTEER COMPANY ASSISTANCE FUND BOARD

Section 1- There is herewith established pursuant to the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 8, Sections 202-209, a Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board.

Section 2- The Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board ("Board") shall be comprised of twelve (12) persons, who shall be appointed by the President as prescribed in this section, from twelve (12) regional districts, which have been determined by virtue of the number of fire companies located in each district and other geographic consideration, and which are constituted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allegany, Garrett Counties</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington, Frederick Counties</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll, Howard Counties</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harford, Cecil Counties</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore County</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Arundel County</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince George's County</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calvert, Charles, St. Mary's Counties</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne's Counties</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talbot, Dorchester Counties</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester Counties</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Board members shall be appointed annually by the President for the stated terms, within thirty (30) days after the adjournment of the Annual Convention and Conference, with members of Active Member Companies of the Association. A Board member should not be appointed to serve concurrently as an Executive Committee Member. The following credentials should be considered for selection of members to the Board:

* Ten (10) or more years of fire organization experience
* Operational fire service experience
* Administrative fire service experience
* Financial Background

Each member shall serve for a term of three (3) years with four (4) members appointed each year. Of the initial twelve (12) appointments, four (4) members shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years, four (4) members shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years and four (4) members shall be appointed for a term of one (1) year. A Chairman shall be appointed annually by the President.

Section 3- Board members shall meet and transact business, meeting as and when
A) The Board shall appoint a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary. The Vice-Chairman shall assume the duties of the Chairman in the event that the Chairman is unable to fulfill the term of appointment. The Secretary shall record all proceedings of the Board, maintain all records of the Board and initiate and receive correspondence on behalf of the Board.

B) Initially, the Board shall meet and consider, adopt and publish such rules of procedure as is necessary to carry out the functions of the Board as mandated by the aforesaid statute and shall thereafter enact or amend such other rules and regulations as it might be necessary to carry out its purpose. The Board, shall in addition to the foregoing, provide for applications for a low interest loan or grant and provide for distribution of such applications. The rules and regulations enacted by the Board shall include, but not be limited to, the following provisions:

1. That any volunteer fire, rescue or ambulance company of the State of Maryland be entitled to apply for assistance pursuant to the provisions of the statute, to the Board, irrespective of affiliation of the applicant;
2. Develop loan and grant criteria;
3. Develop loan and grant terms;
4. Develop criteria for the loan and grant application process;
5. Develop criteria for prioritization of loan and grant requests;
6. That the business of the Board be conducted in accordance with accepted parliamentary procedure.

C) The Board shall meet as and when necessary to consider or otherwise act upon applications that are pending or as is otherwise necessary to transact the business of the Board. The Board Secretary shall make notification of the meetings to all appropriate parties.

D) The applications submitted to the Board shall be complete and shall have attached thereto the following:

1) Applicants audited financial statements for the most recent two (2) years. For applicants that do not have audited financial statements, each application must have attached thereto financial statements in the form requested by the Board for the applicants most recent two (2) year period along with IRS Form 990 for each year presented on the financial statements.
E) The Chairman of the Board shall regularly report on the business of the Board to the Executive Committee of the MSFA. No action with respect to any applicant or application recommended by the Board shall be valid unless the Executive Committee of the MSFA approves the same. Initially, all rules and regulations proposed by the Board in reference to its operation, including application forms, shall be approved by the Executive Committee of the MSFA, and thereafter, any amendments to the rules or regulations or changes in any application forms are subject to the herein approval of the Executive Committee of the MSFA.

F) The provision of an application form to an applicant, or the approval by the Board and Executive Committee of the MFSA, shall nevertheless be subject to approval of the Board of Public Works of the State of Maryland and available funding, in accordance with statute as currently constituted or as hereafter amended.

G) The Board shall recommend annually to the Executive Committee of the MFSA the rate of interest charged on the loans.

H) The Board shall not be limited nor otherwise bound with regard to its consideration of an application by any previous action it has taken with respect to any other applicant or application.

I) The Board shall receive and disburse funds in accordance with statute as currently constituted or as hereafter amended.

J) The Board shall in any event be subject in all of its activities to the provisions of the statute as currently constituted or as hereafter amended.

K) The Board shall submit an annual report to the Association, which shall be submitted to the Department of Budget and Management and to the Board of Public Works of the State of Maryland by August 30 of each fiscal year.

ARTICLE IX- FOUNDATIONS, BOARDS, AND AGENCIES

Section 1- The MSFA Foundation is a corporate entity related to the Maryland State Firemen's Association. The Foundation raises funds which provide benefits to the Association. The Foundation reports on its activities to the Executive Committee of the Association.

Section 2- The President shall appoint representatives to all government boards and commissions established by Government agencies, wherein the MSFA is requested to send the name of one (1) or more individuals to the appropriate Appointment Secretary, for the Government body making the request.
Section 3- Where a board or commission has been created, wherein one (1) or more members of the voluntary emergency services would be appropriate to serve as members and where no specific request has been made of the MSFA, the following action shall be taken. The President with the concurrence of the Executive Committee shall direct the Secretary to send to the Chief Executive of the Governmental body creating or establishing the board or commission, one (1) or more names of persons to be considered for appointment as appropriate to represent the interest of the Maryland voluntary emergency services.

***BY-LAWS***

ARTICLE A- STATUS AND AMENDMENTS

Section 1- By-Laws shall not be enacted contrary to the form and substance of the MSFA Constitution.

Section 2- Any of the By-Laws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those entitled to vote and present and voting on the amendment at any Annual or Special Convention and Conference.

ARTICLE B- CONVENTIONS AND CONFERENCES

Section 1- All those entitled to seats in the Annual Convention and Conference shall be entitled to vote upon every question; but no member shall vote on any question in which they have a direct pecuniary interest. The presiding officer of a convention and conference shall not vote unless there is a tie. (Note: See Articles II and III of the Constitution).

Section 2- If any ten (10) member companies require it, the yeas and nays shall be taken and entered upon the records of the MSFA.

Section 3- Any ten (10) member companies may call for the "previous question" and if it is ordered all debate shall cease and the pending question shall be at once put to the convention and conference.

Section 4- The President of the Convention and Conference shall decide all questions of order without debate, subject to an appeal to the Convention and Conference. In case of an appeal the point of order may be debated.

Section 5- Any person called to order shall immediately take his seat until the point of order is decided, when he shall be again entitled to the floor and while speaking shall confine himself to the question and shall not use any personalities or indecorous language.

Section 6- At least one (1) delegate or one (1) alternate from one hundred (100)
different Member Companies, in good standing, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any convention and conference.

Section 7- No Member Company, Association of Member Companies, Auxiliary, individual or any other person, shall be allowed to conduct any raffle, benefit, or solicit alms, in any way, on the floor of the MSFA Convention and Conference.

Section 8- The order of business at the Annual Convention and Conference will be developed in accordance with Article II, Section 1 of the MSFA Constitution.

ARTICLE C- ASSOCIATE/SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

Section 1- Associate/Sustaining Members are entitled to the rights and subject to the limitations specified in Article I of the MSFA Constitution.

Section 2- Associate/Sustaining Members shall not use the logo of the MSFA without special permission of the Executive Committee.

Section 3- Associate/Sustaining Members shall not display FD tags on vehicles owned by them unless they are otherwise qualified, pursuant to the Transportation Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 13-615.

ARTICLE D- STANDARDS, FIRE COMPANIES/DEPARTMENTS

Section 1— THE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE, ALS, BLS, RESCUE, AND MARINE COMPANIES OR DEPARTMENTS ARE:

a) Shall maintain records of responses in accordance with an approved reporting system

b) Provide a heated station of adequate size and configuration to house apparatus, vehicles and equipment

c) Shall have a suitable means of receiving and alarm and alerting membership

d) Shall pass an inspection made by the Standards Committee prior to acceptance

e) Shall pass subsequent inspections made from time to time by the Standards Committee

f) Shall require all emergency vehicle drivers to be trained as Emergency Vehicle Operators

g) Shall require all Marine unit vessels to have a qualified operator

h) As used in these By-Laws the term "emergency medical provider" will include
those individuals having a current valid certification or license issued by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS).

Section 2— THE MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES OR DEPARTMENT ARE:

a) Active membership consisting of at least twenty (20) members including at least three (3) active line officers

b) At least three (3) trained active operators to be appointed to drive and operate the apparatus. These operators shall be thoroughly familiar with the operation of the apparatus and will be under the guidance of the Chief Officer

c) A minimum of ten (10) active members shall have successfully completed at least the Firefighter I training, as conducted by the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute or equivalent, and the Hazardous Materials-Operations Level Course

d) Shall operate apparatus in conformance to the following SOPs defining the MSFA standard for pumpers, pumper/tankers, tankers with pumps, tankers without pump, and aerial apparatus, as applicable:

1. SOP No. S001 "Pumper Standards"
2. SOP No. S002 "Tanker Standards"
3. SOP No. S003 "Ladder Truck Standards"

ARTICLE E- MINIMUM STANDARDS AMBULANCE COMPANIES MIEMSS VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE INSPECTION PROGRAM

Section 1- The minimum standards herein have been jointly developed by the MSFA and MIEMSS and thus also constitute the standard for the Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program. Upon successful completion of a voluntary inspection conducted by MIEMSS personnel, Certificate of Excellence decals for the ambulance and a Certificate of Excellence wall plaque for the station will be issued by MIEMSS Minimum standards for MSFA member fire and rescue companies operating Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulances are:

a) Active membership consisting of at least ten (10) members with EMS training, two (2) of whom must be Line Officers with responsibility for the ambulance service. For purposes of membership in the MSFA, these ten (10) members must be trained in accordance with subsection "e" of this section.

b) A heated station of adequate size and construction for housing of the apparatus and equipment.
c) A suitable means of receiving an alarm and alerting company membership.

d) Each ambulance shall have reliable two-way radios for communication with dispatch and medical command and control. Said equipment shall be operated in accordance with applicable FCC Rules and Regulations. Where communications equipment, provided by the State EMS Communications System, is operated, said equipment shall be available for inspection at any reasonable time to MIEMSS or State EMS Communications System contracted maintenance personnel. Said equipment shall also be operated and maintained in accordance with State EMS Communications System guidelines.

e) After July 1, 1995, it shall be the standard of every ambulance belonging to a member company of the MSFA, when operated on a mission in or from the State of Maryland, to be staffed by at least two (2) attendants certified in training recognized by the Good Samaritan Act of Maryland, and the Hazardous Materials Operations level course. One (1) of these attendants shall possess current and valid Maryland EMT-B certification (or higher-level certification) issued through MIEMSS. The EMT-B (or higher-level attendant) must care for the patient and ride in the patient compartment during transport. The second attendant, or another person who is not certified in training recognized by the Good Samaritan Act of Maryland, may be the driver. The driver shall be trained as an emergency vehicle operator.

f) Each ambulance shall be registered as an emergency vehicle with the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration or by reciprocity with a bordering state. All apparatus shall be in the preventive maintenance inspection program. Records of inspection under this regulation shall be kept at the location where the vehicle is garaged, assigned, or maintained. The vehicle shall be equipped with NFPA Standards for emergency warning lights and emergency audible devices, including back-up alarm and safety devices.

g) Each company which submits an application for membership in the MSFA and which operates a BLS ambulance shall pass an inspection by the EMS Committee, or its designees, prior to acceptance. This inspection may be in addition to other requirements, if the company also operates fire and rescue apparatus. If the required medical supplies and equipment fail to meet the requirements, the company shall be notified, in writing, and have thirty (30) days to rectify the discrepancies. If the discrepancies have not been rectified, the MSFA membership of the company concerned may be suspended.

h) Member companies which have not previously operated an ambulance and undertake to do so shall, pass an inspection by the MSFA EMS Committee, or its designees, prior to initiating such a service.
a) It shall be the duty of a member company and its officers to comply with the provisions of these sections and all regulations adopted under the authority of these sections. Notification of suspension for non-compliance shall be made, in writing, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, delivered to the member company.

b) Each ambulance shall be equipped with adequate equipment and supplies to care for patients in the pre-hospital phase as dictated by applicable Maryland guidelines and training. Said equipment shall be in good condition and shall be appropriately marked. All reusable items, especially those that are most often left with the patient at a hospital (boards, MAST, etc.), must be clearly marked. Due to the fact that patients are most often transported to trauma centers outside the immediate response area, the following minimum information is required: Ambulance Number (A31, M7, etc.), Company Name (not just initials), County and State Name, and Permanent Accessible Phone Number Including Area Code.

i) The equipment in each ambulance and all records relating to its maintenance and operation as such shall be open for inspection at any reasonable time to a duly authorized representative or designee of the MSFA. Ambulance supplies and equipment are listed in SOP E001 "Ambulance Company Standards".

ARTICLE F- MINIMUM STANDARDS, RESCUE COMPANIES ALS (MICU)

Section 1- Minimum standards for Advanced Life Support (ALS) Companies, performing ALS with a mobile intensive care unit (MICU). A MICU is an ambulance equipped to render ALS and transport the patient to a medical facility. Minimum standards for MSFA member ALS companies operating at the MICU level are:

a) Active membership consisting of at least ten (10) members with EMS training, two (2) of whom must be line officers with responsibility for the ambulance service. For purposes of membership in the MSFA, these ten (10) members must be trained in accordance with subsection (e) of this section.

b) A heated station of adequate size and construction for the housing of the apparatus and equipment.

c) A suitable means of receiving an alarm and alerting company membership.

d) Each unit shall have reliable two-way radios for communication with dispatch and medical command and control. Said equipment shall be operated in accordance with applicable FCC rules and regulations. Where communications equipment is operated that is provided by the State EMS communications system or that interfaces with the State EMS communications systems, said equipment shall be available for inspection at any reasonable time, to MIEMSS or State EMS
communications contractual maintenance personnel. Said equipment shall also be operated and maintained in accordance with State EMS communications systems guidelines.

e) From and after July 1, 1994, it shall be the standards of every MICU belonging to a member company of the MSFA, when operated on an ALS mission in or from the State of Maryland, to be staffed by at least two (2) attendants certified in training recognized by the Good Samaritan Act of Maryland, and the Hazardous Materials Operations Level course. One (1) of those attendants shall possess current and valid Maryland Cardiac Rescue Technician (CRT) or higher-level certification issued through MIEMSS. The attendant with the higher-level certification shall ride in the patient compartment and shall be responsible for patient care during transport. The second attendant or other person, who is not certified in training recognized by the Good Samaritan Act of Maryland, may be the driver.

f) Each MICU shall be registered as an emergency vehicle with the MVA, or by reciprocity with a bordering state.

g) Each company submitting an application for membership in the MSFA who operates a MICU shall pass an inspection by the EMS Committee or its designees prior to acceptance. This inspection may be in addition to other requirements, if a company also operates fire and rescue apparatus. If the required medical supplies and equipment fail to meet the requirements, the company shall be notified, in writing, and have thirty (30) days to rectify the discrepancies. If the discrepancies have not been rectified, the MSFA membership of the company concerned may be suspended by the MSFA. Notification of suspension for non-compliance shall be made, in writing by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, delivered to the member company.

h) It shall be the duty of a member company and its officers to comply with the provisions of these sections and all regulations adopted under the authority of these sections.

i) Each MICU shall be equipped with adequate equipment and supplies to care for patients in the pre-hospital phase as dictated by applicable Maryland protocols and training. Said equipment shall be in good condition and appropriately marked. The equipment on each MICU and all records to its operation and maintenance shall be open for inspection at any reasonable time to a duly authorized representative or designee of the MSFA.
a) Each MICU shall be equipped with medical supplies and equipment as set forth in SOP E002 "ALS (MICU) Standards".

ARTICLE G- MINIMUM STANDARDS, RESCUE COMPANIES ALS (CHASE VEHICLES)

Section 1- Minimum standards for Advanced Life Support (ALS) companies performing ALS with a chase vehicle (ALS Unit). An ALS Unit is a vehicle equipped to render ALS, transport the ALS provider and equipment to the scene to provide patient care, and accompany the patient to the appropriate medical facility on an ambulance.

Note: This section does not apply to companies operating a chase unit to upgrade an ALS equipped ambulance from basic life support staffed to ALS staffed.

a) Active membership consisting of at least ten (10) members with EMS training, two (2) of whom must be line officers with responsibility for the ALS service. For purposes of membership in the MFSA, these ten (10) members must be trained in accordance with subsection "e" of this section.

b) A heated station of adequate size and construction for the housing of the ALS unit and equipment.

c) A suitable means of receiving an alarm and alerting company membership.

d) Each unit shall have reliable two-way radios for communication with dispatch and medical command. Said equipment shall be operated in accordance with applicable FCC rules and regulations. Where communications equipment is operated that is provided by the State EMS communications system or that interfaces with the State EMS communications system, said equipment shall be available for inspection at any reasonable time, to MIEMSS or State EMS communications contractual maintenance personnel. Said equipment shall also be operated and maintained in accordance with State EMS communications systems guidelines.

e) From and after July 1, 1994, each ALS unit belonging to a member company of the MSFA, when operated on an ALS mission in or from the State of Maryland, to be staffed by at least one (1) attendant certified in training recognized by the Good Samaritan Act of Maryland, and the Hazardous Materials- Operations Level Course. That attendant shall possess a current and valid Maryland Cardiac Rescue Technician (CRT) or higher certification issued through MIEMSS. The CRT or higher-level certification shall be responsible for patient care. A second attendant, or other person, not certified to the level of CRT (or higher) may be the driver.

f) Each ALS Unit shall be registered as an emergency vehicle with the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration, or by reciprocity with a bordering state.
g) Each company submitting an application for membership in the MSFA who operates as an ALS unit shall be required to pass an inspection by the EMS Committee or its designees prior to acceptance. If the required medical supplies and equipment fail to meet the requirements, the company shall be notified, in writing, and have thirty (30) days to rectify the discrepancies. If the discrepancies have not been rectified, the MSFA membership of the company concerned may be suspended by the MSFA. Notification of suspension for non-compliance shall be made, in writing by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, delivered to the member company.

h) It shall be the duty of a member company and its officers to comply with the provisions of these sections adopted under the authority of these sections.

i) Each ALS unit shall be equipped with adequate equipment and supplies to care for patients in the pre-hospital phase as dictated by applicable Maryland protocols and training. Equipment shall be in good condition and shall be appropriately marked. The equipment on each ALS unit and all records relating to its operation and maintenance, shall be available for inspection at any reasonable time to a duly authorized representative of the MSFA. Each ALS unit shall be equipped with medical supplies and equipment as stated in Section 3.2 of SOP E002 "ALS (MICU) Standards".

ARTICLE H- MINIMUM STANDARDS, RESCUE COMPANIES

Section 1- The minimum standards for volunteer rescue companies are:

a) The following rescue equipment shall be carried on a motorized piece of apparatus with a minimum 1/2-ton capacity to carry same without being overloaded. The vehicle shall meet D.O.T. specifications and shall not exceed chassis manufacturer's G.V.W. The vehicle shall be registered as an emergency vehicle and meet all codes of the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration or its successors. All apparatus shall be in the preventive maintenance inspection program. Records of inspection under this regulation shall be kept at the location where the vehicle is garaged, assigned, or maintained. The vehicle shall be equipped with NFPA Standards for emergency warning lights and emergency audible devices, including back-up alarm, and safety devices. All personnel staffing this unit shall have protective clothing available.

b) Active company membership consisting of at least ten (10) trained members including two (2) officers; a heated station of adequate size and construction for housing of apparatus and equipment; and a suitable means of receiving an alarm
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and alerting company members.

c) Member companies operating a rescue squad shall maintain on their roster a minimum of ten (10) members who have successfully completed the forty (40) hour basic course in rescue procedures, the intermediate course of Rescue Instruction, or the Rescue Technician course as offered by the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute or equivalent, and the Hazardous Materials-Operations Level Course.

d) Equipment standards are found in SOP E003 "Rescue Company Standards".

ARTICLE I- MINIMUM STANDARD BLS FIRST RESPONDER UNITS

Section 1- The standards for this unit are found in SOP E004 "BLS First Responder Standards".

ARTICLE J- MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR MARINE UNITS

Section 1- Standards for watercraft are found in SOP E005 "Watercraft Standards".

ARTICLE K- COMMITTEE DUTIES

NOTE: For duties of the Executive Committee, refer to MSFA Constitution, Article IV, Section 16.

Section 1- The 17 State Circle Committee shall be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the building at 17 State Circle, Annapolis, for so long as it is leased to the MSFA, including such duties as formulation of a budget based on maintenance and operating expenses, recommending alterations in conformity with guidelines of the Maryland Historical Society, preservation of the building as a show place for the MSFA, and establishing exhibits of selected MSFA memorabilia.

Section 2- The Awards Committee shall coordinate functions of the MSFA Committees responsible for the selection and making of awards.

Section 3- The Budget and Revenue Committee shall establish and maintain procedures to implement the budget, with approval of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall supervise the compilation of the MSFA annual budget and submit same, with recommendations, to the Executive Committee for final approval. The Budget and Revenue Committee at the time they present the Budget to the Executive Committee shall make a recommendation of monies to be kept in Reserve for that Budget year. That Reserve can only be changed by a supplemental Budget.

Section 4- The Constitution and By-laws Committee shall formulate and present proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws to the Executive Committee,
providing the proposals have been submitted, in writing, in accordance with Article VII, Section 1, entitled "Amendments".

Section 5- The Convention and Conference Committee shall make arrangements for the Annual Convention and Conference and, as needed, shall coordinate activities with local organizations.

Section 6- The Data Systems Committee shall establish a mechanism for collecting and recording information on the type and value of each kind of financial support provided or available by counties and municipalities to fire, emergency medical services, and rescue companies in each jurisdiction. All appropriate information on equipment, buildings (including federally and/or state owned structures), membership, alarms, etc., is to be included in the database. Gathering and use of the information is to be coordinated with the Statistical Committee and the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund Board.

Section 7- The Emergency Medical Services Committee shall represent the Ambulance and Rescue Services in the member companies in formulating standards to comply with regulations as deemed necessary under the Emergency Medical Service of Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The committee shall provide information to and cooperate with the Firemen's Training Committee in the development of a Ten (10) Year Training Plan, including such training relating to the provision of Emergency Medical Services.

Section 8- The Financial Committee shall function as a team consisting of the Office of the Financial Secretary, the Office of the Treasurer, the Budget and Revenue Committee Chairman, and a representative of the Executive Committee.

The team will be responsible for the fiscal matters of the Association and shall provide an annual Financial Report conducted by an outside accounting service to the Executive Committee by the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 9- The Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee shall develop and promote a statewide year-round fire prevention program. The program shall be planned and promoted to inform the people of Maryland of all age groups. The program shall be developed and carried forward in cooperation with the Director of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute and the State Fire Marshall, who will serve as technical advisors to the Committee. The Committee may enlist the aid of any interested organization, group or individuals at the discretion of the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Committee or at the direction of the Executive Committee. The Committee shall furnish a written report at each meeting of the Executive Committee, and it shall present a complete report of Committee activities during the year to the delegates assembled at the Annual Convention and Conference. The Committee shall
Section 10- The Firefighter of the Year Committee shall be responsible for receipt of the nominations and selection of the recipient of the annual MSFA award. The Committee shall solicit nominations for the National Volunteer Fire Council's award and submit appropriate names to that group.

Section 11- The Grants Committee shall promote participation in grant programs and provide assistance to Companies/Departments with grant applications and grant writing.

Section 12- The Hall of Fame Committee shall be responsible for naming persons to the MSFA Hall of Fame, Marbury F. Gates Service Cup Award, and the Roll of Honor, in recognition of their efforts on behalf of the Fire/EMS/Rescue service.

Section 13- The Historical, Archives, and Volunteer Firefighter's Room Committee shall compile historical data relative to fire, emergency medical services and rescue activities in Maryland. This committee shall represent the MSFA in all matters relating to the Volunteer Firefighter's Room and shall coordinate appropriate MSFA activities including, but not limited to, furnishing and decorating with those activities of the University College, Adult Education Center, University of Maryland. The Committee shall endeavor to locate and acquire items for exhibit in a permanent museum and perform such other duties as may be required by the MSFA.

Section 14- The Incentive Programs Committee shall be responsible for monitoring incentive programs, coordinate the collection of information for programs such as LOSAP, Income Tax Modification and other programs that might come about, to provide for volunteer firefighters, rescue, and emergency medical personnel.

Section 15- The Legislative Committee shall formulate and monitor the passage of such legislation as may be to the interest and benefit of the MSFA. The Chairman of the Committee shall register as the legislative agent for the MSFA and shall direct others that assist him in this endeavor to also register. The Chairman shall keep records and file reports as required by the laws of Maryland and shall assure that any person registered on behalf of the Association also keeps and files records required by law. The Chairman shall report regularly and seek advice from the Officers and the Executive Committee on positions of the MSFA, but shall have the authority to act by lone judgment when time is of the essence, being ever mindful of the goals and aims of the MSFA.

Section 16- The Planning Committee shall in conjunction with the Presidents and Executive Committee develop short and long range goals and plans of the Association.

Section 17- The President's Vehicle Committee shall be responsible for the acquisition, maintenance, and disposal of Association vehicles and accessories.
Section 18- The Public Relations Committee shall compile information of interest to fire, emergency medical services, rescue companies and the public, making this information generally known throughout the State, by whatever method that can be used to the best interest of the MSFA. The Committee shall perform such other duties as may be required by the Association and shall submit a written report of its activities to the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 19- The Recruitment and Retention Committee shall be responsible for developing and executing programs to assist members with recruiting new members and keeping their existing members.

Section 20- The Residential Sprinkler Initiative Committee supports and works with local fire service groups in establishing requirements for residential sprinkler systems in new one (1) and two (2) family dwellings and educate various groups on the facts about residential sprinklers.

Section 21- The Risk Management Committee shall monitor MSFA insurance requirements and recommend adjustments as needed.

Section 22- The Safety Committee shall promote a statewide safety program among member companies. The program will be planned so as to provide companies with material and literature on safety on the scene of any emergency and driving of equipment to emergencies, drills and parades. The Committee will cooperate with the Training Committee, the Emergency Medical services Committee, Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute or its successor, and any such agency that promotes safety. The Committee will have published in the bulletin of the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, its successor, or other such publications, information on accidents as well as precautions to be taken for the best interest and welfare of personnel. The Committee will make a report at each meeting of the Executive Committee and will present a complete report for the year to the delegates at the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 23- The Scholarship Committee shall by June Pt in cooperation with scholarship committees of appropriate universities, colleges, academies, or other institutions of higher learning within Maryland to determine to provide or deny grants or loans to new applicants or continuing students. The Committee shall in proper cases award, to the extent funds are available, such grant or loan to an eligible applicant or student participating in a course related to fire or health services including, but not limited to, fire sciences or emergency medical services.

The Committee may use funds provided through resources of the MSFA Foundation or from other sources. The Committee is authorized to solicit funds for grants or loans from any source it deems proper. The Committee shall from time to time, promulgate rules and regulations relating to its duties, eligibility of applicants or recipients, acceptable sources of funds to be solicited or regulations dealing with liability of a
given recipient to repay part of any grant or loan.

Section 24- The Sergeant-At-Arms Committee shall maintain order at all Executive Committee meetings, the MSFA Convention and Conference, and other meetings as required.

Section 25- The Standards Committee shall study and keep abreast with fire fighting, emergency medical services and rescue requirements and make recommendations for any changes that would improve the standards of this Association, and to make inspections or perform such other duties as may be required by the Association.

Section 26- The Statistical Committee shall assist and cooperate in the formation and operation of a uniform statistical reporting system (Statistical Report) by the State. The Committee shall require the use of the uniform statistical reporting system by all member companies of the MSFA and shall obtain and compile other statistical information as may be requested by the MSFA.

The failure, in any two consecutive years, of a member company of the MSFA to provide to the MSFA a Statistical Report as required by the Statistical Committee shall lead to the suspension of said company from the MSFA until such reports are filed.

Section 27- The Training Committee shall promote programs responsive to the needs of the fire service located within the State of Maryland and shall continue the development of a ten (10) year training program which reflects the future needs of the Maryland Fire Service; in addition, the Training Committee shall be the official voice of the MSFA in fire service training matters with the University of Maryland and other vocational or educational organizations of this State. The Committee shall advise and collaborate with the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute in the conduct of courses of instruction for the Maryland Fire Service; and shall encourage and assist in developing regional schools and local and other specialized courses in the State. The Committee shall recommend to the Executive Committee enabling legislation, which will maintain and advance the necessary fire service training plans or programs. The Committee shall submit periodic reports to the Executive Committee and a written report of its activities to the Annual Convention and Conference.

Section 28- The Transportation Committee shall provide to the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration or its successor, as required, proof by MSFA that applicants for special "FD" license plates are eligible members of a volunteer fire department, or emergency medical services company, or auxiliary thereof. The applicable fees and time periods shall be determined from time to time by the Executive Committee on its own motion or on the request of the Transportation Committee. It shall be responsible for notifying companies and auxiliaries of current procedures for obtaining such plates or validation stickers for them. The Committee should maintain a close working relationship with the M.V.A. concerning any matters that may affect the emergency services organizations of their members. The Committee shall also maintain liaison with the Maryland Toll
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Facilities Administration to continue the special privileges provided for authorized emergency vehicles.

Section 29- The **Ways and Means Committee** shall operate the MSFA’s annual raffle and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to it.

**ARTICLE L- NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Section 1- This organization prohibits discrimination in membership or other activities on the basis of race, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental handicap.

The Constitution and By-laws of the Maryland State Firemen's Association have been revised and updated with the amendments approved at the 120th Annual Convention and Conference held at Ocean City, Maryland, June 16-22, 2012.

Punctuation and grammatical errors were corrected August 14, 2013.

Steven J. Scheinin, Chairman Constitution & By-laws Committee

**APPENDIX A**

**MSFA Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)**

SOP A001 "Preparation and Revision of Standard Operating Procedures" SOP A002 "Expense Reimbursement"

SOP A003 "Travel Reimbursement"

SOP A004 "Operation and Maintenance of the President's Vehicle Fleet" SOP E001 "Ambulance Company Standards"

SOP E002 "ALS (MICU) Standards"

SOP E003 "Rescue Company Standards"

SOP E004 "BLS First Responder Standards"

SOP E005 "Watercraft Standards"

SOP 5001 "Pumper Standards"

SOP 5002 "Tanker Standards"

SOP 5003 "Ladder Truck Standards"
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>Russell J. Strickland Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>Francis L. Brannigan Instructor of the Year Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 31</td>
<td>Scholarship Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Edwin L. Emkey Sr., Cadet Memorial Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Zembower Fire Service Training Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Marbery F. Gates Service Cup Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Gladhill-Thompson Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Hall of Fame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Past President C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Accident and Injury Prevention Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Fire Prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Silver Spring Fire Prevention Trophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Josiah A. Hunt, M.D., EMS Person of the Year Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>Family Appreciation Program Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Colburn Trophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Firefighter of the Year Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Miss Fire Prevention Contest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Senator William H. Amoss Memorial Legislative Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Robert H. Shimer Administrator of the Year Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Smith N. Stathem Jr., PP Memorial Safety Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Roll of Honor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parade</td>
<td>Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parade</td>
<td>Governors Fire Prevention Trophy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Check msfa.org (Awards) for details and specifics for each award
RUSSELL J. STRICKLAND AWARD

Purpose of Award: The Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board has established an award in honor of Russell J. Strickland. This award is to be presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated professionalism in the field of fire service certification in the same manner that Mr. Strickland performed for the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board.

Mr. Strickland was instrumental in the organization and founding of the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board and has served in many capacities including Treasurer, Chairman of the Accreditation Training Review Agencies Task Force and while holding the position of Assistant Director of the Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute served as a member of that agency’s Accredited Training Review Agency Local Review Board and as their Representative to the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board. Mr. Strickland also served many years as the Maryland Representative to the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications.

Professional, dedicated, honest and fair were the hallmarks of Mr. Strickland’s daily life and work. His words and deeds were always courteous and respectful. It is in this light that the Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board honors Mr. Strickland through this award.

Award Criteria: The Russell J. Strickland Award is presented to a worthy individual who has made significant contributions towards the promotion of certification for fire and emergency services personnel in the State of Maryland in keeping with the high standards of dedication and professionalism exhibited by Russell J. Strickland.

Nomination Process: A call for nominations will be open to all member agencies during the months of January thru February each year and all member agencies are invited to participate. Nominations for the Russell J. Strickland Award must be submitted to THE RUSSELL J. STRICKLAND AWARD SELECTION COMMITTEE, Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board, c/o Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, University of Maryland, Building 199, College Park, Maryland 20742-6811 by March 1st of each year on the form designed specifically for this award. A one-page narrative shall be attached to the nomination form detailing the nominee’s contributions and up to 3 endorsements for the nominee may be included. The endorsements shall be no more than three pages in length and should thoroughly detail the nominee’s contribution.

Previous Recipients: 2013
                  2014
FRANCIS L. BRANNIGAN
INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of an individual or group contribution to fire, rescue, and emergency medical services training and education.

Award Sponsor: Chesapeake Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors, and the Maryland Chapter of the International Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors.

Award Administered By: Chesapeake Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors

Background: The Francis L. Brannigan Instructor of the Year Award was first established by Professor Francis L. Brannigan in 1977. Professor Brannigan was the first and longtime Professor with the Montgomery College Fire Science Program and a member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers. This award is presented annually by the Chesapeake Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors in recognition of an individual or group contribution to fire, rescue, and emergency medical services training and education in Maryland.

Award Rules:

1. In order to be considered for the award, the following should be addressed in the nomination:
   A. The contribution during the previous calendar year with any specific information related to fire, rescue, and EMS training and education.
   B. The contribution made to fire, rescue, or EMS training and education during the years prior to the previous calendar year.

2. Nominees do not have to be members of the Maryland fire and rescue service or the Chesapeake Society of Fire and Rescue Instructors to be considered.

3. Nominations should be sponsored by a chapter member and submitted in a narrative format with as much specific information as possible to:
   Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute Upper Eastern Shore Regional Office
   Wayne C. Colburn
   Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute
   University of Maryland
   College Park, MD

4. All nominations must be received no later than March 31st of each year.

5. The award is presented at the Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
### Previous Recipients:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Francis L. Brannigan</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Michael Weller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Warren E. Isman</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Mark New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Kurt Eisenschmidt</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Jackie Carey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Theodore L. Jarboe</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Stephan Cox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Mike Crawford</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>John G. “Jack” Hulet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Mary Beth Michos</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Alan L. Braver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>John McNeece</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Earl Powell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Not Awarded</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Harry Devlin</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>George Fairfax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>W. Newton “Skip” Carey</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Jeff Dickey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Judith K. White</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Mark Falkanhan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>State Fire Marshal’s Staff</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Daniel J. Stevens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Margaret E. SeBour</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Herman E. Rhue</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>David Lewis, PP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Milton Zepp</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Andrew I Levy</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>George A. Morgan</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Leon M. Fleming</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Clarence “Smiley” White</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Leonard E. Yox</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Robert I. Rose</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>W. Newton “Skip” Carey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>William Luberman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Elaine Wedding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Applicants may apply for scholarship assistance in the following areas:

1. Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland.
2. Emergency Health Services at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC).
3. Current approved curricula are the Management and Paramedic tracks, which lead to a Bachelor’s Degree.
4. Any Maryland Community College, in a curriculum that leads to a Bachelor’s degree in Fire Protection Engineering.
5. Programs at any Community College in Maryland, in Fire Sciences or Emergency Medical Services leading to a Bachelor’s Degree.
6. Any Maryland University, in a curriculum leading to a Bachelor’s Degree in Fire or EMS related fields.
7. Programs at any Community College in Maryland, in Emergency Medical Services leading to an Associates Degree.
8. This scholarship is paid directly to the educational institution for the purpose of tuition and fees. At no time will this scholarship be awarded directly to the student or third party for cash or payment.

The committee has assigned the following priorities to control scholarship grants:

1. Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Maryland. (Juniors in good standing or higher standing, enrolled in a 4-year program, faculty recommendation.)
2. Fire Science at the University of Maryland University College (UMUC). (Juniors in good standing or higher standing, enrolled in a 4-year program.)
3. Emergency Health Service Majors at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). (Juniors in good standing or higher standing or higher, enrolled in a 4-year program, faculty recommendation.)
4. Community College in Fire or EMS related programs leading to a Bachelor’s Degree.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

Application must be submitted by April 15th to be considered for scholarship assistance for the ensuing academic year.

Currently supported students will be required to submit a supplemental application form for consideration for continued support.

Applications are available via download from the MSFA Web Site.
Program Requirements:
All applicants must enter full time or part-time status as a student in his/her respective College/University to be eligible for the scholarship.

Verified acceptance by the respective College/University with confirmation of approved program acceptance will be a prerequisite for receipt of a scholarship.

The awarded scholarship will be made available to the finance office of the College/University specified in the application at the beginning of the academic school year or designated semesters. At no time will the scholarship be awarded as cash funds to the individual recipient.

Unused funds are to be returned by the academic institution at the end of the academic year.

Applicants are required to advise the committee of any other grants or scholarships that have been awarded or for which the applicant is eligible at the time of application.

The respective campus finance office will be asked to review each application for scholarship assistance.

All applicants must be Maryland State High School Graduates or hold a GED. Verification of five years of active volunteer service in a Maryland fire or EMS company/department may be substituted for this requirement.

The applicant for any approved degree program shall be required to submit a letter of recommendation from his/her volunteer Fire/Rescue or EMS Company.

This letter must be signed by the President of the applicant’s member company and accompany the application for scholarship.

Applicants must have completed one year of study at a college/university earning no less than 12 credit hours per semester and have been accepted to participate in an approved degree program.

Currently supported college level students will be required to maintain an acceptable Grade Point Average (GPA) 3.0 to be eligible for scholarship support for the ensuing academic year.

Currently supported college level students who have not maintained an acceptable GPA of 3.0 but have a GPA above 2.5 or greater will be placed on academic probation and required to bring their GPA back to the accepted standard with in one academic year to remain eligible for the scholarship.
New sophomore applicants are required to have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to be eligible for the program.

All students that have been awarded a scholarship are required to submit their transcript at the completion of each semester while receiving the scholarship.

Failure to present current grades at the completion of each semester to the scholarship committee may result in future funds being withheld and ineligibility for future academic years.

Students must maintain full time status and carry no less than 12 credit hours per semester to be eligible for the scholarship.

Students dropping below the required credit hours per semester will forfeit their scholarship and be required to reimburse the Maryland State Firemen’s Association the full amount of the scholarship.

Students changing to a major not supported by the program or dropping out of school may be required to reimburse the Maryland State Firemen’s Association the awarded scholarship or a portion thereof.

Applications submitted without all supporting documentation are subject to rejection and will not be reviewed by the selection committee.

It is the responsibility of the applicant not the committee, to ensure that parties entrusted with submitting supporting documentation follow through by the appointed deadlines.

In an effort to conserve funds and to give our younger persons the opportunity for a college experience, committee policy is to deny scholarship support to those applicants currently holding a Bachelor or equivalent degree.

For more information, please contact:
Glenn Dale Fishack Jr., Chairman
Maryland State Firemen’s Association
Scholarship Committee
14545 Barkdoll Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742
EMAIL: chiefringgold@aol.com
Scholarship Application  
(Please Type or Use Dark Ink)  
Page 1 of 3

Name: _____________________________________________________
Date of Birth:_____/_____/_______
Home Address: ____________________________________________________
City: ____________________________________________________________ State: __________
Zip Code:____________________
Phone Home:_____________________________
Cell:___________________________________
Email Address:__________________________________________

Name of Volunteer Fire Department/Auxiliary:
Address:_______________________________________________________
City: _________________________________________ State:____________
Zip Code:___________________
President of Department: ____________________________________________
Phone #: ______________________________________
Year Joined: __________________________________
Years of Membership: ________________________

List all Fire or EMS Certifications and Courses, (ATTACH Copies of Cards and Transcript): _______________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

High School Attended:____________________________________________
Date Graduated:___________
Address: _________________________________________________________
City: _________________________________________ State:____________
Zip Code:_________________

If GED, Give date entered, received and location: _________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

Scholastic & Athletic Honors Receive in College: _________________________
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

*****ATTACH DOCUMENTATION*****

List School & Community Activities, Teams or Clubs in which you are a Member or Participated in High School. (Include any Office Held):

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

*****ATTACH A COPY of TRANSCRIPT with APPLICATION*****

Name of Educational Institution that you are attending:

Address:_________________________________________________________
City:________________________ State:__________ Zip Code:__________
Major:__________________________________________________________
Name of Faculty Advisor:________________________________________
Phone:__________________
Status: FULL TIME / PART TIME Credits per Semester: _____________
Credits completed towards Major: _________________________________
GPA:____________________

Please circle Level for academic year that you are seeking scholarship:
Sophomore / Junior / Senior

Scholastic & Athletic Honors Receive in College: ___________________
_______________________________________________
_______________________________________________

*****ATTACH DOCUMENTATION*****

List School & Community Activities, Teams or Clubs in which you are a member or participated in college. (Include any Office Held):

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

List any other financial assistance opportunities for which you have applied or will be receiving: __________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
List any other financial assistance that you have been awarded: ______________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
List scholarships or awards previously received: _________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
Employer: __________________________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________
Zip Code: __________
Supervisor: ____________________________________
Phone #: ___________________________________
Full Time/ Part Time Hours per week: ___________________

Do you plan to continue to work while in school: YES / NO Full Time/ Part Time?

On a separate sheet of paper to be submitted with the application please answer the following questions in typed essay format approximately 250 to 500 words.

1. Why are you applying for financial assistance?
2. What inspired you to pursue this course of study?
3. What are your career goals and objectives upon completion of this degree?

Before submitting this application, be sure the following items are enclosed:
  1. Application
  2. High School Transcript
  3. College Transcript
  4. Letter from President of Fire Department/Auxiliary
  5. Copies of Awards and Certifications
  6. Essay

Applications submitted without all supporting documentation are subject to rejection and will not be reviewed by the Selection Committee. It is the responsibility of the applicant not the committee, to ensure that parties entrusted with submitting supporting documentation follow through by the appointed deadlines.

I hereby declare that all of the above information is complete and correct to the best of my ability.
Signature: __________________________ Date: _____/_____/_______

Please return the completed application with all accompanying documentation to the chairman, at the address indicated below, no later than March 31st to be considered for scholarship assistance for the ensuing academic year. Currently supported students will be required to submit a supplemental application form for consideration for continued support.

CHAIRMAN:
Glenn Dale Fishack Jr.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association
Scholarship Committee
14545 Barkdoll Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742
EMAIL: chiefringgold@aol.com
Scholarship Renewal Application
(Please Type or Use Dark Ink)
Page 1 of 3

Name: _____________________________________________________
Date of Birth:_____/_____/_______
Home Address:____________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________
Zip Code:________________
Phone #: Home:_____________________Cell:_________________________
Email Address:____________________________________________________
Name of Volunteer Fire Department/Auxiliary: ___________________________
Address:_________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________

President of Department/Auxiliary: ____________________________________
Phone #: ________________________________________
Year Joined: ______________________________________________________________________
Years of Membership: ______________________________________

Name of Educational Institution that you are attending:
________________________________________________________________
Address:_________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________

Major: ________________________________________
Name of Faculty Advisor: ___________________________________________
Phone:_________________
Status: FULL TIME / PART TIME Credits per Semester: _______________
Credits Completed towards Major: ___________________________________
GPA:__________________

Please circle Level for academic year that you are seeking scholarship:

Sophomore / Junior / Senior

*****ATTACH A COPY of TRANSCRIPT with APPLICATION*****

Scholastic & Athletic Honors Receive in College:
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

*****ATTACH DOCUMENTATION*****
List School & Community Activities, Teams or Clubs in which you are a Member or Participated in college. (Include any Office Held):

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

List any other financial assistance opportunities for which you have applied or will be receiving: ______________________________

________________________________________________________________

List any other financial assistance that you have been awarded:

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

List scholarships or awards previously received:

________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________

Employer: ________________________________________________________
Address: _______________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State:__________  Zip Code:__________
Supervisor: ___________________________________
Phone #: ___________________________________
Full Time/ Part Time Hours per week: ____________

Do you plan to continue to work while in school: YES / NO Full Time/ Part Time

Before submitting this application be sure the following items are enclosed:

Application Letter from President of Fire Department/ Auxiliary

College Transcript, Copies of Awards and Certifications

Applications submitted without all supporting documentation are subject to rejection and will not be reviewed by the Selection Committee. It is the responsibility of the applicant not the committee, to ensure that parties entrusted with submitting supporting documentation follow through by the appointed deadlines.

I hereby declare that all of the above information is complete and correct to the best of my ability.

Signature: ___________________________ Date:_______/________/_______
Please return the completed application with all accompanying documentation to the chairman, at the address indicated below, no later than March 31st to be considered for scholarship assistance for the ensuing academic year. Currently supported students will be required to submit a supplemental application form for consideration for continued support.

CHAIRMAN:
Glenn Dale Fishack Jr.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association
Scholarship Committee
14545 Barkdoll Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742
EMAIL: chiefringgold@aol.com
PAST PRESIDENT C. OSCAR BAKER
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of the Outstanding Rookie Firefighter/EMS Provider

Award Sponsor: Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company or Carroll County

Award Administered By: Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company and the elected officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Background: The Past President C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year Award was established by the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company and accepted by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee in 2002. The award was established to honor Past President C. Oscar Baker for his sixty (60) years of active service to the citizens of Mount Airy and the surrounding communities, Carroll County and the State of Maryland. Past President Baker has served as President of the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company, President of the Carroll County Volunteer Firemen’s Association and President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (1978-79). Past President Baker retired as Fire Chief of the National Bureau of Standards and then served as the Volunteer Coordinator for Carroll County for several years. He was a field instructor for the Fire Service Extension and later the Maryland Fire/Rescue Institute for several decades. Past President Baker has served as Chair of several committees of the MSFA, including: the Training Committee, Hall of Fame and the Centennial Committee. The Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company saw it fitting to honor someone who is beginning their emergency service career with an award to encourage them to reach the high level of service and dedication to our citizens we all serve that Past President C. Oscar Baker exemplifies. The award is to be presented during the annual convention and conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

Award Rules
1. Nominee must be from a member company or department of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
2. Any active member of a member company or department of the MSFA may submit the name of a nominee for the award.
3. Junior/Cadet members of a member company or department are NOT eligible for this award. Time spent as a Junior/Cadet member does not count towards the 24 months of service.
4. Nominee must be an active Senior Member of the sponsoring company or department, and at least 17 years of age at the time of award application.
5. Nominee must have at least 6 months, but less than 24 months of active membership with the sponsoring company or department, calculated from the April 15th application due date.
6. A nominee that transfers from one company or department to another is not eligible for the award unless their total time of membership is less than 24 months combined.

7. Nominations in the form of a resume must be submitted on an individual basis only and on official company or department letterhead or stationary.

8. Nominations must be submitted to, and received by the MSFA Secretary no later than **April 15th** of each year. Late entries will **NOT** be considered.

9. All elected officers of the MSFA will judge nominees.

10. The mailing address for entries is:

    Doyle E. Cox  
    Secretary, Maryland State Firemen’s Association  
    29132 Superior Circle  
    Easton, MD 21601

**Award Details:**

Upon selection of the winner of the award, the President or Chief of the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company shall be notified no later than May 15th of the selection. This will allow preparation of the personal trophy and the recording of the individual’s name on the master trophy.

The master trophy will have the date of the award, name and fire company of the recipient engraved thereon and will, for one year from date of presentation until the next MSFA Annual Convention and Conference, remain in the responsible custody of the honored individual’s company. The personal trophy also suitably endorsed will be presented to the individual to covet and keep forever. The selected award winner will also receive the C. Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the MSFA Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is blue/red and the gold medal is inscribed as Oscar Baker Rookie of the Year, with the year and the MSFA Seal in the center.

**Previous Recipients:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Chris McDonald</td>
<td>Maryland City</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Matthew Rose</td>
<td>Odenton</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Derek R. Dods</td>
<td>Mt. Airy</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
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EDWIN L. EMKEY SR. CADET AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of the Outstanding Company Cadet Program

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Past President Roger N. Powell

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Background: The Edwin L. Emkey Sr. Cadet Memorial Award was established by President Roger N. Powell and underwritten by American Claims Service and accepted by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee at the November 2011 meeting. The award was established to recognize Edwin L. Emkey Sr. for his outstanding service in promoting Cadet Programs. The outstanding Cadet Program must be sponsored by a fire, rescue, and or EMS department, company or squad. The program should be based on the teaching of safety and basic skills required for firefighting or Emergency Medical Service.

The nomination may be submitted by a committee within the department, company and/or squad, as long as it is verified by the president and/or chief. The award will be presented each year at the annual convention and conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. The winning department, company or squad will be awarded a master trophy, which will be held for one year and relinquished at the following convention and conference, at which time, the past-year recipient will receive a plaque for permanent possession. The trophy will have the award date and name of the company engraved thereon and will, for one year from date of presentation until the next MSFA annual convention and conference, remain in the responsible custody of the honored fire, rescue, and/or EMS department, company or squad. The winning department, company or squad will also receive a Five Hundred Dollar ($500) prize, which will be utilized to assist with providing funding for the cadet program.

Award Rules:

1. The department/company must be a member in good standing of the MSFA
2. To be eligible for the nomination, cadet program must:
   a. Have a minimum of seven cadets between the ages of 9 and 15
   b. Program must have been established no less than 5 years prior to nomination
   c. Must hold monthly or bi-monthly meetings, drills, training events, community service programs and be involved in other department or company activities
3. The nomination must be submitted in a resume form letter on department/company letterhead, indicating when the Cadet Program was established, number of members, activities over the previous year, including all community
activities, training and fund raising.

4. Any book entered, including scrapbooks, photo albums, or loose-leaf binders, cannot exceed 12 x 15.5 inches. The thickness of the book is not limited. The book entered will only be used as backup information to the resume.

5. Slide presentations, DVDs, slide/tape presentations and video tape presentations will not be accepted.

6. Photographs and newspaper clippings must be dated and the sources indicated.

7. Entries must be in the hands of the Selection Committee by **April 1st**

8. All materials submitted should reflect activities of the previous calendar year (Jan. through Dec.)

9. Judges shall be the elected officers of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the decision of the judges shall be final.

10. Any evidence of material from previous years will automatically disqualify the entry.

11. Send or deliver all entries to Secretary of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

**Previous Recipients:**

<table>
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<th>Cadet Company/Department</th>
<th>County</th>
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COLBURN TROPHY AWARD

Purpose of Award: Outstanding Act of Heroism

Award Sponsor: Princess Ann Volunteer Fire Company

Award Administered By: Board of Trustees

Background: At the 40th Annual Convention in Frostburg in June, 1932, the Colburn Silver Cup was presented to the Association by retiring President George W. Colburn Jr. The award is to be awarded in line of succession from year to year to a firefighter in our organization for some outstanding act of heroism or from some act for the good of the Association. Qualifications and awards to be made by the Board of Trustees who shall act as judges. This cup is to be presented at the Annual Convention and Conference of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association with appropriated ceremonies.

At the 66th Annual Convention in Ocean City in June 1958, due to the lack of space for more recipient’s names, the original Colburn Silver Cup was retired and presented to the Princess Anne Volunteer Fire Company to be placed in their fire station in honor of Dr. Colburn. Since the retirement of the original cup, the Princess Anne Volunteer Fire Company has agreed to supply a replacement for the Colburn Cup each year with this difference; that it will be retained by the recipient for keeps. Your department surely must have a member who would be eligible to have his/her name submitted to the Board of Trustees to be considered for this high award.

The recipient will receive the Colburn Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is solid red and the gold medal, with red, white and blue enamel paint is inscribed as the “Medal of Heroism”, with the MSFA Seal in the center.

Award Rules: Nomination submitted for consideration must follow the following requirements:

1. Must be on fire, rescue, or ambulance department stationary giving detailed summary of his/her outstanding actions or reason to be considered.
2. Must be received by the Board of Trustees prior to May 1st of each year.
3. Must be mailed or delivered to: Jeffery H. Thompson
   MSFA Board of Trustees Secretary
   202 Oriole Road
   Chestertown, MD 21320

Previous Recipients:
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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Wilbur R. Dulin</td>
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<td>1937</td>
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<td>Adam St. John</td>
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<td>Lt. Rachel Itzoe</td>
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FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Purpose of Award: Outstanding Citizenship and Exemplary Job Achievement

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Firefighter of the Year Committee

Background: The Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) established the Firefighter of the Year Award in 1978, to be presented at the Annual Convention and Conference each year from nominations received from the member departments or individuals. Qualified nominations will be judged by the Firefighter of the Year Committee appointed by the President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

The committee solicits your support in this fine program and asks that you select someone in your department or from a member department of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association for the award.

Award Rules

1. Nominee must be from a member department of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
2. Any active member of a department of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association may submit the name of a nominee for the award.
3. Nominations must be submitted on an individual basis only on official letterhead or department stationary with the official MSFA Firefighter of the Year Nomination Form attached. Form must be signed with title of person submitting the nomination. A photograph of the nominee shall be submitted with the form.
4. Nomination must be submitted to the Chairman of the Firefighter of the Year Committee no later than May 1st of each year. Any late entries will NOT be considered. The mailing address for the entries is:

   David “Rusty” Leftwich  
   Chairman, MSFA Firefighter of the Year Committee  
   2121 Harkins Road  
   Pylesville, MD 21132

5. Guidelines for selection of nominee:

   A. Outstanding citizenship, i.e., activities by a firefighter to better his/
her department and community at large, etc.

B. Exemplary job achievement, i.e., lecturing at school on fire safety, setting up a program of fire inspections, fund raising, etc.

C. This award will be for calendar year only.

NOTE: This award will not be judged on acts of heroism. All heroism nominations should be directed to the Colburn Trophy Award.

6. Awarding of the Firefighter of the Year Plaque and Certificates:

A. Award to be made at the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference.

B. Winner to receive large plaque annually

C. Winner receives the Firefighter of the Year Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is red and white and the gold medal is inscribed as Firefighter of the Year, with the MSFA Seal in the center.

D. Awarding of plaque and medal to be made by the President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

E. Certificates will be presented or mailed to all nominees.

F. Recipients name will be placed on a large plaque in the Volunteer Firefighter’s Room, Adult Education Center, University of Maryland, College Park. Plaque donated by the Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department of Montgomery County in memory of Chief Spencer J. H. Brown Sr., Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.

Previous Recipients:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Richard A. Ayers</td>
<td>Community FC of Rising Sun</td>
<td>Cecil</td>
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<td>James J. Snyder Jr.</td>
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<td>Montgomery</td>
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<td>1981</td>
<td>Eugene L. Worthington</td>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<td>1981</td>
<td>Joseph G. Burris</td>
<td>Church Hill</td>
<td>Queen Anne’s</td>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>Tony Sterling</td>
<td>Salisbury</td>
<td>Wicomico</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>Thomas Y. Miller</td>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<td>1984</td>
<td>Harry A. Pafel Jr.</td>
<td>Fallston</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<td>1985</td>
<td>Ted F. Jackson</td>
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<td>Queen Anne’s</td>
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<td>1986</td>
<td>Diane May</td>
<td>Luke</td>
<td>Allegany</td>
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<td>1987</td>
<td>Rhonda J. Thomas</td>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<td>1988</td>
<td>David C. “Rusty” Leftwich</td>
<td>Delta-Cardiff</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>William J. Dousa Jr.</td>
<td>Joppa-Magnolia</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>L. Jason Baer</td>
<td>Goodwill</td>
<td>Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Francis T. Mowbray Jr.</td>
<td>Barton Hose</td>
<td>Allegany</td>
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Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

1992  Michael E. Tarquini  Level  Harford
1993  James E. Jarboe  Takoma Park  Montgomery
1994  Steven W. Leatherman  Middleton  Frederick
1995  Barbara A. Knippenburg  Midland  Allegany
1996  James “Deacon” Dick  Midland  Allegany
1997  Francis D. Jester  Church Hill  Queen Anne’s
1998  Joseph Wayne Hardesty  Prince Frederick VFD  Calvert
1999  Joseph Wayne Hardesty  Prince Frederick VFD  Calvert
2000  Joseph Della-Camera  Prince Frederick VFD  Calvert
2001  Jim Lyons  Joppa-Magnolia  Harford
2002  Jeff Williams  Indian Head  Charles
2003  James E. McClelland  Capital Heights  Prince George’s
2004  Daniel J. Stevens  Waldorf  Charles
2006  Aimee Cenate  Mechanicsville VFD  St. Mary’s
2007  Derrick E. Lloyd  Joppa Magnolia  Harford
2008  Christopher Scully  Hollywood VFD  St. Mary’s
2009  Jeff Thompson  Chestertown  Kent
2010  Jason Sharpe  Prince Frederick VFD  Calvert
2011  Michael Sullivan  Hollywood VFD  St. Mary’s
2012  Darryl T. Benner  Sharpsburg VFC  Washington
2013  Jared W. Trossbach  Leonardtown VFD  St. Mary’s
2014  Oley G. Griffith  First Hose Company of Boonsboro  Washington
2015
2016  Timothy Dayton  Potomac  Allegany
2017  Eddie Tatum  Hollywood VFD  St. Mary’s
MARBERY F. GATES SERVICE CUP AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of Fifty (50) Years of Continuous and Faithful Service

Award Sponsor: Rockville Volunteer Fire Department

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Hall of Fame Committee

Background: This award was established by the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department and accepted by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee in 1981 to honor over sixty (60) years of active service performed by charter member, Mr. Marbery F. Gates of Rockville, Montgomery County, Maryland. The initial and first award was presented to Mr. Marbery F. Gates on June 15, 1981, at the 86th Annual Convention of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Mr. Gates served on the MSFA Board of Trustees from 1969 through 1989.

Award Rules:

1. The Marbery F. Gates Service Cup is to be awarded to an individual selected by the MSFA as deserving of this honor; such individual is to have at least, but not less than 50 years of continuous and faithful service to organizations within the Association. Individuals nominated must be living prior to the cutoff date of April 15th of the year to be presented.

2. The Master Cup will have the award date, name and fire company of the recipient carved thereon and will, for one year from date of presentation until the next MSFA Annual Convention, remain in the responsible custody of the honored individual’s fire company. The Personal Cup also suitably endorsed, will be presented to the individual to covet and keep forever.

3. The individual selected by the Committee will receive the Marbery F. Gates Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee is 2002. The ribbon is gold with four stripes of purple and the gold medal is inscribed as Marbery F. Gates Award.

4. Each individual nominated will receive a MSFA plaque and a Governor’s Citation the first year nominated and any sequential years a MSFA certificate recognizing them for their Continuous and Faithful Service.

5. The Committee will receive nominations until April 15th. The President of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department will be notified no later than May 20th of the individual selected, to allow preparation of the individual trophy and the recording of the individual’s name on the Master Cup.

6. Nominations in the form of a resume shall be submitted No Later Than April 15th of Each Year to:
C. Dan Carpenter III  
Chairman  
MSFA Hall of Fame Committee  
1106 Cornwall Drive  
La Plata, MD 20646

Previous Recipients:

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<td>Rockville</td>
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<td>Chief Leslie B. Thompson, PP</td>
<td>Damascus</td>
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<td>Singerly</td>
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<td>Frank Middleton</td>
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<td>1985</td>
<td>Chief Byron H. Miller</td>
<td>Gaithersburg-Washington Grove</td>
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<td>William G. Holley</td>
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<td>B. Harrison Shipleys Jr., PP</td>
<td>Ellicott City</td>
<td>Howard</td>
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<td>John R. Williams</td>
<td>Delta-Cardiff</td>
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<td>Boulevard Heights</td>
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<td>West Annapolis</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>C. Oscar Baker PP</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Chief Charles B. Burton PP</td>
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<td>Chief Millard Purcell</td>
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<td>Bernard D. “Buck” Gladhill</td>
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<td>Chief Gerald A. Glaubitz, PP</td>
<td>Morningside</td>
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<td>Albert D. “Mickey” Harris Jr.</td>
<td>Glen Echo</td>
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<td>William F. Cooke</td>
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<td>Charles</td>
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<td>John W. Means Sr.</td>
<td>Pleasant Valley</td>
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<td>Joseph R. Robison, PP</td>
<td>Laurel</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>Daniel B. Smith Sr.</td>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>J. Donald Mooney</td>
<td>Lansdowne</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>John W. Berryman Sr.</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Leonard T. King Sr., PP</td>
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<td>Wylie L. Donaldson Jr.</td>
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<td>Anne Arundel</td>
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<td>Thomas P. Collins</td>
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<td>George A. “Fred” Cross Jr., PP</td>
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<td>William Olsen</td>
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<td>Thomas A. Mattingly Sr., PP</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>S. Richard Powell</td>
<td>Galena VFC</td>
<td>Kent</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>Gene Worthington, PP</td>
<td>Level</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Daniel J. Stevens</td>
<td>Waldorf</td>
<td>Charles</td>
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CHIEF A. MARVIN GIBBONS MEMORIAL AWARD

Purpose of Award: Best Appearing Company in Convention Parade

Award Sponsor: Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department, Incorporated – Montgomery County, Maryland

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention Committee

Background: In memory of Chief A. Marvin Gibbons, Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) and a man whose impact on the fire service was felt nationwide, the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (Montgomery County, Maryland) with the foreknowledge and endorsement of the MSFA Executive Committee and the Gibbons family, shall sponsor the annual A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award for the best appearing company in the MSFA Convention Parade.

Starting with the 1992 MSFA Convention, a trophy will be awarded by the parade judges at the regular award ceremony following the parade and will be presented to the best appearing company for their edification and personal safekeeping until the following MSFA Annual Convention. At that time, during the opening ceremony, the trophy will be formally surrendered to the Convention Chairman, who will then present a permanent award to the surrendering company. The trophy will then remain on display until it is re-awarded.

The perpetual trophy and permanent award will be provided by the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (Montgomery County) in memory of our brother, Chief A. Marvin Gibbons, who served with profound distinction for the forty-two years in many capacities, including President and Fire Chief.

Because Marvin was the driving force behind the annual MSFA Convention Parade and because he personally choreographed the opening ceremony of our convention it was universally felt that this award, having an impact upon both the annual parade and opening ceremony, would be a fitting tribute and memorial to this great man.

The award shall be presented to the company which, in the sole opinion of the parade judges, presents the best overall appearance considering such factors as: number of and composition of units, number of personnel in uniform, decorum, demeanor, and esprit de corps.

SECTION 1 – ANNOUNCEMENT - The following announcement was submitted to the MSFA for inclusion in the Awards Information Manual:
Name of Award: Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award.
Purpose of Award: Best Appearing Company/Department in Line of Parade, Annual MSFA Convention Parade.

Award Sponsor: Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., (Montgomery County).

Award Judged By: MSFA Annual Convention Parade Judges.

SECTION 2 – CHIEF A. MARVIN GIBBONS

Arthur Marvin Gibbons was born on April 14, 1927 in Washington, D.C. For over forty-two years, Chief Gibbons made significant and lasting contributions to the fire service of his community, Montgomery County, the State, and the Nation.

In his community, Marvin joined the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department in 1948 and served as Fire Chief for sixteen years and as President for four terms. In 1961, he was named Montgomery County “Fireman of the Year”.

At the county level, Marvin worked enthusiastically for “Bill 1” which established a seven member Executive Committee of the Montgomery County Fire Board. This committee developed policy for the fire and rescue services of Montgomery County. Chief Gibbons served as chairman or vice-chairman of the Fire Board for fourteen years. During his tenure, he spearheaded the movement to establish the county’s Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP). This program was the first of its type to recognize the service of volunteer fire and rescue personnel and has spread throughout our nation.

Also while Chairman of the Fire Board, Marvin helped to established the Heart Mobil which was the forerunner to the current Paramedic Program. In addition, he was personally involved with the building of the Public Safety Training Academy. Chief Gibbons hired the first Training Officer, the late Warren Isman and hired the first Director of the Department of Fire and Rescue Services. Chief David B. Gratz. Both of these individuals went on to become known internationally in the fire service community.

When Chief Gibbons recognized that Montgomery County lacked adequate mutual aid agreements, he attacked the problem. He used his common sense and uncommon persuasive abilities to forge the mutual aid agreements that now exist among all metropolitan area jurisdictions.

Upon retiring from the Fire Board, Chief Gibbons was elected Chairman Emeritus. Chief Gibbons also served as President of the Montgomery County Fire/Rescue Association.

At the state level, Chief Gibbons, for many years, worked tirelessly for the MSFA Convention, organizing the parade, choreographing the opening ceremonies, and
serving as both Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Convention Committee. In 1977 Marvin was elected President of the MSFA. Following his tenure as President, Chief Gibbons continued his work with the Association on numerous committees. In 1981, Chief Gibbons was elected to the “Hall of Fame.”

His efforts just prior to his death were more national in scope. Chief Gibbons was instrumental in establishing a National Fallen Firefighter’s Memorial erected at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. This memorial, and the annual ceremony which recognizes those individuals who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving their fellow citizens, was truly one of Marvin’s proudest achievements. In 1990, Chief Gibbons was honored with an award for outstanding service from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for his work in overseeing the design and construction of the Memorial.

Chief Gibbons held honorary memberships in the following organizations: Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department, Montgomery County; Chillum-Adelphi Volunteer Fire Department, Prince George’s County; Damascus Volunteer Fire Department, Montgomery County; Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company, Worcester County; Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Montgomery County; Upper Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department, Montgomery County; Wheaton Volunteer rescue Squad, Montgomery County.

Chief Gibbons was a life member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and a charter member of Heroes, Inc.

On May 16, 1993, the Fire and Rescue Service Wing of the Montgomery County Public Service Training Academy was dedicated in memory of Chief A. Marvin Gibbons.

Marvin Gibbons was raised in Washington, D.C., graduating from Anacostia High School. He served in the Navy aboard the U.S.S. Eldorado for 23 months in the Pacific during World War II. Chief Gibbons married May Ann Campbell. They raised two sons, Michael C. and A. Marvin III. Marvin’s grandchildren include: Lauren A., Michael C. II, Kelly L., and Marvin IV.

Chief A. Marvin Gibbons passed away on December 13, 1990 at his home in Lighthouse Point, Florida.

Marvin was admired for his accomplishments, love for his wit, and respected for his decency. He saw the good in every person. A friend of both the mighty and the meek. Marvin nonetheless possessed uncommon humility.

Those of us who knew Marvin personally will never forget his happy demeanor, caring personality, and high values. Those who did not have that special privilege will still
have his remarkable legacy of good works. Marvin Gibbons will always be a beacon of honor and genuine hero to the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department.

SECTION 3 – THE MEMORIAL AWARD

1.1 INTRODUCTION - The Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award consists of four major components: the pedestal, the felt field, the granite base, and the speaking trumpet. In addition, the award also includes a support for the trumpet and a dust cover. Each of the major components represents a specific aspect of the life of A. Marvin Gibbons.

1.2 PEDESTAL - The pedestal forms the foundation of the A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award. Just as Marvin Gibbons was in life, this pedestal is robust, solid, and distinguished looking. The pedestal, Made of solid mahogany, is octagonal in shape and measures forty inches high and approximately twenty-five inches across. The pedestal rests on a one inch base plate. In the top surface of the pedestal is a circular felt field. This felt field is red, Marvin’s favorite color. The felt field measures approximately eighteen inches in diameter. Upon this surface rests the granite base.

1.3 GRANITE BASE - The base of the Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award is made from Elberton dark blue-gray granite. The stone measures twelve and five-eights inches long, eight inches wide, and two inches high, has a smooth bottom, polished top, and rough sides with rounded corners. This granite resembles the gravestone of Chief A. Marvin Gibbons.

1.4 SPEAKING TRUMPET - The Speaking Trumpet is an exact duplicate of the antique speaking trumpet presented to Chief Gibbons by the Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department upon his election to President of the MSFA. The Speaking Trumpet was cast in bronze from a mold made from the original trumpet. The bronze trumpet was then polished and chrome plated. Chief Gibbons instituted the use of chrome to accent equipment and apparatus in order to build pride within the Department. The red, white and blue braid and tassels are a ceremonial halyard representing the patriotism of Chief Gibbons.

SECTION 4 - ADMINISTRATION

1.1 SET-UP AND RELOCATION - The Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award should be displayed in a dry, level location. Care should be taken to protect the pedestal base molding from damage. After an appropriate location has been decided, determine where the front of the Award will face. Place the pedestal in position and rotate until the “pointed” portion of the dust cover groove is facing
away from the front. Place the granite base in the center of the felt field with the name plate toward the front. Align the rear side of the base with the “pointed” portion of the dust cover groove. Place the plastic trumpet holder (plastic rod) in such a fashion that the ends point toward the front. Place the Trumpet on the plastic holder so as to tilt the trumpet toward the back. The Trumpet should rest on the holder. Adjust the location (front to back) to space the Trumpet evenly over the granite base. Lift the dust cover over the Trumpet and place in groove with “seam” of dust cover at the “pointed” portion of the groove. Check the alignment of the Trumpet by standing at the front; the dust cover seam should be invisible behind and in line with the Trumpet.

1.2 MAINTENANCE AND CARE - The Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award has been designed with minimum care required. The pedestal requires only occasional dusting. Prior to returning the Award to the next MSFA Convention, the pedestal should be waxed with a good grade furniture wax. The dust cover should maintain the granite base and Speaking Trumpet relatively dust free. Prior to returning the Award to the next convention, simply dust the trumpet with a soft cloth. The granite base may be wiped with a damp cloth. The dust cover should be cleaned with the plastic cleaner provided.

1.3 INSURANCE - The Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department initially carried insurance on the Chief A. Marvin Gibbons Award. The insurance is now provided under the MSFA insurance coverage. In the event of damage or theft, please contact Secretary Doyle E. Cox at doyle.cox2010@gmail.com or call 410-532-1416

The Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department gratefully acknowledges the cooperation and support of the following individuals and organizations during the design and production of this award: Abe Lincoln Flags, Banners & Gifts, Vienna, Virginia; Acme Plating Company, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland; Clements Industries, Inc., Ashton, Maryland; Continental, Inc., Rockville, Maryland; Day Memorials, Beltsville, Maryland; John J. Habert, Ellicott City, Maryland; New Arts Foundry, Baltimore, Maryland; Precision Plastics, Beltsville, Maryland; William Thrift III, Bowie, Maryland; Wood Creations, Dunkirk, Maryland.

The A. Marvin Gibbons Memorial Committee, Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department; Chief Richard P. Clime, Chief Bruce A. Emmel, C. Townesend Jones, Maureen G. Saval, Joseph A. Weisgerber, George W. Willie.

Previous Recipients:

1992 Easton Volunteer Fire Department  
1993 Easton Volunteer Fire Department
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**Purpose of Award:** Outstanding contribution to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association

**Award Sponsor:** Mr. Bernard D. “Buck” Gladhill, and the Damascus Volunteer Fire Department

**Award Administered By:** Maryland State Firemen’s Association Elected Officers

**Background:** This award was originally established by Mr. Bernard D. “Buck” Gladhill and accepted by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee in 1974. Mr. Gladhill saw the need to honor an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the future welfare of the MSFA and would be known as the Gladhill Trophy. The award will be considered the highest Maryland State Firemen’s Association award that can be conferred on an individual. It will be awarded on a highly selective basis to an individual who, in the opinion of the judges, has made an outstanding contribution to the future welfare of members of the MSFA or who has distinguished himself or herself by exceptionally meritorious service of major significance to the MSFA or the Fire Service of the United States. In 1984, the award was changed to the Gladhill-Thompson Trophy in recognition of both Mr. Gladhill and Chief Thompson.

**Award Rules:**

1. **Eligibility**

   A. The following are eligible:
      a. Members of the “Official Family” (i.e., members of the Executive Committee, the Standing Committees, Special Committees, etc.)
      b. Bona fide members of member fire companies
      c. Members of part-paid or paid fire departments, within the state
      d. Former members of an organized Fire Department within the state

   B. The following are not eligible:
      a. The judges
      b. Any candidate that received compensation for the performance of the act or acts considered for the award
2. Criteria

A. The Candidate accomplished assigned (or assumed) duties in such a manner as have been clearly exceptional among all who have performed like or similar duties in a superior manner and/or;

B. The candidate developed and improved methods and procedures, or produced an innovation or invention which accomplished extraordinary results for the MSFA or the U.S. Fire Service; or

C. The candidate may have exhibited great courage and voluntary risk of personal safety or personal possessions in the face of danger, over and beyond the call of duty, in performing an act or acts which resulted in direct benefit to the MSFA and/or its members (which this award is given for a “heroic” act it shall be given to the candidate if no other award (cash or otherwise) has been granted previously in connection with the same act); or

D. The candidate may have rendered outstanding service related to his/her activities for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association comparable with the above and relating to the following:

   a. Activities which improved the image of the Association or which gained favorable benefits or meritorious recognition for the Association or its members, or

   b. Contributed to/developed a valuable program for the benefit of the future of the Association and its members.

3. Time Period - Although it is realized that to be fully effective an award should be timely, it is not necessary that the service or performance be rendered within the year of the award.

4. Preparation of Award Certification - Factual information will be prepared as separate correspondence in the form of a proposal for each candidate. It shall list the candidates’ accomplishments in accordance with the above criteria (Section 2).

5. Submission of Nominations -

   A. The name or names of prospective recipients shall be submitted to: Doyle E. Cox, Secretary 29132 Superior Circle Easton, Maryland 21601

      Before April 15th of each year or at least 30 days before the Annual Convention.

   B. If no candidates are submitted to the judges, the judges shall select a qualified candidate.

6. The Judges - The judges shall be the elected officers of the MSFA. A simple majority of the judges present and voting shall be necessary for a decision.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

7. The Award will be presented to the recipient annually at the Annual Convention and Conference and to be inscribed with his/her name. He/she will be presented with a miniature trophy for his/her possession at the following Annual Convention and Conference. After the trophy has been filled with the names of the recipients, the award will be retired to the Volunteer Firefighter’s Room, Adult Education Center, University of Maryland, College Park.

8. The recipient will also receive the Gladhill-Thompson Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is red/green and the gold medal is inscribed as Gladhill-Thompson Award and the year, with the MSFA Seal in the center.

Previous Recipients:

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<tr>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
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<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Chief Leslie B. Thompson, PP</td>
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<td>Chief Ralph N. Small, PP</td>
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<td>1976</td>
<td>Robert J. Smith, PP</td>
<td>West Lanham Hills</td>
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<td>1977</td>
<td>Chief Lewis C. Grabille</td>
<td>Gaithersburg-Washington Grove</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
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<td>1978</td>
<td>Chief Joseph R. Robison, PP</td>
<td>Laurel</td>
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<td>1979</td>
<td>Edgar M. Snyder</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>Roy L. Wood, PP</td>
<td>Beltsville</td>
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<td>1981</td>
<td>Chief A. Marvin Gibbons, PP</td>
<td>Hillandale</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
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<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Chief Gerald A. Glaubitz, PP</td>
<td>Morningside</td>
<td>Prince George’s</td>
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<td>1983</td>
<td>William A. Hawkins</td>
<td>Jessup</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
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Award known as the “Gladhill Trophy” prior to 1984

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<td>Eugene L. “Gene” Worthington, PP</td>
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<td>Chief Charles W. Riley, PP</td>
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<td>1988</td>
<td>William E. Denver</td>
<td>Elkton</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>Chief J. Donald Mooney</td>
<td>Lansdowne</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Anne Hawkins</td>
<td>Jessup</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
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<td>David E. Kirk, PP</td>
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<td>Allegany</td>
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<td>1992</td>
<td>Chief Leonard T. King, PP</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>Chief John W. Smith, PP</td>
<td>West Annapolis</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>Chief Charles B. Burton, PP</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Charles W. Wills</td>
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<td>John Shuhart</td>
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<td>Baltimore</td>
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<td>2000</td>
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<td>2001</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>Wylie L. Donaldson</td>
<td>Odenton</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Margaret King</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Doyle E. Cox, PP</td>
<td>Prince Frederick</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
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<td>Louis J. Jonske Sr.</td>
<td>Joppa Magnolia</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<td>C. Daniel Davis Jr., PP</td>
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<td>St. Mary’s</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Benjamin W. Kurtz</td>
<td>Jarrettsville</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>Philip M. Hurlock, PP</td>
<td>Church Hill</td>
<td>Queen Anne’s</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>W. Mitchell “Mitch” Vocke</td>
<td>Jarrettsville</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>George A. “Fred” Cross, PP</td>
<td>Chestnut Ridge</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>Stephan D. Cox, PP</td>
<td>Bel Air</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>Richard K. Brooks III</td>
<td>Norrisville VFC</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>David L. Lewis, P.P.</td>
<td>Odenton</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Richard Smith</td>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td>Talbot</td>
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HALL OF FAME AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of Distinguished Service to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association or an Individual Department or County Fire or Rescue Service

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Hall of Fame Committee

Background: The Hall of Fame Award was established by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee in 1979 as a result of a recommendation from Past President Eugene J. C. Raney to recognize the distinguished service of individuals. The first emphasis to be service to the MSFA and then service to the individual’s department and local jurisdiction. Through the year 1985 the Hall of Fame Committee was authorized to select up to twenty (20) inductees into the Hall of Fame, and hence the selection shall be limited to ten (10) inductees, either living or deceased. The award shall be made at the Annual Convention. Distinguished service to the MSFA is the primary consideration, with service to the member’s company and county to be considered also.

Award Rules

1. During the year 1981 thru 1985, there were twenty (20) individuals selected each year, either living or deceased.
2. Beginning in the year 1986, induction into the Hall of Fame will be limited to ten (10) individuals who are members of a volunteer fire, rescue or EMS department/company, either living or deceased, and up to three (3) individuals who are not members of a volunteer fire, rescue, or EMS department/company, either living or deceased.
3. Names of individuals for nomination to the Hall of Fame may be submitted by:
   A. The nominee’s home fire, rescue or EMS department/company, or
   B. Any individual in good standing with a fire, rescue or EMS department/company, or
   C. A member department/company in good standing with the MSFA, or
   D. An individual member(s) of the Hall of Fame Committee
4. Nominees must have a minimum of ten (10) years of service to be eligible for consideration.
5. Nomination to the Hall of Fame should be based upon distinguished service to the MSFA. Distinguished service to the nominee’s individual
6. All nominations must be received, in writing, by the Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee, by April 15th of each year to be considered. Until selected, a letter of nomination for an individual must be submitted each year, nomination letters will not be carried over from year to year. All nomination letters must be signed.

7. Selection of nominees to the MSFA Hall of Fame will be made annual by the members of the Hall of Fame Committee.

8. All individuals selected to the MSFA Hall of Fame will receive two (2) certificates, (one for the individual and one for their station,) a pocket card, a lapel pin, shoulder patch, decal and a hat. Each inductee will also receive the Hall of Fame Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is red/white/blue and the gold medal is inscribed as “Hall of Fame” and the year, with the MSFA Seal in the center. Induction and presentations will take place at the Annual Convention and Conference.

9. The names of individuals selected to the Hall of Fame shall be published in the Annual Proceedings Book of the MSFA along with the year the selection was made.

10. A permanent plaque may be installed in the Volunteer Firefighter’s Room, Adult Education Center, University of Maryland, College Park, and the MFRI Regional Training Center. These plaques will list the individuals that have been inducted, along with the year the selection was made. The plaques at the Regional Training Centers will list only inductees from the geographical area.

11. Submission of nominations shall be mailed to:

C. Dan Carpenter III
Chairman
1106 Cornwall Drive
La Plata, MD 20646
301-609-8651

Previous Recipients:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>County</th>
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<td>Eugene J. C. Raney, PP</td>
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<td>Crisfield</td>
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<td>G. Mitchell Boudlen, PP</td>
<td>Singerly</td>
<td>Cecil</td>
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<td>John W. Smith, PP</td>
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<td>Ted C. Gardner, PP</td>
<td>Riverdale Heights</td>
<td>Prince George’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philip H. Beard, PP</td>
<td>Walkersville</td>
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463
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<tr>
<td>James N. Jarman, PP</td>
<td>Ocean City</td>
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<td>Walter Bennett</td>
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<td>Carroll</td>
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<td>Spencer J. H. Brown Sr., PP</td>
<td>Sandy Spring</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
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<td>Vincent A. Simmel</td>
<td>Cottage City</td>
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<td>Joseph H. Kelly, PP</td>
<td>Benedict</td>
<td>Charles</td>
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<td>Showell T. Culver</td>
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<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>Dorchester</td>
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<td>Noah Joffee</td>
<td>Bowie</td>
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<td>John Meech</td>
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<td>Cromwell C. Zembower, PP</td>
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<td>B. Harrison Shipley Sr., PP</td>
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<td>Theodore W. Veneman</td>
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**1980**

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<td>Marbery F. Gates</td>
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**1981**

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<td>David E. Kirk, PP</td>
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<td>Roland B. Duke, PP</td>
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<td>St. Mary’s</td>
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<td>John F. McNulty, PP</td>
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<td>Anne Arundel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leslie B. Thompson, PP</td>
<td>Damascus/Chestertown</td>
<td>Montgomery/Kent</td>
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<td>Hon. Louis L. Goldstein</td>
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**1982**

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Gilbert Perdue Sr. Snow Hill Worcester
John W. Dell Burtonsville Montgomery
Maurice E. Gray Union Bridge Carroll
Byrd J. Raby Potomac Heights Charles
Byron H. Miller Gaithersburg-Washington Grove Montgomery
James Meredith Marshall Cambridge Dorchester
Chester William Shimer Westernport Allegany
Herman B. Hare, PP Hampstead Carroll
William E. Denver Singerly Cecil
David E. Black Sr. Manchester Carroll
Joseph Worthington Level Harford
Robert N. Dempsey, PP Kennedyville Kent
Fred A. Grier Jr. Salisbury Wicomico

1984

John Ward Means Sr. Pleasant Valley Carroll
Smith N. Stathem Jr., PP Pikesville Baltimore
David S. Dwyer Bethesda-Chevy Chase Montgomery
William H. Berry Rockville Montgomery
James K. Nicholson Church Hill Queen Anne's
Albert G. Parlett Linthicum Anne Arundel
Frank L. Leizear Cabin John Park Montgomery
Daniel Bennett Smith Sr. Aberdeen Harford
William J. Fleshman, PP Beltsville Prince George’s
Thomas P. Collins Beltsville Prince George’s
Jesse L. Kimble Barton Allegany
Russell Denbow Level Harford
Roy L. Wood, PP Beltsville Prince George’s
C. Oscar Baker, PP Mt. Airy Carroll
Peter Paul Lochary, PP Bel Air Harford
J. Donald Mooney Lansdowne Baltimore
Norris J. Beard Laurel Prince George’s
Samuel Ahmuty Sr. Odenton Anne Arundel
Garyton Colvard Echols Jr. La Plata Charles
Edgar S. Freeman III Earleigh Heights Anne Arundel

1985

Charles W. Riley, PP Abingdon Harford
Harry J. Devlin Midland Allegany
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Francis E. “Dutch” Philpot Shaft Allegany
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Dennis Skinner Avalon Shore Anne Arundel
Robert Renner New Midway Frederick
Elmer E. Dunn Sr., PP Powhatan Beach Anne Arundel
Carroll J. Parrish Woodlawn Baltimore
George Comp Jr. Deer Park Garrett
Leonard T. King Sr., PP Damascus Montgomery

1989
Aaron Winters Shaft Allegany
Edwin F. Preston, PP Arbutus Baltimore
Clarence D. Carpenter III Potomac Heights Charles
Russell Sears West Annapolis Anne Arundel
Thomas L. Reynolds, PP Queen Anne’s-Hillsboro Queen Anne’s
Roger N. Powell, PP Pikesville Baltimore
Robert N. Stevenson Midland Allegany
Richard H. Carter, PP Glen Burnie Anne Arundel
Luther A. Della Jr. La Plata Charles
John W. Hoglund MFRI – University of Maryland

1990
Robert H. Shimer, PP Westernport Allegany
Anne Hawkins Jessup Anne Arundel
Robert E. Collins Potomac Heights Charles
John O. Gatton Sr. Hollywood St. Mary’s
Donald J. Ware Baltimore Pike Allegany
Amos E. Joiner Sr. Goodwill-Centréville Queen Anne’s
C. Danny Davis Jr., PP Hollywood St. Mary’s
Rocco J. Gabriele Rosedale Baltimore
Dr. R. Adams Cowley MIEMSS/Shock Trauma Center – University of MD
Herchel C. Armour Charlestown Cecil

1991
Richard H. Carter, PP Glen Burnie Anne Arundel
Robert P. Cumberland Jr., PP Westminster Carroll
George Blanco Midland Allegany
Calvin S. Stack Jr. Rescue, Cambridge Dorchester
Robert P. King Joppa-Magnolia Harford
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<td>Robert E. Knippenburg, PP</td>
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<td>Sam Vallandingham</td>
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<td>2002</td>
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<td>Chillum-Adelphi</td>
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<td>G. Austin Smith</td>
<td>Oxford</td>
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<td>Frederick Robert “Bob” Seibel II</td>
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<td>Clear Spring</td>
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Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Joseph A. Cooper  
Bay District  
St. Mary’s

Raymond Allen Ryan Jr.  
Community Fire Co. of Perryville  
Cecil

R. Dale Lowman  
Mt. Airy  
Carroll

Douglas C. Alexander  
Mt. Airy  
Carroll

Louise Dell  
Burtonsville VFD Auxiliary  
Montgomery

Col. David M. Mitchell  
Maryland State Police  

James C. Roberston  
State Fire Marshal  

2003

Joseph A. Cooper  
Raymond Allen Ryan Jr.  
R. Dale Lowman  
Douglas C. Alexander  
Louise Dell  
Col. David M. Mitchell  
James C. Roberston  

2004

John Thomas “Jack” Gosnell  
Wayne T. Higdon  
Benjamin W. Kurtz  
Daniel J. Stevens  
J. Alan Thomas  
J West Thomas  
Calvin “Pete” Walbert  
William E. Barnard  
Robert R. Bass, MD  
Donald Lewis  

2005

Delma “Dutch” Birgfeld  
Louis A. D’Camera  
John J. Denver  
Rev. J. Harvey Dixon  
J. Franklin Hawley  

472
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<td>Edwin F. Thurston</td>
<td>Forestville</td>
<td>Prince George's</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maureen T. Brooks</td>
<td>Dept. of Natural Resource - State of Maryland</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Brown</td>
<td>MIEMSS - University of Maryland</td>
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<tr>
<td>William A. “Butch” Frazier</td>
<td>La Plata</td>
<td>Charles</td>
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<td>W. Mitchell Vocke</td>
<td>Jarrettsville</td>
<td>Harford</td>
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<td>Guardian Hose</td>
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<td>Worcester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laura A. Woods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul R. “Bobby” Balta Jr., PP</td>
<td>Ridge</td>
<td>St. Mary's</td>
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<td>Dr. John L. Bryan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret King</td>
<td>Maryland State Firemen’s Association</td>
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<td>Judy A. Lau</td>
<td>Laurel</td>
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<td>Richard Baker Jr.</td>
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<td>Carroll</td>
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<td>William Hildebrand</td>
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<td>Kent</td>
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<td>Marcine D. Goodloe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew B. White</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brenda Fosler Johnson</td>
<td>R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Faron Taylor</td>
<td>Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office</td>
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<td>John R. Frazier</td>
<td>Baltimore City Fire Department</td>
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<td>Montgomery</td>
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<td>Winfield and Community</td>
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2008
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<td>Robert D. Jarboe</td>
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<td>John W. Ashworth</td>
<td>University of Maryland Medical System</td>
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<td>Patricia Gainer</td>
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**2009**

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<td>Robert W. Ryan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donald L. Briscoe</td>
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<td>Anna M. Jonske</td>
<td>Joppa-Magnolia</td>
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<td>Linda A. Dousa</td>
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<td>Harford</td>
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<td>William G. “Willie” Wilkerson</td>
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<td>Tilghman Island</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
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**2010**

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<td>Johnie Roth</td>
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<td>Herman “Buddy” Schweers</td>
<td>Susquehanna Hose Company</td>
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**2011**

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<td>Church Creek</td>
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474
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<td>Thomas Diem, Cordova, Talbot</td>
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<td>Donald F. Hall, Prince Frederick VFD, Calvert</td>
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<td>William D. “Buddy” White, Potomac Heights, Charles</td>
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<td>Teresa Ann Crisman, Greenbelt, Prince George’s, Washington</td>
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<td>Dan M. Tabler, Goodwill, Queen Anne’s</td>
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<td>Alfred William “Butch” Britton Jr., Rescue, Anne Arundel</td>
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<td>Dennis E. Beard, Sykesville Freedom District, Carroll</td>
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<td>Mark Gibbons, Major, Maryland State Police</td>
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<td>Christine “Chris” Yinger, Maryland State Firemen’s Association</td>
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<td>Susan Taylor, Maryland State Firemen’s Association</td>
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<td>Donald “Duck” Anthony, Grasonville VFD, Queen Anne’s</td>
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<td>Charles E. Barnhart Jr., Taneytown, Carroll</td>
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<td>Joseph Wayne Hardesty, Prince Frederick VFD, Calvert</td>
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<td>Richard “Rick” Hemphill, Independent Junior VFC, Washington</td>
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<td>Leonard H. Rieck, Easton, Talbot</td>
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<td>Clarence Tracey, Cockeysville, Baltimore</td>
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<td>Sharon Worthington, Level, Harford</td>
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<td>John Philip Christman, Maryland State Police Aviation</td>
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<td>Vince Jacono, Delmarva Power Fire Safety Education</td>
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<td>Cindy Wright-Johnson, Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>John F. Guntow, Ocean City, Worcester</td>
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<td>Davis N. Cropper, Ocean City, Worcester</td>
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<td>Barbara P. “Bobbie” Aaron, Hurlock, Dorchester</td>
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<td>Lewis Harvey, Arbutus, Baltimore</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert L. “Bobby” Hall Jr., Prince Frederick VFD, Calvert</td>
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</table>
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Luanne A. Schweers
Craig B. Harman
Michael Farlow
Walter A. “Walt” Kerr
Clarence “Smiley” White
Jerry A. Poland
John Allen
James A. Adkins

Havre de Grace Ambulance Corps. Harford
Odenton Anne Arundel
Pittsville Wicomico
Level Harford
Guardian Hose/Citizens Truck Co. Frederick
Volunteer Firemen’s Insurance Services
Regional Vice President, Delmarva Power
Major General – Maryland Military Department

2015

Richard C. Blair
Leon A. Cullison
Essel T. Farlow
Barry Glassman
Warren D. Gott
Robyn Sheldon Hahn
S. Darron Long
Robert E. McClelland, Sr.
Thomas W. Musgrove, Sr.
William “Bill” Sparrow
Barbara Goff
Margaret “Peg” Mooney
Allison Nicodemus

Clear Spring Ambulance Washington
Ridge VFD St. Mary’s
Pittsville VFD Wicomico
Level VFC Harford
Prince Frederick VFD Calvert
Hacks Point VFC Cecil
Damascus VFD Montgomery
Capital Heights VFD Prince George’s
Takoma Park VFD Montgomery
Pocomoke City VFC Worcester
MIEMSS
MD Fire Rescue Service Memorial Foundation
Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office

2016

Dale A. Budnick, Sr.
Rev. Marvin C. Jackson
Dale Kline, Sr.
Donald L. Strine
Ralph E. Starkey
Thomas W. Scott III
James P. Seavey, Sr.
Joseph H. Cooper
Rev. Frederick B. Bahr
Oley G. Griffith
Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.
Karen E. Doyle
Tra Reed Carison

Aberdeen VFD Harford
Rising Sun Cecil
Rocky Ridge Frederick
Marlboro Prince George’s
Goodwill/Centreville Queen Anne’s
Prince Frederick VFD Calvert
Cabin John Park Montgomery
Ridge VFD St. Mary’s
Tilghman Island Talbot
First Hose Co. Boonsboro Washington
MD House of Delegates, District 23B
R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center
R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center

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Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

2017

Gene Aaron                        Hurlock                        Dorchester
James A. Bair                    Jarrettsville                   Harford
Eric N. Bernard                  Rockville                        Harford
William H. “Bill” Lewis, Jr.     Odenton                         Harford
Brian Lowman                     Williamsport                  Harford
Charles Dewayne Rogers, Sr.      Odenton                         Harford
Russell J. Strickland            Singerly                        Washington
John R. Sullivan                 Trappe                          Washington
John W. Wathen, Jr.              Ridge VFD                        Anne Arundel
Stanley J. Williams, Jr.         Hollywood VRS                     Anne Arundel

Special
Dr. Harry E. Hickey               Charter Member, National Fire Heritage Center
Dr. Thomas M. Scalea              R. Adams Cowley, Shock Trauma Center
Nolan Scully                      Nolan Strong
Purpose of Award: Recognition of the Outstanding EMS individual of the year

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Emergency Medical Services Committee and the Convention and Conference Committee

Background: The Josiah A. Hunt, M.D., (EMS Person of the Year) Award was established in 1991 and accepted by the Executive Committee. Doctor Hunt was a local physician in Harford County who was very instrumental in the establishment of ambulance service in that area. He often would leave his practice to ride on the local ambulance providing quality emergency medical service to the communities of Harford County. The original award was donated by the Delta-Cardiff Volunteer Fire Company of Harford County to honor Dr. Josiah A. Hunt.

The award was established to recognize outstanding individual accomplishments by an EMT/A, or above. The award is considered to be the highest award conferred upon an individual within the Maryland Emergency Medical Services community.

Award Rules:

1. The nominee must be from a member company of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
2. The nominee must be submitted by an active member company of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA).
3. The nominee must be submitted on an individual basis only and the nomination must be on official letterhead or company stationary and signed by at least two (2) officers of the company.
4. Only one nominee may be submitted from any one member company.
5. Nominations and letters of resume must be submitted to the Chair of the MSFA Emergency Medical Services Committee, No Later than April 30th.
6. The nominee must be a Maryland certified EMT or above.
7. The nominee must have a minimum of fire (5) years service to the Maryland Emergency Medical Service Community.
8. Recipient of the award will receive the EMS Person of the Year Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is blue and white and the gold medal is inscribed as “Josiah Hunt EMS Person of the Year”, with the MSFA Seal in the center.
9. Submit nominations to: William Dousa
   Chairman, MSFA EMS Committee
   600 Rivershore Court
   Edgewood, MD 21040
### Previous Recipients:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Josiah A. Hunt, MD</td>
<td>Harford</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Sharon Eskins</td>
<td>Calvert ALS</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Leon Hayes</td>
<td>Waldorf</td>
<td>Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Charles W. Wills</td>
<td>Potomac Heights</td>
<td>Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Barbara Knippenburg</td>
<td>Midland</td>
<td>Allegany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Dr. Frank Baranco</td>
<td>Lutherville</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Richard K. Brooks</td>
<td>Norrisville</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Paul M. Fabiszak</td>
<td>Hereford EMS</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Lee N. Sachs, PP</td>
<td>Pikesville</td>
<td>Baltimore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Rose M. Murphy</td>
<td>Eldorado-Brookview</td>
<td>Dorchester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Margaret E. Wedding</td>
<td>Ironside RS</td>
<td>Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Joan W. Williams</td>
<td>Hollywood RS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Steve J. Kesner</td>
<td>Crespontown</td>
<td>Allegany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Linda A. Dousa</td>
<td>Abingdon</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Jackie Carey</td>
<td>Ocean Pines</td>
<td>Worcester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Vernon C. Monday</td>
<td>Waldorf</td>
<td>Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>William Deer</td>
<td>Indian Head</td>
<td>Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Susan Hubble</td>
<td>Mt. Airy</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Bernice Arnold</td>
<td>Seventh District VRS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>William J. “Bill” Dousa</td>
<td>Abingdon</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Mary H. Grussing</td>
<td>Kent &amp; Queen Anne’s Rescue Squad</td>
<td>Kent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Amy Smith</td>
<td>Leonardtown VRS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Richard Farrington</td>
<td>Delta-Cardiff</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Reginald Donald Thomas</td>
<td>Darlington</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Michael J. Young</td>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td>Talbot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Susan M. Tingler</td>
<td>Abingdon</td>
<td>Harford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Joan F. Raley</td>
<td>Seventh District VRS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Barbara J. Wible</td>
<td>Hollywood VRS</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Elizabeth (Beth) R. Larimore Odenton</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FIRE PREVENTION AWARDS

Purpose of Award: Recognition of Department Prevention Efforts

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Volunteer Firemen’s Insurance Services, and Individuals

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Fire Prevention Committee and Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office

Background: The Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) sponsors an annual contest to recognize fire, rescue, and EMS department’s efforts in promoting fire prevention in their communities. Contest awards are provided for companies who participate in a year-round fire prevention program as well as departments who participate in special projects, such as an open house or other fire prevention activities. An additional category recognizes departments who have shown an outstanding overall contribution to fire prevention and fire safety education activities. Starting in 1977, a seventh class in both Year Round Projects, and Single Projects was added. This will be for County Fire Prevention Committees to enter.

A project may be submitted by an organization within the department as long as it is verified by the president or chief. The awards are presented each year at the annual convention and conference for the following categories:

Year-Round Program or More Than One Project
(Classified by population of first due area)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Population Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class I</td>
<td>0 – 1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class II</td>
<td>1,501 – 2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class III</td>
<td>2,501 – 5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class IV</td>
<td>5,001 – 10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class V</td>
<td>10,001 or more, volunteer personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class VI</td>
<td>10,001 or more, career personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class VII</td>
<td>County Fire Prevention Committees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Single Project Programs
(Classified by Population of first due area)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Population Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class I</td>
<td>0 – 1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class II</td>
<td>1,501 – 2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class III</td>
<td>2,501 – 5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class IV</td>
<td>5,001 – 10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class V</td>
<td>10,001 or more, volunteer personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class VI</td>
<td>10,001 or more, career personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class VII</td>
<td>County Fire Prevention Committee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overall Activities

1st Place - $200.
2nd Place - $100.
3rd Place - $75.
4th Place - $75.
5th Place - $50.
6th Place - $50.
7th Place - $50.
8th Place - $50.
9th Place - $50.
10th Place - $50.

(Award monies must be spent by the winning department/organization in the area of fire prevention)

Award Rules:

1. The department/company must be a member in good standing of the MSFA.
2. A cover letter on department letterhead is required to accompany all entries.
3. Any book entered, including scrapbooks, photo albums, or loose-leaf binders, cannot exceed 12 x 15.5 inches. The thickness of the book is not limited.
4. Slide presentations, slide/tape presentations and video tape presentations are acceptable.
5. Photographs and newspaper clippings must be dated and the sources indicated.
6. Entries must be in the hands of the State Fire Marshal’s Office by April 30th and must be marked with the proper entry classification (Area and Class).
7. All materials submitted should reflect activities of the previous calendar year (Jan. through Dec.)
8. Judges shall be appointed by the State Fire Marshal’s Office and the decision of the judges shall be final.
9. Any evidence of material from previous years will automatically disqualify the entry.
10. Any department/company entering any contest must have a representative at the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference.
11. Auxiliaries and Junior Companies may submit entries for their department as long as the president or chief forwards a cover letter as verification.
12. Send or deliver all entries to:

   MSFA Fire Prevention Contest
   State Fire Marshal’s Office
   1201 Reisterstown Road
   Pikesville, MD 21208
MISS MSFA FIRE PREVENTION CONTEST

Purpose of Award: To select a spokesperson for the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Fire Prevention

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Fire Prevention Committee

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Fire Prevention Committee with Out-of-State Judges

Background: The Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) sponsors an annual Miss Fire Prevention Contest at the Annual Convention and Conference. The individual selected will represent the MSFA at fire prevention, public education, and other activities throughout the State of Maryland, acting as a spokesperson for the fire prevention and fire safety activities.

Award Rules:

1. Contestant must be single, never married, have no children or be pregnant.
2. Must be between 16 thru 24 years of age. Contestants under the age of 18 must have a parent/guardian consent form signed and must be chaperoned to all events by a parent/guardian, representative of her County Association or Fire Company.
3. If seeking college or advanced education, the contestant must reside within a reasonable distance of the state and in the event that her schooling interferes with her ability to attend events and functions, her sash, crown, and other properties will be turned over to her runner-up.
4. One contestant per county, Harford-Cecil Firemen’s Association and the Maryland Fire Chief’s Miss Fire Prevention. If your county does not have a Miss Fire Prevention Contest, a decision will be endorsed at your county level as to who will represent your county. A letter of endorsement from the county association must accompany your application.
5. MSFA Miss Fire Prevention is allowed to hold this position for one year. Once you hold this position, you will not be able to compete for this position again. A previous MSFA Miss Fire Prevention 1st Runner-up is allowed to run again.
6. A panel of judges in the preliminaries will interview contestants. These judges will officiate the stage portion of the contest.
7. Judges are not associated with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, Ladies Auxiliary, or members of Maryland Companies or Departments.
8. Preliminary judging will be held on the morning of the contest. The contest will be held during the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference in Ocean City. Information regarding the date and time of the contest will be provided as it is finalized.
9. Preliminary judging will be calculated in the same point system as stage judging, with a total of 100 points. Contestant’s preliminary judging consists of the following:
   A. Fire prevention questions selected from list included in the packet.
   B. Presentation on a fire prevention related subject (limited to 5 minutes).
   C. Interview questions by judges.
10. Stage judging will be calculated in a point system, with a total of 100 points.
   a. Fire Prevention knowledge 0-50 points
   b. Speaking ability and poise 0-40 points
   c. General appearance 0-10 points
11. Applications must be received by May 1. If your county contest occurs after this deadline, then the current Miss Fire Prevention is eligible. All applications must be sent to contest chairperson by certified mail, return receipt requested. APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED ANY OTHER WAY. Any applications that are received other than certified mail, returned receipt requested will be deemed ineligible and will be returned to the contestant.
12. This is not a talent or beauty contest.
13. The contestants selected at MSFA Miss Fire Prevention and First Runner-up are required to attend the following activities:
   • Convention activities on day and times designated (a tentative schedule is enclosed)
   • Awards ceremonies; various events and times
   • Selecting winners of the $10,000.00 Raffle
14. The newly elected MSFA Miss Fire Prevention and First Runner-up must vacate any previously state or county titles unless the term of the title will be completed within two months of her reign. In the event her county is unable to obtain a representative, the MSFA Miss Fire Prevention may continue her County role for a two-month period.
15. Miss MSFA Fire Prevention and the First Runner-up will take an Oath of Office immediately after they are crowned.
16. If MSFA Miss Fire Prevention is unable to attend any functions, it is her responsibility to contact the MSFA First Runner-up to fulfill her commitment.
17. A monthly activity report must be submitted by the last day of each month to the Miss Fire Prevention Committee Chairperson.
18. A quarterly written report (summary of events and input) must be submitted to the Fire Prevention Committee Chairperson at the quarterly fire prevention meeting. 10 copies of this report must be brought to each executive committee meeting.
19. The annual written report (summary of year’s events) must be submitted by May 1 for printing in the MSFA Convention Book. This report must be submitted to the Fire Prevention Committee Chairperson, the Miss Fire Prevention Chairperson.
20. A packet of information will be given to the MSFA Miss Fire Prevention and
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

her First Runner-up:

A. Name, Address, and phone list of the following:
   a. MSFA President
   b. MSFA 1st Vice President
   c. MSFA 2nd Vice President
   d. LAMSFA President
   e. Executive Committee Chairperson
   f. Fire Prevention Committee and Chairperson
   g. Transportation (ADC Books) will be passed down each year

B. Itinerary of Mid Atlantic Fire Prevention Conference, parades, banquets, carnivals, etc.

C. Upcoming seminars: subjects and expenses

D. Proceeding book

21. THE MSFA CONTEST RULES EFFECTIVE FOR THE YEAR 2012
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

MSFA Miss Fire Prevention Application

Name _____________________________________________
Date of Birth ________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________

Phone ( ) Email ___________________________________________ County __________________________

Escort ________________________________________________________________

Parents _________________________________________________________________

Present School/College/Job ________________________________________________

Hobbies or activities you participate in ______________________________________

Date chosen as Miss Fire Prevention ________________________________________

The winner of the contest MUST attend the convention events as outlined in the contest rules and as listed in the agenda which will be given to all contestants. You must also give full support to the MSFA and LAMSFA during your reign by attending State and County functions when requested, to the best of your ability. If you win and you hold another State or County title and the term of those titles exceeds two months, you agree to give up those titles upon becoming MSFA Miss Fire Prevention.

If chosen, I agree to all of the above.

Signature _____________________________________________________________

All applications must be returned by May 1st unless your county president has made previous arrangements.

Mail applications to: Current Miss Fire Prevention Chairman
                        MSFA Miss Fire Prevention Contest

485
Parental/Guardian Consent Form

MSFA Miss Fire Prevention

The MSFA Miss Fire Prevention will give her full support to all State, County and local functions by attending and participating to the best of her ability as the representative of the MSFA. She will be chaperoned to all events by a representative of her county association or fire company.

I agree to all of the above.

Signature ____________________________________________
Date of Birth _________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature _________________________________________
Date ______________________

Contestants under the age of 18 years must submit consent form with application. NO EXCEPTIONS.

**Previous Recipients:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Terri Judge</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Anne Marie Histon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Kimberly Ann Kessler</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Rachael Lyons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Melanie Susan Webster</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Heidi Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Cheryl Reese</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Katie Ritter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Carolyn Boone</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Sarah Blackowicz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Alice Kozier</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Michelle Gallion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Verra Fleming</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Kristi Gartrell-Kemp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Tammy Conners</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Erin Drumheller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Terri Gartner</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Brittany Myers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Jennifer I. Laird</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Colleen Frances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Bonnie Rae Crispin</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Erin Drumheller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Nicole Bordogan</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Elyssa Cool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Susan Truslow</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Stacie Jaret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Jennifer Weedon</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Danielle Crane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Melissa Ann Turner</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Stacy Holden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Heather Langley</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Susan Hilton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Rachael Testerman</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Jessica A. White</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Sarah Paul</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SENATOR WILLIAM H. AMOSS MEMORIAL LEGISLATIVE AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of an individual’s contributions and determination in promoting the betterment of Maryland fire, rescue and emergency medical services through successful legislation and the legislative process.

Award Sponsor: Harford-Cecil Volunteer Firemen’s Association

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Legislative Committee

Background: The Senator William H. Amoss Memorial Legislative Award was created to honor an individual who served over 20 years actively representing the Maryland fire, rescue and emergency medical services, throughout the State, in a legislative capacity both in the House of Delegates and the State Senate. In 1998, the Maryland General Assembly recognized Senator Amoss’ dedication to the Maryland fire, rescue and emergency medical services by renaming Senate Bill 508, the “Senator William H. Amoss Fund.” Introduced in 1985 by Senator Amoss, the 508 Bill was created to financially assist the Maryland fire, rescue and emergency medical services departments on an annual basis. This award was presented by the Harford-Cecil Volunteer Firemen’s Association and accepted by the Executive Committee in 1999.

Award Qualifications: In order for a candidate to be considered for this award, he/she must meet at least (1) one of the following criteria:

1. Be a duly elected legislative official representing a Maryland municipality, a Maryland county, the State of Maryland or the Federal Government.
2. Be a member of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Legislative Committee
3. Be a member of a county emergency services association’s legislative committee that is recognized by the MSFA.
4. Be a member of a regional emergency services association’s legislative committee that is recognized by the MSFA.
5. Be a state citizen who is not a member of a fire/EMS/rescue department or company.

Award Rules:

1. All nominations must be submitted by a representative of an active member company or department, in good standing, of the MSFA.
2. All nominations must be in written form, on an individual basis, and submitted on company or department letterhead or stationery. A photograph of the
nominee shall also be submitted.

3. All nominations must include the following:
   A. A letter of recommendation/resume
   B. Accomplishments of the nominee

4. All nominations must be received by May 1st of each year.
5. The judges shall be the MSFA Legislative Committee
6. All nominations are to be submitted to:

   Chairman
   MSFA Legislative Committee
   17 State Circle
   Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1904

Previous Recipients:

1999  Senator William H. Amoss – Harford County
2000  Delegate Norman Conway – Wicomico County
       Charles W. Riley, PP
2001  Senator Thomas M. Middleton – Charles County
2002  Delegate John F. Wood – St. Mary’s County
2003  Bernard J. Smith, PP
2004  Delegate Richard B. Weldon Jr. – Frederick County
2005  C. Daniel Davis Jr., PP
       Pat Gainer – Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System
       James Brown – Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System
2006  Delegate Norman Conway – Wicomico County
2007  Delegate James Malone – Baltimore County
2008  Delegate Norman Conway – Wicomico County
2009  Senator Barry Glassman – Harford County
       Senator James DeGrange – Anne Arundel County
2010  Delegate Norman Conway - Wicomico County
2011  Senator Roy Dyson - St. Mary’s County
2012  William E. Barnard - State Fire Marshal
       Senator Roy Dyson - St. Mary’s County
       Delegate James Malone - Baltimore County
       C. Daniel Davis Jr., PP
       Richard L. Yinger, PP
2013  Delegate John L. Bohanan Jr., - St. Mary’s County
2014  Delegate Norman Conway, - Wicomico County
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Senator James N. Mathias, Jr.</td>
<td>Dist. 38</td>
<td>Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delegate Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.</td>
<td>District 23</td>
<td>Prince George’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delegate Dana M. Stein</td>
<td>District 11</td>
<td>Baltimore County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.</td>
<td>District 23</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sheree Sample-Hughes</td>
<td>District 37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard Smith</td>
<td>Oxford FC</td>
<td>Talbot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Del. Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.</td>
<td>District 23B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delegate Deborah Ray</td>
<td>District 29B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Purpose of Award: Recognition of the Outstanding Fire, Rescue or EMS Administrative Person

Award Sponsor: Shimer Family

Award Administered By: Robert H. Shimer Administrative Person of the Year Award Committee

Background: The Robert H. Shimer Administrator of the Year award was established by the Shimer family and accepted by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Executive Committee on February 22, 2004. The award was established to honor Robert H. Shimer, for the years of dedicated service he gave the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and EMS Service as a President and a Trustee of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association, President of the Allegan-Garrett Counties Fire and Rescue Association, President of the Allegany County Fire-Rescue Board and President of the Potomac Fire Company. Mr. Shimer was also an active member of the State Fire Prevention Commission, Maryland Fire-Rescue Education Training Commission, the Governor’s Emergency Management Advisory Council and the Emergency Numbers Service Board. This award has been established in honor of Mr. Shimer for his many years of dedicated service to the community of Westernport, Allegany County and the State of Maryland.

Award Rules:
1. The nominee must be a volunteer from a member company that is in good standing with the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
2. Names of individuals for nomination for the Robert H. Shimer Administrator of the Year Award may be submitted by:
   A. The nominee’s home fire, rescue, or EMS department/company on official letterhead, or
   B. Any individual in good standing with a fire, rescue, or EMS department/company, or
   C. A member company in good standing with the MSFA, on official letterhead, or
   D. An individual member of this committee or a Past President of the MSFA.
3. The nominee must have no less than ten (10) years of service with his/her department or company.
4. The nomination must be submitted for an individual’s effort only and, therefore, submission of the nomination is to recognize the one individual and not a group, department or company.
5. The nomination must be submitted in the form of a resume/bio. Including information on his/her department or company activities, administrative positions held within the company or department, county, regional or state association. Information should also be included on job achievement, establishment of programs, fund raising, community activities, and the reason the nominee should be selected.

6. Time Period - Although it is realized that to be fully effective, an award should be timely, it is not necessary that the service or performance be rendered within the year of the award, however an accumulation of the previous five years of accomplishments may be added.

7. The nomination must be mailed and received by the Shimer Award Committee no later than May 1st at the following address:

   Robert W. Jacobs, Chairman  
   Shimer Award Committee  
   410 East Ninth Street  
   Frederick, MD 21701

8. The Award will be presented at the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference. Upon selection of the winner of the award, the Shimer family shall be notified no later than May 20th of said selection. This will allow preparation of the award that will be given.

**Previous Recipients:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Leonard T. King Sr., PP</td>
<td>Damascus</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Daniel J. Stevens</td>
<td>Waldorf</td>
<td>Charles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Ronald J. Siarnicki</td>
<td>United Community</td>
<td>Queen Anne’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Philip M. Hurlock, PP</td>
<td>Church Hill</td>
<td>Queen Anne’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Gayle P. Moreland</td>
<td>Deale</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Louis J. Jonske Sr.</td>
<td>Joppa-Magnolia</td>
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<td>Kenneth “Ken” May</td>
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<td>Robert W. Jacobs, PP</td>
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<td>Gloria Lewis</td>
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<td>Timothy Dayton</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Craig B. Harman</td>
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<td>Anne Arundel</td>
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</table>
SILVER SPRING TROPHY

Purpose of Award: Recognition of fire prevention efforts by an individual

Award Sponsor: Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Fire Prevention Committee and Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office

Background: The Silver Spring Trophy was established in 1981 by the Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department and accepted by the Executive Committee. This award is presented each year at the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Annual Convention and Conference to an individual who does the most in fire prevention for his/her community. The award is for an individual effort and, therefore, submission on the entry must be for one individual rather than a group or department effort. The intent of the award is to recognize fire prevention activities which the individual performs within his/her community. The trophy is held by the individual for one year and then passed on. The winner will receive an individual plaque for permanent possession. The individual will also receive the Silver Spring Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is silver/blue and the silver medal is inscribed as Silver Spring Fire Prevention and the year, with the MSFA Seal in the center.

Award Rules:

1. The recipient must be a volunteer firefighter
2. The individual must be nominated by his/her fire department.
3. The fire prevention work shall have been done by the firefighter acting in the capacity of a volunteer.
4. The nomination must be in the form of a resume indicating complete detailed information on the work done by the nominee. Photographs and newspaper clippings must be dated and the sources noted.
5. The nomination and related information must be in the hand of the State fire Marshal’s Office on later than April 30th.
6. Nominees are subject to investigation by the judges.
7. Dates of the fire prevention activities should cover the previous calendar year (January – December).
8. Judges shall be appointed by the State Fire Marshal’s Office in accordance with the MSFA Fire Prevention Committee’s procedures.
9. The decision of the judges shall be final.
10. Nominations must include the nominee’s name, title, fire department name, and other pertinent information.

### Previous Recipients:

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
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<td>Vincent Napoli</td>
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<td>Montgomery</td>
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<td>1958</td>
<td>Edgar Young</td>
<td>La Vale</td>
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<td>Alvin R. Adkins</td>
<td>Delmar</td>
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<td>St. Mary's</td>
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<td>John Mowatt Jr.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Robert A. Smith</td>
<td>West Lanham Hills</td>
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<td>Calvert</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Elyssa Cool</td>
<td>Frederick County Fire and Rescue Association</td>
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SMITH N. STATHEMA JR., PP
MEMORIAL SAFETY AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of an individual’s contributions toward firefighter/EMS safety.

Award Sponsor: The family of Smith N. Stathem Jr. “Smitty” as he was affectionately known was a Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA), Past President of the Baltimore County Volunteer Firemen’s Association, and Past Chief of the Pikesville Volunteer Fire Company.

Award Administered By: MSFA Safety Committee

Background: The Smith N. Stathem Jr. Memorial Safety Award was established in 1998 by the MSFA Safety Committee and the family of Past President Stathem. The award was accepted by the Executive Committee in 1997. This award is to be presented each year at the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference to an individual who does the most to promote firefighter/EMS safety within his/her department/company and or the State. The award is for an individual effort. The intent of the award is to promote safety within the member department and to encourage the safety officer program. The trophy is held for one year and relinquished at the following MSFA Annual Convention and Conference. At that time, the past-year recipient will receive an individual plaque for permanent possession. The winner of this award will also receive the Smith N. Stathem Jr. Safety Award Medal and Ribbon Bar, which was approved by the Executive Committee in 2002. The ribbon is green/white/green and the gold medal is inscribed as Smith N. Stathem Jr., Safety Award and the year, with the MSFA Seal in the center.

Award Rules:

1. The nominee must be a member of an organization that is a member of the MSFA.
2. The submission must be on the official MSFA Nomination Form and include the name and contact information on the person recommending the nominee in the space provided. The Company Chief or President must sign the “endorsed by” line of the form.
3. The nomination must include complete detailed information on the efforts performed by the individual during the previous calendar year. Supporting exhibits and documentation must be submitted in detail.
4. The nomination package must be submitted to the MSFA Safety Committee no later than May 1st.
5. Judges appointed by the Safety Committee, shall be comprised of non-
affiliated representatives from the safety industry.

6. All nominations are subject to investigation by the Safety Committee and Judges.

7. A Safety Committee member can nominate any member of MSFA.

8. MSFA Safety Committee members are not eligible to be nominated for the award.

9. Submit your nominations to Chairperson of the MSFA Safety Committee.

**Previous Recipients:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>County</th>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Joseph Zienda</td>
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<td>Philip R. Cooper</td>
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<td>William Van Arsdale Jr.</td>
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<td>Prince George's</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Francis J. Raley</td>
<td>Ridge VFD</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
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</table>
ZEMBOWER FIRE SERVICE TRAINING AWARD

Purpose of Award: Recognition of a Department’s Participation in Formal Training

Award Sponsor: Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Zembower in Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Cromwell Zembower

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Training Committee

Background: The Zembower Fire Service Training Award was established in 1976 by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Zembower in memory of his late parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cromwell Zembower of LaVale and accepted by the Executive Committee. Cromwell Zembower was a Past President of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) and a member of the Training Committee for many years. The Zembower Fire Service Training Award is based on the average number of formal training hours per active member for fire and rescue training completed in the fiscal year prior to the award. The original award was based solely on the formal training offered by MFRI, however, in 1995 the award will be based on formal training offered by other recognized agencies.

The award consists of a trophy which is presented to the winning department at the MSFA Annual Convention and Conference. The department is permitted to display the trophy until the next convention. The trophy is then returned for presentation to the next recipient. The department surrendering the trophy is then presented with a plaque for permanent display. First and second runner-up awards are also presented. The first runner-up award is sponsored by the Daniel J. and Bobbi Stevens in honor of former Bay District VFD Treasurer Bob Stevens. The second runner-up award is sponsored by the Earleigh Heights Volunteer Fire Company in honor of former Chief Herman Dill.

Award Rules:

1. This award is to the department which has the highest average number of formal training hours per active member. Formal training include:
   - All courses and seminars sponsored by MFRI
   - Formalized courses sponsored by local training academies which are members of the Maryland Council of Fire and Rescue Academies
   - Courses and seminars sponsored by MIEMSS
   - Courses sponsored by the National Fire Academy
   - Refresher training classes in the following areas:

   In order for the training to be considered, it must be validated by a pocket
card or certificate and verifiable by the organization providing the training. The training year will be from July 1st through June 30th of the year prior to presentation of the award.

2. The number of active members in your department as reported on the Statistical Report provided to the MSFA Statistical Committee for the most recent fiscal year will be used to compute the average number of training hours per active member. The Statistical Report submitted by each member company should reflect the actual number of members responding to calls and taking training. Accurate and up to date training records can prove to be an asset in legal decisions and ISO rating. If you did not submit a report to the Statistical Committee, this information cannot be verified and your application will not be considered.

3. To be considered for this award, complete the attached application and submit it to the following address no later than April 15th to:

   MSFA Training Committee  
c/o Maryland Fire Rescue Institute  
University of Maryland  
College Park, Maryland 20742
APPLICATION FOR ZEMBOWER FIRE SERVICE TRAINING AWARD
IN MEMORY OF MR. & MRS. CROMWELL ZEMBOWER
TRAINING YEAR JULY 1, ___ THROUGH JUNE 30, _____________

Department Name: _________________________________________________
Mailing Address: City _____________ County ____________ Zip Code ________

On an attached sheet, list all courses and seminars sponsored by MFRI, formalized
courses sponsored by local training academies which are members of the Maryland
Council of Fire and Rescue Academies, courses and seminars sponsored by MIEMSS,
and courses sponsored by the National Fire Academy which your department has
participated in during the training year noted above. Enter all information as requested
and be as accurate as possible to ensure eligibility. Formula for Computing Points:

1. Multiply number of hours for each course or seminar by the number of
   students successfully completing that course or seminar to determine the
   number of student hours for that course or seminar. The training information
   will be based on information provided by the sponsoring organization.
2. Total the student hours for all courses and seminars.
3. Divide the total number of student hours (in #2 above) by the number of
   active members in the department from current Statistical Report.
4. The result is your training hours per active member.
5. Enter training hours per active member:
6. Layout for Course List to Quality for the Zembower Fire Service Training
   Award – Enter all information in columns using the following format:

   Full Name of Student; Social Security Number; Location/Host Co.; Ending Date;
   Class Title; Course Hours; and Total Student Hours ______. Total Number of
   Active Members from MSFA Statistical Report ____. Number of course hours
   for MFRI courses ___. The hours should be similar for courses sponsored by
   local academies.

   Emergency Medical Technician – Basic 165
   Emergency Medical Technician - Re-fresher 24
   EMT I 540
   EMT I to P Bridge 442
   Emergency Medical Services Officer I 48
   Emergency Medical Responder 51
   Emergency Medical Technician Skills 12
   Emergency Medical Technician On line Continuing Education 12
   Paramedic Refresher 40
   Emergency Medical Responder Refresher 15
   Aerial Apparatus Operator 24
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<td>Rescue Tech. Structural Collapse</td>
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<td>Rescue Tech. Rope Rescue</td>
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<td>Rescue Tech. Trench Rescue</td>
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<td>Rescue Tech. Confined Space Rescue</td>
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<td>Rescue Tech. Swift Water Rescue</td>
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<td>Instructor Training I</td>
<td>33</td>
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<td>Instructor Training II</td>
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<td>Fire Inspector I</td>
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<td>Fire Inspector III</td>
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<td>Hazardous Materials Awareness</td>
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<td>Decision Making for Initial Company Operations</td>
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<td>Strategy and Tactics for Initial Co. Operations</td>
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<td>ICS for EMS</td>
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<td>ICS for Fire Service</td>
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</table>
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Shipboard Firefighting for Land Based Firefighters 63
Strategy & Tactics for Initial Company Operations 45
NIMS 100 3
NIMS 300 24
NIMS 400 16
NIMS 700 3
NIMS 800 3
ACLS 8
PALS 16
PTLS 16

Refresher Classes - (annually)
SCBA 1.5
Hazardous Materials 1.5
Blood Borne/Airborne Pathogens 1.5
CPR/AED 1.5
Trench Rescue 1.5
Confined Space Rescue 1.5

One day seminars are considered 6 hours and two day seminars are considered 12 hours. Seminars may include Executive Development Seminars, Chief Officers Seminar, Hazardous Materials Training, Confined Space, Rescue Weekends, Water Supply Drills, etc. CPR training and other classes offered in stations must be documented with the number of hours of all students. Documentation could include AHA or ARC pocket cards, or a signed letter from a certified instructor. All courses will be reviewed by the Training Committee for verification and acceptance of the appropriateness of the training for award consideration.

The following list of National Fire Academy courses is not an exhaustive list, but are those that are routinely offered and are 12 hours each: IRHMIBC, IRHMICI, MCTO: Decision Making, MCTO: Preparation, MCTO: Tactics, Incident Safety Officer, Health & Safety Officer, Conducting Basic Fire Prevention Inspections, and Basic Life Support-Hazardous Materials.

Previous Recipients:

1976  Huntingtown VFD  Calvert
1977  Huntingtown VFD  Calvert
1978  Prince Frederick VFD  Calvert
1979  Deer Park VFD  Garrett
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Department Name</th>
<th>County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Bay District VFD</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
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<td>1981</td>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>Potomac Heights VFD</td>
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<td>1984</td>
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<td>1985</td>
<td>Bay District VFD</td>
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<td>1986</td>
<td>Bedford Road VFD</td>
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<td>1987</td>
<td>Church Hill VFC</td>
<td>Queen Anne’s</td>
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<td>1988</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>Glen Burnie VFD</td>
<td>Anne Arundel</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>St. Leonard VFD</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>St. Leonard VFD</td>
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<tr>
<td>1992</td>
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<td>1993</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>Lineboro VFD</td>
<td>Carroll</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Blue Ridge Summit VFD</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Savage VFC</td>
<td>Howard</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Fifth District – Clarksville VFD</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>Fifth District – Clarksville VFD</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Rockville VFD</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>Indian Head VFD</td>
<td>Charles</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>Urbana VFC</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
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<td>2005</td>
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<td>2006</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Walkersville VRS</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>St. Leonard VFD</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>St. Leonard VFD</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>St. Leonard VFD</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>St. Leonard VFD</td>
<td>Calvert</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>Ellicott City</td>
<td>Howard</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Emmitsburg Volunteer Ambulance Company</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>New Market District VFC</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>New Market District VFD</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
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</table>
MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION
FAMILY APPRECIATION PROGRAM AWARD

Purpose of Award: To recognize the family of a Volunteer Fire or EMS members, sacrifices their time with the member, for the good of the community.

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Recruitment and Retention Committee

Award Administered By: Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Committee

Award Rules:

1. Open to the family of volunteer members of the Fire/EMS Service.
2. Member MUST be an active volunteer and his/her Company or Department in good standing of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association.
3. Family nomination must be endorsed by the President or Chief of the member’s Department or Company.
4. The Maryland State Firemen’s Association Recruitment and Retention Committee will base their selection on the following criteria:
   - Exhibit consistent positive effort towards training, response to incidents, fundraising, etc.
   - Exhibit overall effort to support team concepts.
   - Active member for a minimum of 5 years.
   - Nominations must be submitted by NO LATER THAN April 30th, to: Joe Chornock, Chairman
     MSFA Recruitment and Retention Committee
     65 Bralan Court
     Gaithersburg, MD 20877
     josephchornock@gmail.com
   - Awards will be presented at the Annual Convention and Conference.
   - Members of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Volunteer Recruitment & Retention Committee, Members of the MSFA Executive Committee and the Presidents of the Maryland State Firemen’s Association are not eligible for the award.

Nominee must:
   - Exhibit positive effort toward Department or Company and family member and have clear understanding of member’s commitment.
   - Exhibit overall effort to support team concept.
   - Nominator must be an active member of a Department or Company
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

for at least one year.

- A narrative of 250 words or less describing community support and consistent effort towards the fire/rescue service.
- No attachments

Name of Nominee: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________ City ____________________________

State ________________ Zip ________________ County ________________

Phone: Day ________________ Evening ________________

Other ________________

Company/Department/Squad ____________________________

NOMINATOR:

Name and Title ____________________________

First Middle Last Title

Address ____________________________ City ____________________________

State ________________ Zip ________________ Phone: Day ________________

Evening/Mobil ____________________________

NARRATIVE OF RECOMMENDATION:

Endorsed By: Name: ____________________________

Title ____________________________

Signature __________________________________

Previous Recipients:

2012 Charles M. Kelso III Laurel Prince George’s
2013 The Logore Family Winfield & Community Carroll

504
GOVERNOR’S FIRE PREVENTION TROPHY

Purpose of Award: Recognition of the best fire prevention entry in the line of parade at the Maryland State Firemen’s Association Annual Convention Parade

Award Sponsor: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention Committee and Fire Prevention Committee

Award Administered By: Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention Committee, Fire Prevention Committee and the Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office

Background: The Governor’s Fire Prevention Trophy is awarded each year at the Maryland State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) Annual Convention and Conference for the best fire prevention float, demonstration, or entry in the line of parade. The award is in the form of a large permanent trophy. Awards are also awarded for second through fifth places.

Award Rules:

1. Clowns and commercial participants in the parade will not be eligible for this award.
2. Any individual, group, unity, float, etc., are eligible as long as they are in the line of parade and have been pre-judged.
3. Judging will be done by the Maryland State Fire Marshal’s Office.
4. Entries will be prejudged prior to the parade at a pre-announced location.
5. The decision of the judges will be final.
6. Judging will be on the following point system:
   A. Theme and originality – (0 – 25 points) – Within a fire prevention subject area such as Fire Prevention Week, Home Inspections, Halloween, Christmas, Fire Safety, Spring Cleaning, Sparky, Smokey, Sweepy, Smoke Detectors, Etc.
   B. Uniqueness in presentation – (0 – 25 points) – Construction aspects such as neatness, stability, occupant safety, and fire-safe materials.
   C. Overall appearance – (0 – 25 points)
   D. Conduct of participants – (0 – 25 points) – General conduct of, and how well participants carryout the theme of the entry.
7. Size, cost, and elaborateness are not a criteria.
PARADE RULES

ALL Participants in the Maryland State Firemen's Association's Convention Parade

Parade Monitors will be monitoring the entire parade route. They are authorized to remove any company or unit that is not behaving in a proper manner. Listed below are examples of some of the conduct that will not be tolerated!

1. Public drinking
2. Pulling of hose or other equipment from apparatus
3. Blowing of sirens or air horns
4. Backing of apparatus
5. Throwing of any type of material from apparatus
6. Discharging of water or other agents from apparatus
7. Drilling in front of the reviewing stands that does not maintain forward progress
8. Stopping or not maintaining forward progress in line of parade other than for safety purposes
9. Majorette groups stopping to perform during the parade route
10. Personnel on apparatus in an unsafe position or over crowded positions
11. Excessive non uniform personnel on apparatus
12. Individuals reviewing the parade, jumping into the line of parade march of a unit or interfering with bands, queens, majorette groups, etc.
13. Operation of any vehicle in an unsafe or reckless manner
14. If seatbelts or other safety devices are provided they must be worn in their proper manner
15. All “Jake Brakes” or like equipment will be turned off during the entire parade route.

Let's ALL try to cooperate by abiding by the above rules so that we may ALL have a good time, make a positive impression on the public we serve, and have a parade we can ALL be proud of - - NOT one to be ashamed of because of the performance of a few!

FREE FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED, TO THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE PARADE PRIOR TO THE PRESENTATION OF AWARDS.

THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION, FROM YOUR CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Parade line-up will be first come – first in line, unless your jurisdiction comes in as a group after forming together before the Route 50 Bridge.
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention
TROPHIES AND AWARDS LISTING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Company Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Leonardtown VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Marvin Gibbons Memorial Award</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland Company Making Second Best Appearance</td>
<td>Easton VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President’s Award</td>
<td>Hampstead VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Coming Longest Distance</td>
<td>Leitersburg VFC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Coming Second Longest Distance</td>
<td>Williamsport VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Appearing Fire Department Marching Unit (10 or more personnel)</td>
<td>Maryland Fire-Rescue Pipes and Drums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Best Appearing Fire Department Marching Unit (10 or more personnel)</td>
<td>English Consul VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Best Appearing Fire Department Marching Unit (10 or more personnel)</td>
<td>Leonardtown VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company with Most Uniformed Emergency Service Personnel</td>
<td>Easton VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Engines – 1500 GPM and Over Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Bay District – Eng 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Best Appearance</td>
<td>New Market – Engine 152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Best Appearance</td>
<td>Rescue Hose Co, Cambridge Eng 1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honorable Mention (5)</td>
<td>Leonardtown VFD Engine 10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Easton VFD – Engine 64</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hollywood VFD – Engine 72</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>North Beach VFD – Engine 12</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gamber VFD – Engine 134</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Engines – 1250 GPM Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Glen Echo VFD – Engine 711B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Best Appearance</td>
<td>Riviera Beach VFD – Engine 131</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Best Appearance</td>
<td>Bryans Road – Rescue Engine-113</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honorable Mention (5)</td>
<td>Church Creek VFC – Engine 46-1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Newark VFD Engine 505</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Trappe VFD – Engine 38</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Powellville VFD – Engine 1103</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ridgley VFD – Engine 401</td>
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</table>
# Fire Engines – 1000 GPM and Under Making Best Appearance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First Place</th>
<th>Second Place</th>
<th>Third Place</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Easton VFD</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Pittsville VFD Engine 702</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bryans Road VFD – Engine 111</strong></td>
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</table>

# Rescue Pumper Making Best Appearance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First Place</th>
<th>Second Place</th>
<th>Third Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Easton VFD – Rescue Engine 68</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Bishopville VFD Recue Engine 902</strong></td>
<td><strong>Parsonsburg VFD – Res Engine 605</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

# Pumper Tanker Making Best Appearance *(1500 gallon capacity tank and over)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First Place</th>
<th>Second Place</th>
<th>Third Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Easton VFD – Rescue Engine 68</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Bishopville VFD Recue Engine 902</strong></td>
<td><strong>Parsonsburg VFD – Res Engine 605</strong></td>
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</table>

# Tanker Making Best Appearance *(1500 gallon capacity tank and over)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<th>Third Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Easton VFD – Tanker 61</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Trappe VFD – Tanker 36</strong></td>
<td><strong>Deale Island – Chance VFD Tanker 4</strong></td>
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</table>

# Brush Unit – Making Best Appearance

<table>
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<th>Third Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leonardtown VFD Brush 1</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Hacks Point VFC – Brush 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>New Market VFD – Brush 156</strong></td>
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# Elevated Platform Making Best Appearance

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>North Beach VFD – Tower 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Bay District VFD – Tower 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>Easton VFD – AT-61</strong></td>
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</table>

# Aerial Truck Making Best Appearance

<table>
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<th>First Place</th>
<th>Second Place</th>
<th>Third Place</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>College Park VFD – Truck 812</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Pittsville VFD – Truck 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Goodwill VFC York Township Tk 19-2</strong></td>
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</table>

# Squad Truck Making Best Appearance

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Second Place</th>
<th>Third Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hollywood VFD – Squad 7</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>New Market VFC – Rescue Squad 15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Easton VFD – Rescue 61</strong></td>
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</table>

# Ambulance Making Best Appearance

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accokeek VFD – Amb 824</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>New Market VFC – Amb 159</strong></td>
<td><strong>Water Witch Fire Co. Amb 793</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Snow Hill VFD A-400 R-3</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Gaithersburg - Wash Grove A-708C</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sharptown VFD - Ambulance 14</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
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<th>First Place</th>
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<th>Third Place</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Solomons VRS &amp; FD Amb 39</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Cordova VFA – Amb 51</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Best Appearance</td>
<td>Second Best Appearance</td>
<td>Third Best Appearance</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Command Unit Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Prince Georges Co. HazMat</td>
<td>Leonardtown VFD – Command 1</td>
<td>Water Witch EMS Chief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Rescue Unit Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Md. Fire Marshal’s Bomb Squad</td>
<td>Md. State Police Boat # 1 UWR Team</td>
<td>Md. Dept. of Natural Resource</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Service Special Unit Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Leonardtown VFD Gator</td>
<td>Prince Georges Co HazMat</td>
<td>77 Rescue EMS Support “Daisy”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best Appearing Company from Delaware</td>
<td>Delmar VFD</td>
<td>Selbyville VFC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best Appearing Company from Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Goodwill Fire Co. – York Township</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Antique Emergency Apparatus Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Church Hill VFD – 89 Mack TL-5</td>
<td>Leonardtown VFD – Brush 1</td>
<td>Church Creek VFD – Engine 46-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antique Emergency Apparatus Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Frederick – United Steam 1939 Ahrens Fox</td>
<td>Easton VFD 1954 Mack Engine 62</td>
<td>Berlin VFD 1924 Mack</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antique Emergency Apparatus Making Best Appearance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antique Automobile Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Ron Siarnicki– 1931 Model A</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hand Drawn Antique Making Best Appearance</td>
<td>Leonardtown VFD</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Appearing Maryland Fire Auxiliary In Uniform</td>
<td>Leonardtown VFD</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary In Uniform Coming The Longest Distance</td>
<td>Leonardtown VFD</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Fire Service Color Guard Making Best Appearance
  Second Best Appearance
  Third Best Appearance

Williamspor VFD
  Hollywood VFD
  Southern Md. VFA

Non Fire Service Color Guard Making Best Appearance

Westminster Band

Fire Prevention Entry Making Best Appearance (Governors Award)

Leonardtown

Fire Prevention Entry Making Second Best Appearance

Esston

Miss Fire Prevention Making Best Appearance
  Second Best Appearance
  Third Best Appearance
  Fourth Best Appearance
  Honorable Mention

Eve Van Horne - Easton
  Chelsey Roberts – Glen Burnie
  Katelynn Cherry - Trappe
  Anna Webster - Delmar
  Kara Hutchison - Cordova
  Emily Moyers - Gaithersburg
  Lauren Candill - MSFA
  Sarrah Paul - MSFA
  Susan Hilton – MFCA
  Lydia Hill – Washington Co.
  Daryenne Dorsey Frederick Co
  Krysta Brockell - Cecilton

Junior Miss Fire Prevention Making Best Appearance
  Second Best Appearance
  Third Best Appearance
  Fourth Best Appearance
  Honorable Mention

Sierra Hawkins – S. Md.
  Breanna Reardon – North East
  Megan Wilhelm - Hampstead
  Ainsley Robison – S. Md.
  Abby Younkins - Gaithersburg
  Elizabeth Hann - Hampstead
  Ashlyn Plato - Cecilton
  MacKenna Steininger - Harford
  Sara VanRyswick – Leonardtown
  Madison Tossback – Leonardtown

Little Miss Fire Prevention Making Best Appearance
  Second Best Appearance
  Third Best Appearance
  Fourth Best Appearance
  Honorable Mention

Aleese Augustin - Delmar
  Releigh Cunningham – Cecil Co
  Bridget Reardon - MFCA
  Isabel Oche - Easton
  Annette Clougherty - Cordova
  Clare Morris - Trappe
  Autumn Holland - Cecilton
  Elizabeth Marcum – Hacks Pt.
  Liela Scully - Leonardtown
Maryland State Firemen’s Association 125th Annual Convention and Conference

Junior Fire Chief Making Best Appearance
Nathan Raley - Leonardtown
Second Best Appearance
Caden Arches – Cecil County
Third Best Appearance
Coalson Plato - Cecilton
Fourth Best Appearance
Gavin McLoud – Parsonsburg

Best Appearing Junior or Cadet Company
Elkridge VFD
Second Best Appearing
English Counsel VFD

Marching Band Making Best Appearance
Maryland Pipes and Drums
Second Best Appearing
Westminster Band

Majorettes Making Best Appearance
Boonsboro VFC Silver Starlettes Majorettes and Honor Guard
Second Best Appearance
Marvelette Stars Baton, Drum and Color Guard

Comic Entry Making Best Appearance
The Water Witch

Mascot Making Best Appearance
Md. Forest Service – Smokey

Judges Awards (10)
Parsonsburg VFD Brush Unit
Rescue 77 – “Betty Lou”
Quarryville, Pa. Fire Comp. Engine 57-4
Church Hill VFD – Truck -5
Fruitland VFD – Chiefs Car
Good Will Fire Co. (Pa) Amb.
BCC Rescue Alumni Cadillac Ambulance
Bay District VFD – Engine 32
Hollywood VFD
Wheaton VRS – ALS Car 742