I hope everyone had a safe and wonderful holiday season. We held our Executive Committee on December 7-8, 2019, at my home company, the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company, in Sudlersville, MD. I want to thank the members of the Sudlersville Fire Company and our Auxiliary for all their efforts in hosting our meeting. I would also like to thank the Chestertown Fire Company for hosting our reception Friday night and the Crumpton Volunteer Fire Company for hosting the MSFA/LAMSFA Holiday Gathering. I heard nothing but positive comments for both functions.

We started the meeting off by literally giving the State Comptroller Peter Franchot the axe! He has been and continues to be a huge supporter of the volunteer fire service and he was very happy that we presented him with a brass fire axe. He had been wanting one for years.

Below is a quick recap of a few items covered at the meeting in no
The President’s Corner

particular order. Please remember that these are my notes and not the official minutes of the meeting. Those will be forthcoming from the Secretary Cox.

The redesigned MSFA.org website is live. Please go check it out but you will need to register to be able to get to the members area even if you had access previously. This was done on purpose to “clean-up” the database. If you have any problems, please reach out to our Executive Director Kate Tomanelli.

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee reported that two bylaw changes have been submitted for consideration so far.

The first bylaw change was submitted by United Communities VFD and it deals with changing the Secretary, Financial Secretary, and Treasurer to three-year terms. Currently the Secretary serves a one-year term while Financial Secretary and Treasurer serve two-year terms.

The second bylaw change was submitted by the Sudlersville VFC to change the Recruitment and Retention Committee from a “Standing Committee” to a regular committee. They stated that they understand the importance of R&R Committee and they are NOT suggesting that it be removed altogether. They feel, and I agree, that the MSFA leadership needs the flexibility to make changes to this committee without requiring multiple bylaw changes.

The Reaching the Next Generation Committee is working with the younger leaders in the companies to educate them about what the MSFA does and how it operates. There are currently seven to eight participants, but they are looking for more. If you have young leaders in your company that may be interested, please contact Chair Ron Block or Past President John Denver.

I personally spoke with two of the original participants and they said that they had no idea what the MSFA did until joining this program. It was eye opening and they are glad they decided to participate.

I will bring this article to a close with a request. The Cancer Support Network is a committee that is working on a growing and serious issue, cancer in the fire service. I attend the meetings on a regular basis because cancer has touched my life and I would guess just about everyone reading this article. The (Continued on page 3)
Comptroller Franchot “has been and continues to be a huge supporter of the volunteer fire service and he was very happy that we presented him with a brass fire axe. He had been wanting one for years,” President Faust remarked (photo: Watkins, MSFA PIO).

members of this committee are dedicated to fighting cancer and are passionate about it.

The 5th Annual MSFA Cancer 5K Courage to Walk will be Sunday, April 26, 2020 stating at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Memorial in Annapolis and we need sponsors and walkers. Please go to the MSFA website for more details but please talk to you company about walking together as a group or donating on behalf of the company or a member fighting cancer. Please do all you can to help! It’s important!

Thank you again for all you do for your communities. We provide a service the local government cannot afford if they had to pay for it. You are appreciated!

Take care,

Michael R. Faust

The Volunteer Trumpet

This periodical is issued six times a year by the Maryland State Firemen’s Association. Its purpose is to publish interesting and informative articles for the volunteer fire, rescue and EMS personnel of Maryland.

Mike Dixon, Editor
Heidi M. Coleman, Copy Editor

Send email inquiries to trumpet@msfa.org

The Volunteer Trumpet
55 Sunnybrook Drive
Elkton, MD. 29121
The Great 1912 Fire of the Maryland Agricultural College

by Chief Clarence “Chip” Jewell, III

The April 24, 2017 fire in apartment complex to house University of Maryland students in College Park caused a disruption in housing of university students. This massive 5 alarm fire was not the only fire that had a dramatic effect on the students of the University of Maryland.

One hundred and five years earlier, another new building actually located on the campus burst into flames creating havoc for classes and student living quarters.

The November 29, 1912, fire destroyed two of the primary buildings of the college, the “new” administration building built in 1904, and the “old barracks” built in 1856.

Both of these buildings served as dormitories for the military cadets attending the Maryland Agricultural College, predecessor to the University of Maryland. The property loss of the two buildings was estimated between $150,000 and $175,000 with total property including contents and about 300 rifles of over $250,000. This figure did not include the personal property of the students living in the two buildings.

Lee “Duck” Pennington, a Maryland Agricultural College cadet, was a cadet that lived in the “old barracks” next to the new administration building. The administration building, also known as the “new barracks” was built in 1904 and the source of great pride for the college.

Though many students were away from the college during Thanksgiving break, about 40 couples on the lower floor of the building administration building were attending a dance of the Rossberg Club.

In an interview in 1973, Pennington surmised that, “So during the dance, at the intermission, some of the boys went up to one of the rooms of the new barracks. Apparently, they threw either a cigarette or a lighted match in the wastepaper basket.” Most reports stated the fire began in the garret of the

(Continued on page 8)
FEMA Grant Opportunities Open Soon – Will you be Ready?

David Lewis, Past President 2011-12
Chairman, MSFA Grants Committee

Many fire and EMS departments across the U.S. depend on grant funding to help acquire the necessary tools, equipment, apparatus, and staffing to meet mission requirements. Under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), there are three critical grant programs for departments to consider.

- The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program: Provides grant funding for personal protective equipment (PPE), tools and equipment, vehicles, and training.
- Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S): Provides grant funding to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire and fire-related hazards by supporting fire prevention programs as well as firefighter health and safety research and development.
- Staffing for Fire and Adequate Emergency Response (SAFER): Provides funding for hiring of paid firefighters and for recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters.

The application period for the FEMA “Big 3” grant programs will be opening soon. It is important that any department considering applying for any of these grant opportunities take the time to prepare for submitting an application. Registration for any of the FEMA grant programs requires that the applicant be registered with three funding management programs: DUNS, SAM, and FEMA GO.

DUNS is managed by Dun and Bradstreet and assigns a unique nine-digit identifier for all businesses. The DUNS number is used across the business world much like your personal Social Security Number identifies you as an individual. The DUNS number, like your credit report, provides a predictor of financial stability for the organization. Information is collected and maintained about your organization’s business and banking history and is available to other organizations considering business with you. You can register for a DUNS number by accessing DNB.COM.

SAM is the U.S. Government’s System for Award Management (SAM). It is used by anyone (organizations or individuals) who needs to register to do business with the federal government. It is important when registering with SAM that you use the same information as your DUNS registration. For example, DO NOT register in one system as the Wise Owl Fire Department and in the second system as the Wise Owl Fire Company. The two systems will be unable to link your business records and your registration will be incomplete.

SAM registration also requires that your organization be assigned a Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code. The CAGE code for your organization is assigned as a part of the SAM registration process. Registration in SAM is completed by accessing SAM.GOV.

FEMA GO FEMA currently manages 41 different grant programs using 10 different grant management systems. In order to streamline and update the grants management process, FEMA Grants Outcome (FEMA GO) is being developed as a single grant management system. AFG, FP&S, and SAFER are all transitioning to the new FEMA GO system for submitting applications as well as managing awards. It is important to note that in the legacy grant management system, a department login was be used to apply and manage grants. FEMA GO requires an individual registration and all users must register and obtain their own login identifier. The individual identified as the business contact in SAM must first register in FEMA GO and they then authorize other users as Authorized Organization Representatives (AORs) to initiate a new grant application or manage any grant awards. Departments can register in FEMA GO by accessing GO.FEMA.GOV.

It is important that departments understand the linkage between the three registration programs. When registering, the applicant should ensure that the same information is entered for each program. Any inconsistency between the registration may result in the registration being incomplete and you missing out on the FEMA grant application opportunities.

While the process of registering can be cumbersome and sometimes overwhelming, it is important that departments take the time to complete these registrations to make themselves open for application to the FEMA grant programs.

Once you have completed the registration process, you are ready to submit an application to the grant programs. The most important step in preparing for a grant application is conducting a needs assessment of your department’s capabilities. Ask questions such as “Are my personnel at risk due to outdated PPE, tools, or equipment?” “What is the cost of maintaining old equipment versus replacing it with modern, more reliable equipment?” and “How can we reduce fire loss by updating our capabilities with new tools or equipment?”

Once your needs assessment is complete, you should align your greatest
Dayton on the Fire Service

Don’t Forget About Your Own This Christmas

By: Jonathan Dayton, IAAI-FIT, NREMT

Dec. 15, 2019 — I’m going to keep this column relatively short. We often talk about the shortage of volunteers and we heavily focus on the recruitment efforts of new volunteers. Something that typically goes overlooked is retention efforts. Recruitment and Retention are often coupled together but are two completely different swords. But since they are coupled together, we need to make sure we’re doing just as much hard work to retain our volunteers.

The Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association Recruitment & Retention Committee wanted to address the retention aspect this Christmas Season. They had the simple idea of providing holiday food baskets to a couple volunteer service families whom are less fortunate. Always advocating for volunteers, we forget that we’re unpaid and not every fire/ems service family can provide food as easily to their family during this season. We held a food collection during our last association meeting that allowed us to make two baskets for different families in the association. We are holding anonymous nominations for each different family that could be in need. We’ll be delivering these baskets to those nominated families during the third week of December.

By rewarding and assisting our own is a great way to show our volunteers that the brotherhood of the fire service is real and that we care for our own.

I also want to take this time to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. To all the active volunteers in the State of Maryland, Stay Safe. Also, Thank You! I wish all departments and officers a successful 2020!

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” - Philippians 4:6-7

Are You Smarter than the old time fire chief?
Round 5

By Jim Jarboe

1. What does NFPA stand for?
2. What is the classification for a fire that’s fueled by flammable metals?
3. The NFPA 704 Hazard Identification System is sub divided into four individual sections. Which color represents flammability?
4. What term describes the practice of pulling water from a pond when a hydrant is not available?
5. In the movie “Ladder 49”, the air tanks were replaced with what type of material, so firefighters didn’t need to use the real tanks?
6. The toxic fire gas that has a characteristic of “rotten eggs” smell is?
7. During 9/11 attacks, what event took place at 9:40 a.m. for the first time in U.S. history?
8. On the tv series Chicago Fire, what is the Firehouse number?
9. Why is it called FDNY and not NYFD?
10. What city fire department was the first to operate an ambulance service in the United States? - A. Philadelphia, B. Boston, or C. Chicago

See Wally’s answers on page 7
Wally’s Answers (see quiz on page 6)

Answers...

1. National Fire Protection Association
2. Class D
3. Red
4. Drafting
5. Rubber
6. Hydrogen Sulfide
7. FAA halted all air traffic.
8. Firehouse 51
9. The Fire Department of the City of New York is referred to as the FDNY (not the NYFD) for a reason that occurred over a century ago. In 1865, the then-volunteer city-controlled fire department was abolished by a State Act that created the paid Metropolitan Fire District and Department.
10. Philadelphia

(top) Nancy Leager works in the kitchen while (right) Eric Crossley sets up out front at lunchtime. (Photos by Dixon)

Scenes from Around Sudlersville During Dec. Meeting

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

Across Maryland, Chesapeake Employers’ Insurance helps qualified MSFA members keep firefighters safe from accidents and injuries. We’re your insurance partner, and we’re here when you need us.

MSFA members could earn a group dividend*

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

*An individual participant will be eligible to receive a group dividend per Chesapeake Employers’ Dividend Guidelines.
building. Contrary to the assumptions of Pennington interview, the Evening Star reported the origin of the fire was attributed to defective electric wiring.

The fire broke out about 10:30PM as the cadets and guests were in the basement of the building dining at supper. Very few of the young women who were attending the dance had their cloaks or hats, the coats and hats of the students were also lost. When the cries of fire rang out, the cadets escorted the guests safely from the building and proceeded to fight the fire. As the guests were leaving the building, flames were already pouring out from the eaves and windows.

The cadets assumed firefighting duties, but lack of water inhibited their efforts. Pennington said he “ran to my fire station at the north end of the old barracks, grabbed my hose and no water came out. As a result, when we could have gotten the fire out at the initial alarm, lack of water made that impossible.”

The cadets bravely fought the fire and removed furniture, records and valuables. As the cadets were military, ammunition that was kept in dorm rooms began to explode. The fire spread from the administration building to the “old barracks”. Immediate assistance was requested from the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department. About twenty members reached the college. The run from Hyattsville to the college was made in record time, the apparatus having been attached to the rear of the automobile of J. Frank Rushe.

A request was made to Chief Wagner, of the District of Columbia Fire Department for additional assistance from Washington, DC. Two engine companies were dispatched to the scene, transported by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Engine 3 and Engine 12 left Washington at 11:45 and arrived in College Park well after midnight. Around midnight, the administration building collapsed followed by the collapse of the ‘old barracks” about two hours later.

Due to the efforts of the cadets, Hyattsville and DC fire departments, other nearby buildings were saved. It was also reported many important documents and records were also saved. But, the clothing and property of many students were completely destroyed. Because many dorm rooms were completely destroyed, most students were housed in the music hall and science building. The college also appealed to the citizens of surrounding communities of College Park, Hyattsville, Riverdale and Berwyn Heights to house the cadets in private homes.

It was also noted considerable looting took place immediately after the fire. Items from the college, and even personal property of students, were reported missing. College Officials attributed the thefts to strangers attracted to the fire scene from areas not under security watch. .

BE SAFE

Chip

Author’s Note —

Research for this article was done from an on line exhibit of the University of Maryland Archives. Readers are encouraged to https://www.lib.umd.edu/fire for more in depth information including the names of the actual crew members of the DC engine companies, newspaper accounts and oral interviews.
Fire Marshal’s Report

Dear Readers:

DECEMBER 2019 — As we close out the holiday season and look forward to the New Year, many of us will set goals for ourselves and our departments.

When you plot out year 2020, and what it will mean for you both personally and professionally, consider kick starting your action plan with Community Risk Reduction Week from January 20th to the 26th.

This an opportunity to get ahead of the call within your community and join a grassroots effort along with hundreds of other departments and agencies. The Office of the State Fire Marshal will be doing a huge social media push with sprinkler demonstration livestreams, professional profiles featuring CRR advocates across the State of Maryland, and a first-hand look from our fire inspectors of some of the most egregious and common safety violations they see on a daily basis.

The cold weather months have proven to be some of the most active and dangerous for Maryland’s communities and the fire service that protects them. A 360 approach to preserving life and property means educating the public before disaster has an opportunity to strike. I look forward to seeing how departments across the state leverage CRR Week to educate and inform.

Post your CRR Week activities to your social media accounts and tag @CRRweek on Twitter and Facebook so we can all share the life-saving information being distributed throughout the nation.

Sincerely,

Brian S. Geraci
Maryland State Fire Marshal

MSFA Transportation Committee Thanks MVA’s LaRue Sauer as She Retired

LaRue Sauer is retiring after many years serving the MSFA transportation committee with fire department tags at the Maryland MVA

L to R — William (Butch) Frazier, Tom Flint, LaRue Sauer, Frank Underwood PP, Christine Nizer (MVA Administrator)
FEMA Grant Opportunities Open Soon — Will you be Ready?

(Continued from page 5)
needs with the priorities of the grant programs being considered. For example, providing all personnel with updated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including turnout gear and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) are the highest priorities for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program.

The key to a successful grant application is to understand the process. Each of the FEMA grant programs publishes its criteria in a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) document shortly before the application period opens. It is important to review the NOFO and make sure that your needs align with the grant program priorities. What you are requesting (and how it aligns to the program priorities), financial need (why you need federal money), and how you explain your need and how it will improve the operations of your department (the narrative portion of the application) are the biggest factors in determining who gets funding.

Grant funding provides all departments, large or small, with funding opportunities to acquire critical equipment, ensure adequate staffing, and to help make their communities safe. To be successful requires planning and the willingness to make an assessment of your operational capabilities. The time to address these challenges is now. Prepare your department to be ready for the next application cycle for the AFG programs. The future of your department is in your hands.

The MSFA Grants Committee stands ready to assist departments in completing the required registrations and preparing for a grant application. Any questions can be directed to the committee by emailing grants@msfa.org. Good luck with your application.

Sudlersville Welcomes MSFA Executive Committee

By Mike Dixon

SUDLERSVILLE, Dec. 7 & 8, 2019 -- On this weekend in early December, the MSFA Executive Committee, member companies, and partner agencies assembled at the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company on the Eastern Shore for the December meeting. With a packed agenda on this late fall weekend, President Faust and his leadership team welcomed the member companies.

Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot was first on the agenda as he stopped by to address the association’s officers and members. Then, throughout the weekend, MSFA committees, and partner first response agencies took up lots of business of interest to Maryland’s volunteer fire, rescue, and EMS companies. During the noon hour about 100 representatives from the mountains to the Atlantic Coast took a break for a fine lunch served by the Sudlersville VFC Auxiliary.

Some of the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary members who supported the Dec. MSFA Meeting (R to L) -- Billy Faust; Amanda Nicholson; Eric Crossley; Billie Comegys; Donna Crossley; John Ogle; Abby Blackiston and Earl Leager. (photo by Dixon)
MIEMSS NEWS BRIEFS

James W. Brown, MA, EMT, MIEMSS

High Consequence Infectious Disease (HCID) Program — Utilizing federal Ebola funding provided through the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), MIEMSS has assisted in development of High Consequence Infectious Disease (HCID) transport teams. These teams will be utilized to transport HCID patients from 9-1-1 scene locations and inter-hospital transfers. The four 9-1-1 jurisdictional HCID teams, Montgomery County, Frederick County, Cecil County, and LifeStar Response, are operational. The teams are training and exercising on a regular basis and stand ready for an HCID response.

Statewide EMS Communication System Upgrade — MIEMSS is upgrading the Maryland statewide communications systems to meet current and future needs. MIEMSS’ goal is to have a highly reliable, next generation communications system which is built on a uniform platform, is IP-based, utilizes proven and scalable technology, and integrates with the State’s Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs). Having completed the Detailed Design Review (DDR), the upgrade project has moved on to the Implementation Stage. Implementation is divided into five phases, primarily based on MIEMSS EMS region, with each phase comprised of a mini-DDR and 3 sub-phases: delivery, implementation and acceptance. Implementation of Phase 1 has started and is focused on Southern Maryland (EMS Region V). Phase 1 is targeted to be complete by midyear 2020. Each phase must be successfully completed before the next phase begins.

2019-2020 Flu Season — The Maryland Department of Health has confirmed nine influenza positive cases. The proportion of outpatient visits for ILI reported by the Maryland Emergency Departments increased. Influenza-associated hospitalizations have been reported. It is important that all emergency services personnel get their flu shot to protect themselves and their patients.

2020 Educational Programs—SAVE THE DATES
Winterfest Conference 2020 - January 23-January 26, 2020 Easton, MD
Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar - March 13-14, 2020 Rocky Gap, Flintstone, MD
Public Educator Life Safety Seminar - March 21, 2020 MFRI, College Park, MD
EMS Care 2020 - April 22-26, 2020 - Clarion Resort Fountainbleau Hotel, Ocean City, MD

Takoma Park VFD’s Receives Proclamation on 125th Anniversary

Nov. 18, 2019 — City of Takoma Park Proclamation and County citation presentation celebrating Takoma Park VFD’s 125th Anniversary. The first organized fire department in Montgomery County. Pictured (L-R) TP City Council member Peter Kovar, TPVFD’s Bruce Allen, TPVFD’s Chief James Jarboe, County Council member Tom Hucker’s representative Sarah Wolf, TPVFD’s Steve Novik, TP Mayor Kate Stewart, TPVFD’s President Elmer Hamm, TPVFD’s Acting Chief Richard Willey, City Council member Kacy Kosttiuk, City Council member Cindy Dyballa.
The Maryland State Firemen’s Association Executive Committee met at the Sudlersville Volunteer Fire Company on Dec. 7 & 8. 2019. See additional photos on pages   (photo by Dixon)