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Fire Bell Rings Again in Hagerstown

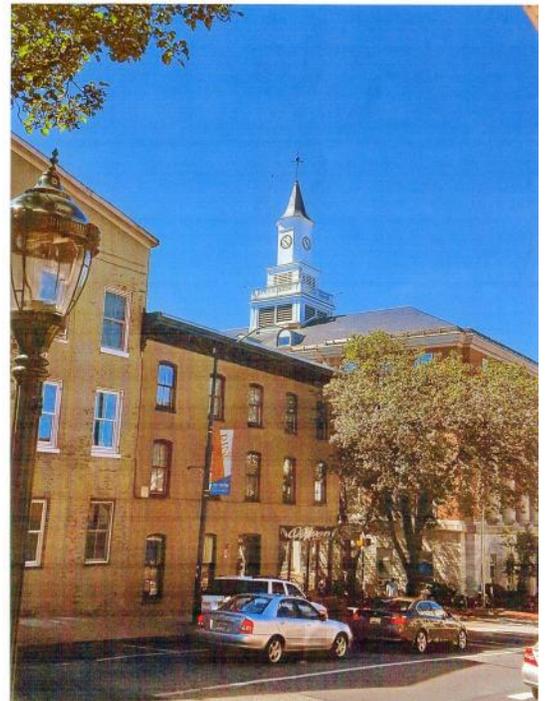
First Hagerstown Hose Company located in downtown Hagerstown, has been working very hard to restore and preserve the historic fire bell that hangs atop the City Hall. This bell is known as the "Big Six" bell.

The system that rings the bell is unique and extremely rare system called the Gamewell Bell Ringing Machine. This historic bell signaled volunteer firefighters of alarms in the Hagerstown community.

The city's original bell fire alarm system dates back to 1895. It was installed by the Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Company of New York. The bell last tolled to alert firefighters in 1969. The bell was then replaced by an airhorn

First Hagerstown Hose Company began the process to restore and preserve the "Big Six" bell in the fall of 2017. After the bell set dormant for nearly 50 years, the bell once again tolls three times at 12:30 pm every day, including weekends.

Company officials believe the bell might be the only working Gamewell fire bell of its kinds with a mechani-



The Hagerstown City Hall and the alarm bell's tower.

cal system in the country. The bell ringing machine operates like a precision clock with weights and chains that provide the power to make the bell operate. The new system uses a computer to automate the daily rings with a weighting system to move the striker.

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MSFA Officers 2018-19

President

Michael Faust
Sudlersville VFC
112 Norwood Dr.
Sudlersville, MD. 21603
H. 410.438.3548
C. 443.262.6896
Email— mfaust@atlanticbb.net

1st Vice-President

Charles W. Walker
Chillum Adelphia VFD
4218 Ulster Road
Beltsville, MD 20705
Email—
cwwalker343@gmail.com

2nd Vice-President

Joel McCrea
Long Green VFC
PO Box 233
Glen Arm, MD 21047
C 410.592.7759
Email - jmccrea@msfa.org

Secretary

Doyle E. Cox, P.P.
Prince Frederick VFD-Calvert
29132 Superior Circle
Easton, MD. 21601
H 410-690-3568
C 443-532-1416
dcox@msfa.org

Treasurer

Ronald J. Siarnicki
United Communities VFD—
Queen Anne's
2130 Priest Bridge Dr., Ste 6
Crofton, MD 21114
C 301-467-5780
W 301-721-6212
rsiarnicki@aol.com

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The President's Corner

By Michael Faust
President

Rather than going over my travels and meetings over the past couple of months, I figured I would write about something a little different. The MSFA 2020 convention will be here before we know it so I thought I would focus on a few important items coming up at the beach.

Accommodations:

If you have attended any County Association meetings lately you have probably heard comments from the three Presidents, Secretary Cox, or your executive committee member about the potential hotel price increases. We highly recommend that you check pricing now. If your usual hotel has increased the price, you may want to consider a hotel listed on the convention website at <https://convention.msfa.org/registration/hotels/>. This will take you to the list of hotels the convention committee has worked with to keep the rates low as possible. In most cases, the rates are the same as 2019.

Awards:

We talk about this all the time. One way to retain members is to recognize their efforts and dedication. Please take the time to nominate your firefighter of the year, EMS provider of the year, and any other people that are eligible for an award TODAY. Go to <https://www.msfa.org/awards/> for a complete list and information on all the awards.

Convention Education Schedule:

The education schedule is available online now. Go to <https://convention.msfa.org/> and click on the link under "Document Downloads" on the right side of the screen. The convention committee added a new



sub-committee to focus on the education and training sessions at the convention. I feel they have done a fantastic job identifying topics that will benefit a variety of members and their families. Please print the list and share it with all your members.

By Law Changes:

There are two bylaw changes that have been submitted so far and I want to make sure everyone is aware of the proposed changes. Please note that the proposals will be sent out in a couple of weeks but if you would like a copy, please contact Secretary Doyle Cox at doyle.cox2010@gmail.com.

Terms of Office

The first proposal deals with changes to the term lengths for the Secretary, Treasurer, and Financial Secretary to three-year terms. Currently the Secretary serves a one-year term while both the Treasurer and Financial Secretary serve two-year terms. This change would allow them to better fulfill their duties by giving them the time to make an impact.

Recruitment & Retention — The second

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President's Column

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proposal is regarding the Recruitment and Retention committee. It is proposed that we change this committee from a "standing committee" to a regular committee. The R&R committee is extremely important to the MSFA and all our members. I want to be very clear that this is not an attempt to dismantle this committee. The fact is the R&R committee is needed more now than ever.

The reason for the change is the leadership of the MSFA needs the ability to make necessary changes to this committee throughout the year which we cannot do if it is a standing committee. As a standing committee even minor changes require a vote at the convention. This requirement will not allow them to operate effectively for the betterment of the association.

The Presidents and Officers of the MSFA ask that you support both proposed changes for the betterment of the MSFA.

\$10,000 Raffle:

We need every Station to sell or purchase the tickets that were provided to you. As President, I purchased my tickets at the beach to kick off the raffle and I encourage every officer and member to do the same. I don't expect individuals to buy the same amount that I did, but I hope everyone could all find some funds to buy a ticket or several. If you have \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 or \$100 it all makes a difference and who knows, you may win \$10,000. If you need tickets, please contact Mitch Vocke at wmvocke1@gmail.com.

Thank you for taking the time to read this article as I know we all have a lot to do and we have more to get done before we head to the beach. I will tell you that I am proud of the work we have done so far, and I look forward to the last few months of my term. It continues to be an honor to serve as the President of this great organization.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Take care and be safe,



MSFA Officers Cont.

Financial Secretary

Mitch Vocke
Jarrettsville VFC—Harford
PO Box 401
Jarrettsville, MD 21084
H 410-692-6914
C 410-808-1693
wmvocke@harfordpublicsafety.org

Chief Chaplain

Rev. John F. Long, Jr.
Ferndale VFC—Anne Arundel
343 Cool Breeze Ct.
Pasadena, MD. 21122
H 410-437-6756
C 443-623-0753
pray@msfa.org

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 inquires to
trumpet@msfa.org

The Volunteer Trumpet
55 Sunnybrook Drive
Elkton, MD. 29121

Chip's Firehouse Logbook

Remembering John Hoglund

by Chief Clarence "Chip" Jewell, III

As I heard about the death of our good friend and mentor John Hoglund, I couldn't help but to go find my original cards from the "University of Maryland – Fire Service Extension" that proudly bear his signature. "Mr. John" has not only contributed to the education and training of our state fire service, he was a visionary that transformed the fire and rescue training in Maryland and our nation. John Hoglund's quest in the fire service began in high school in Mellen, Wisconsin where he was a Junior Forest Ranger. At age 16, John fought wildland fires with the U. S. Forest Service and joined the Mellen Volunteer Fire Department, eventually serving

At age 16, John fought wildland fires with the U. S. Forest Service and joined the Mellen Volunteer Fire Department, eventually serving as chief

as chief. During the Korean War, John enlisted in the United States Marine Corp with his brother James. After the war, he graduated from Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin, and became the Assistant Director of Safety Services for the State of Wisconsin.

The Maryland State Firemen's Association addressed the need for statewide fire training at a meeting in Lonaconing, Alle-

gany County, in 1929 and appointed the MSFA Fire College Committee. The committee met with the president of the University of Maryland and other safety leaders and in 1930 the Fire College was formed.

The Fire College ran from 1930 to 1937 and was the predecessor of the Fire Service Extension Department of the College of Engineering in existence from 1937 to 1975. In 1964, John Hoglund joined the staff of the University of Maryland - Fire Service Extension, becoming the director in 1970. His leadership and vision soon developed



into the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute (MFRI). His commitment to fire and emergency services education continued to advance in our state under John. He was instrumental in the implementation of MFRI regional offices and training centers as well as mobile teaching labs. John was an early proponent of diversity and honored by several organizations for his efforts in equality. John was a leader in accreditation and certification for the fire service. He served on several IFSTA validation committees. He was a 24 year member of the Fire Service Professional Qualification

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"I couldn't help but to go find my original cards from the "University of Maryland – Fire Service Extension" that proudly bear his signature. "

Recruitment and Retention Reflection

Is it the Season to Think Seasonally

By Mike Miller
Committee Member

How many member Companies have a monthly required number of hours? I'm sure it's just about all of them; and it makes sense.

We must cover our volunteers with insurance. That comes out of our budget, there is a cost/ benefit trade-off at some point.

But why do we insist that it's a monthly number? Why not an annual number instead? Even if we want a volunteer to serve 12-hHours a month; why not state that in our by-laws as 144 hours a year?

I'm sure it's easier to track hours by the month, but at what cost. One cost I see is the seasonal volunteer. Be it a school teacher, a student, a farmer, a retail worker in a seasonal business, a painter, etc..

Many occupations have a strong seasonal component. Many people who could volunteer for us, won't, because they can't meet the monthly requirement.

They could meet an annual requirement however. It will take some re-writing of by-laws, it won't be as easy to schedule. But everyone agrees, change needs to happen to keep volunteers, and get new ones.

Is it the season to think seasonally?

MIEMSS NEWS BRIEFS

James W. Brown, MA, EMT,
MIEMSS

Cardiac Arrest Steering Committee

The purpose of the committee is to enhance the care of patients experiencing sudden out-of-hospital cardiac arrest in a way that improves outcomes from this disease in all communities and populations in Maryland. The committee accomplishes its mission through implementation via three subcommittees: Public, Dispatch and EMS. The focus: measure to improve. Data provides the basis for action; EMS and hospital data, after quality improvement review is available for all communities and EMS agencies from the Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival (CARES). This data allows celebrating lives saved while evaluating possible improvements. The committee is embarking upon an improvement project to evaluate the processes involved in producing data for all three echelons/phases of care. Analyzing strengths, along with opportunities for improvement, provides the best chance of maximizing survival in all communities.

Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program (VAIP)

The Statewide VAIP workgroup has conducted a thorough review and update of the VAIP standards in an effort to allow more jurisdictional EMS operational programs and organizations to participate. The workgroup finalized 2020 VAIP standards and the document has been approved by SEMSAC and the EMS Board. It is posted on the MIEMSS website.

Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Pneumonia

An outbreak of pneumonia associated with a novel coronavirus in Wuhan City, China was reported on December 31, 2019. The situation is dynamic but since then, there have been over 20,000 confirmed infections in China, with cases reported in other countries including the United States. Most patients with this illness have been reported to have fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. There is no vaccine or specific treatment for this infection.

Based on recommendations from the CDC and Maryland Department of Health, MIEMSS recommends the following:

1. Ask patients with fever or respiratory symptoms about travel to mainland China within the past 14 days.
2. Identify patients under investigation (PUIs) using either of the following criteria:
 - Fever and symptoms of lower respiratory illness (cough, shortness of breath) and
 - history of travel to China within the last 14 days, OR
 - Fever or symptoms of lower respiratory illness (cough, shortness of breath) and close contact with an ill laboratory-confirmed 2019-nCoV patient within the last 14 days

Importantly, the screening criteria for this novel coronavirus may change with time. Please use the MIEMSS Infection Control page: <http://www.miemss.org/home/infectious-diseases> for the most up-to-date information.

Dayton on the Fire Service

It All Starts with the Right Attitude!

By: Jonathan Dayton, IAAI-FIT, NREMT

When we look at today's volunteer fire and ems service everything is centered around change. Changes in firefighting tactics, changes in leadership roles, changes in training requirements, changes in department requirements, changes in safety protocols, changes in firefighter health and safety, changes in everything. Changes are typically met with the disapproval of some and overwhelming approval of others. Where's the balance? Well, that's a great question.

Being a "millennial" I've noticed that the new emerging leaders in today's volunteer fire and ems service have huge novel ideas on how to fix the volunteer service.

New chiefs and department leaders are quick to implement new policies

and procedures for the betterment of the volunteer service. While most of the new policies and procedures have great intentions, I've come to realize the input of senior leadership is sometimes forgotten. I believe that we often forget that no matter what class we take, what title we hold or what we think we know, experience sometimes reigns supreme.

Ever wonder why that senior man at your department comes around a lot less. It's probably because he feels his input isn't as valuable anymore. But I can venture to guess you probably will value his or her time at the monthly bingo or chicken dinner.

This does have a flipside. I've also experienced those senior men take new ideas and changes with a grain of salt. Change for them is like running into a brick wall.

Always shot down with no consideration. This sometimes leads newer members or emerging leaders to feel put down and feel not part of the team which leads to internal politics which

isn't good for the department at large.

So how do we fix this cycle? Well, it starts with one-word attitude. Yes, that's the simple fix. It seems to me that millennials and those "old guys" have a poor attitude. Never in agreement, never on the same page, never thinking about the citizens we serve.

We may say that we always have the community's best interest. Do we really? Or do we just want other people in the department to conform and listen to our opinion because we're always right, right? Change takes time, change takes effort, but change takes an open positive attitude.



Are You Smarter than the old time fire chief?

Round 6

By Jim Jarobe



1. Name

the Executive Director for CFSI (Congressional Fire Services Institute)?

2. The Everyone Goes Home Program was founded by?
3. 3. How many Initiatives are there in the Life Safety Initiatives?
4. On the series Chicago Fire, what is the character name of the Captain?
5. How much does a cubic foot of water weights?
6. During the early days at U of MD Fire Service Extension, there were three 60 hour courses taught as sections 1, 2 and 3. Section 2 was also referred to as?
7. What do the initials FWD stand for on a FWD pumper?
8. What does PPE stand for?
9. Name the hose appliance that has a 2-1/2 inch inlet and two gated 1-1/2 inch discharges, as well as a 2-1/2 inch discharge which may or may not have a control valve?
10. Name the apparatus that has multi functions, it provides pump, water tank, aerial, fire hose and ground ladders?

See Wally's answers on page 7

On and Off the Fire Scene

Wally's Answers (see quiz on page 6)

Answers...

- 1. Bill Webb
- 2. National Fallen Firefighter Foundation
- 3. 16
- 4. Matthew Casey
- 5. 62.5 lbs 6. Advanced
- 7. Four Wheel Drive
- 8. Personal Protective Equipment
- 9. Water Thief
- 10. Quint



March 7, 2020 – At approximately 5:15 PM Queen Anne’s County dispatched Station 9 (Unites Communities), Station 1 (Kent Island), Station 2 (Grasonville), Station 3 (Queenstown), Paramedic 100 and EMS-3 for a working dwelling fire at 358 Oregon Road. Units arrived on location to find a single-story structure with heavy fire showing from the rear. Officer 902 (L. Jones) established command and shortly thereafter requested a 2nd alarm, bringing addition apparatus from Queen Anne’s County and Anne Arundel County. The bulk of the fire was quickly knocked, and crews remained on the scene for approximately 2 hours doing extensive overhaul.

By Bruce Secrist



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.



Chip's Logbook

(Continued from page 4)

Board. He was elected to the IFSTA Executive Board in 1982. He was also a member and service on the board of the International Society for Fire Service Instructors. He served as the Chair of the NFPA Technical Committee on Fire Service Training. The Maryland Fire Chief's Association named the annual Chief Officer's Seminar in his honor.

Upon his retirement from MFRI, John continued to be an instructor and very involved in the fire service throughout our state. He played a key role in the development of the 1992 MSFA Centennial Convention in Frederick, especially on the living history presentation at the

Weinberg Center in Frederick. He continued to have a passion for the history of our state fire and rescue service, often asking me about a particular piece of apparatus or fire department historical note. When he found out we were able to bring the 1848 "Old Lady" United hand pumper back to Maryland, he grasped my hand and was near tears, elated we saved this historic hand tub engine.

John was active until he simply could not participate. I doubt if he ever missed an annual MSFA Convention. He was truly a friend to the Maryland fire and rescue service and a national fire service treasure. His leadership, foresight and vision

had a positive effect on training and training standards in essentially every fire service training organization in the country.

His baritone voice and strong handshake will be missed this year in Ocean City. The foundation of the state training agency was forged with the hard work and dedication of John W. Hoglund. Every firefighter, EMT, paramedic and first responder in Maryland owes a debt of gratitude to the Director Emeritus of the Maryland Fire – Rescue Institute. Rest In Peace, Mr. John. Your service on earth no doubt gave you a special place in heaven.

Texting and Driving



By Jim Jarboe

Texting and Talking on your cell phone while driving, definitely spells danger for you and the people on the road. It's also a fact, that the police are also out there looking for violators with a ticket.

From the Pen of Chief Jarboe

As we prepared to go to press, news of the coronavirus, a global public health emergency, started sweeping across the nation. And in light of these rapidly changing conditions one of our regular contributors, Chief Jim Jarboe, Takoma Park VFD, stepped forward to provide us with some timely reminders.

Readers of the *Volunteer Trumpet* are familiar with the chief's work. His regular column, are you as smart as an old time fire chief tests our memory, while his updates on fire service news for the Takoma Park VFD keep us informed about activities there.

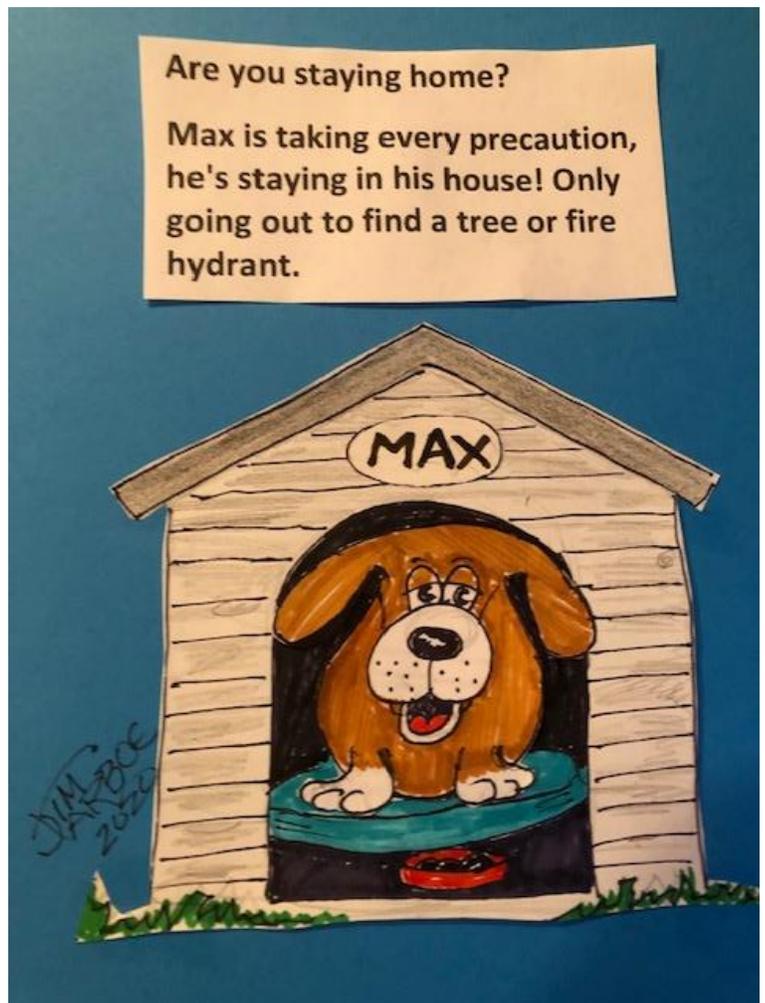
Additionally, he occasionally employs another medium, art, taking to his pen to sketch motivational or safety messages for readers.

At the end of March, he provided these timely reminders, pieces of editorial art, for our readers. The chief cautions, he is not an artist at best a doodler.

Thanks chief.
— The Editor



A "Tip of the Helmet" to all our first responders around the state and beyond, from the members of the Takoma Park VFD.



Fire Service Oil Painting Commissioned for Centennial

By Mike Dixon, Editor

For its centennial celebration in 1992, the Singerly Fire Company commissioned an oil painting that showed the company racing out of the North Street station on a cold winter evening in 1892 to answer its first alarm.

A team of galloping horses pulled the Amoskeag Steamer past the old courthouse as an early evening February twilight descends on Cecil County. Immediately behind the engine, a group of men tugged strenuously on the Gleason and Bailey Hook and Ladder as a fresh coating of snow made the work a little hazardous. The old hose cart wasn't too far behind as it was just rolling out the firehouse door.

The toiling courthouse bell had called out the Elkton volunteers for their first general alarm on this winter day in the 1892. These pieces of newly acquired equipment protected the county seat from the ravages of flames for decades until they were retired as motorized units came into general use three decades later.

In preparation for the celebration of 100 years of service, the firefighters commissioned Doylestown PA artist Gil Cohen to produce the oil painting and the company sold a limited edition print. When the company decided it wanted a unique scene showing the 19th century volunteers answering the alarm, they launched a search for an artist who could accurately depict the technical nature of the setting and capture the mood.

The member of the American Society of Aviation Artist and book



The artists had the Singerly firefighters create several scenes so the postures, motions and forms could be sketched into the painting. Here, they are creating the look for pulling the hook and ladder. (L to R) front — Walter Trego and Vince McMahon; 2nd line — Bill Baker and Walter Morgan; and in the back Mike Dixon creates a little tension.

illustrator, had done works for the United States Coast Guard Bicentennial and for other major national celebrations so he was selected. A stickler for historical accuracy, Cohen did lots of research to recreate the scene from another century. His first task was to visit Elkton to get a feel for the town and begin research for the project.

He walked down Main Street, studying old pictures and looking at modern vantage points. "I conjure up images in my mind. It's almost like entering a

time machine, where I'm here but try-

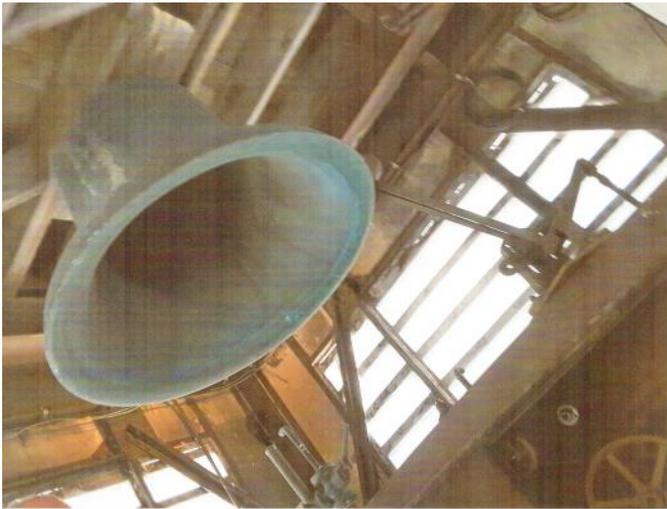
ing to visualize the street as it was before the turn of the century," he commented. He next utilized company members dressed in turnout gear to pose for him as he dramatically portrayed their 19th-century counterparts.

So on a cold Monday afternoon in February 1992, Cohen had firefighters, including Bill Clark, Walter Lee, Bill Baker, Walter Morgan, Bill Caldwell, Vince McMahon, Mike Dixon, and Walter Trego running down North Street and hanging off apparatus as bystanders leaned over the railings on a tavern porch. As the sun set, long shadows became more apparent on the buildings. It was just the look Cohen was

(Continued on page 11)

The toiling courthouse bell had called out the Elkton volunteers for their first general alarm on this winter day in the 1892.

Fire Bell



A special thank you to the fire museum of Hanover, PA for donating the weights. Their donation of weights was “key” in restoring and preserving the “Big Six” fire bell system.

Photos: left — The fire bell in the tower. Bottom right — The mechanical drive mecha-



Oil Painting

(Continued from page 10)
after.

His research also took him to fire museums in Philadelphia and elsewhere as he interviewed experts on 19th-century apparatus and viewed old photos. Once he visualized it all and completed his research, he submitted several rough sketches for the company’s approval.

After the drawing was selected, the artist started to work on the oil painting. During the centennial year, the company unveiled Singerly’s Call to Alarm, a fitting tribute to past firefighters who established a tradition of service and to the present members who faithfully serve the community.



Singerly’s Fire Alarm



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55 Sunnybrook Drive
Elkton, MD 21921

Representing the volunteer fire,
rescue and EMS personnel of
Maryland



Feb. 1, 2020 — At approximately 1:15 PM Talbot Center dispatched Station 50 (Cordova), Paramedic 90 and EMS-2 for a subject with burns. Trooper 1 transported the patient to the burn center in Baltimore.

By Bruce Secrist