

MAY/JUNE 2021  
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# VOLUNTEER TRUMPET

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

**BY:**  
**JONATHAN DAYTON, EDITOR**

## Call for Articles!

As we come close to publishing our 6th issue next month, I'm calling on all of the subject matter experts, department Public Information Officers, and volunteer firefighter, EMT's and Paramedics for the content material. The Volunteer Trumpet wants to highlight our volunteers, help advocate for local events, and publicize what's going on all across the state of Maryland! To do that, it requires YOUR help; if you have an idea or material you'd like to submit for possible publication, please offer that material to Editor Jonathan Dayton at [jonathan.m.dayton@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.m.dayton@gmail.com) and also if you want a particular event covered such as an award banquet, dedication, ceremony or any other event, please don't hesitate to send your request also to the email above! The Volunteer Trumpet would be happy to cover as many events as possible!

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# MARYLAND VOLUNTEERS - MY WHY?

## HIGHLIGHTING SOME VOLUNTEERS

### Carder Miller, Mount Savage Volunteer Fire Department



"I think the easy answer is that it's in my blood. Most of my family is in the Fire and EMS service and as far as I can remember I would go to the station with my parents when I was little and me, my brothers and cousins would wear some of the helmets and crawl around the station and pretend to put out fires and rescue people. Once I turned 12 I turned in my application to become a junior fireman and haven't looked back since. Over the years I've come to enjoy being a volunteer not just because being one was a childhood dream of mine but the feeling of helping someone in their darkest and lowest times and being shining light to them."

A photograph of Scott Cain, a man with a mustache and glasses, wearing a light pink button-down shirt, smiling. He is standing in front of a red fire truck.

**I LIVE IT.  
I RESPECT IT.  
I PROTECT IT.**

**Scott Cain**  
26 years firefighting  
8 years in insurance

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The VFIS logo, which consists of a stylized white starburst icon followed by the letters 'VFIS' in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the logo, it says 'A Division of Glatfelter Insurance Group'.

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# ARE YOU SMARTER THAN AN OLD TIME FIRE CHIEF? ROUND 12

## JIM JARBOE

1. In what year did Insurance Co. North America introduced the window decal "Tot Finder" Fire Rescue Program? a.1962. b. 1972. c. 1982. d.1992
2. NFPA Standards, require on SCBA low-air alarm to sound when the cylinder drops to \_ \_\_\_\_ percent of capacity? a. 10. b. 15. c. 20. d. 25
3. Type 2 construction is referred to as \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
a. Non-combustible b. Ordinary c. Fire resistive d. Fire retardant
4. Which tool is designed for both cutting and prying?  
a. Bam-bam b. Pry ax c. Ram bar. d. Halligan
5. What is the second phase of fire?  
a. Flashover. b. Fully developed c. Growth. d. Incipient
6. What does VBM stand for in the EMS service?
7. Put on your thinking cap for this one. Which famous celebrity TV host has been affected by the fire on both the East and West coast? a. Jay Leno. b. Jack Parr c. Johnny Carson. d. Jimmy Kimmel
8. In the TV series Chicago Fire, what is the ambulance number?
9. Dealing with hazardous materials, what does MSDS stand for?
10. Which famous basketball player lost his home due to fire on January 31, 1983?  
a. Moses Malone. b. Larry Bird c. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar d. Charles Barkley



Answers  
1. 1972 2. 25 3. Non-combustible 4. Pry ace 5. Growth  
6. Valve Bag-Mask 7. Johnny Carson 8. 61. 9. Material Safety Data Sheet  
10. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

# MIEMSS UPDATE



Novel Coronavirus – COVID-19. The latest information on monitoring and caring for our patients and EMS clinicians, including COVID-19 EMS Guidance documents, may be found on the Infectious Diseases portion of the MIEMSS website. Recognizing that guidance regarding COVID-19 is ever-changing, MIEMSS will post new documents to the <https://www.miemss.org/home/infectious-diseases> website as updates occur. MIEMSS would like to thank all Maryland's emergency services personnel for their continued dedication to caring for patients during the pandemic.

## Maryland has added a significant number of Provisional EMS

Clinicians to its emergency medical services workforce in response to COVID-19. Provisional EMS Clinicians include individuals whose Maryland license/certification previously expired; clinicians who are licensed/certified in other states; and Maryland EMT and Paramedic students who have completed coursework but have not had access to the necessary practical experiences or a test.

MIEMSS is encouraging Provisional EMS Clinicians to remain part of Maryland's EMS System by using the process for Provisional Clinicians to obtain full Maryland certification or licensure. The requirements for obtaining full certification/licensure

Requirements for Transition from EMS Provisional Status to Full Certification or Licensure status varies by level of EMS Clinician and the specific criteria by which the individual qualified for provisional status. The requirements by the level of the clinician may be accessed at <https://www.miemss.org/home/ems-providers> by clicking on the specific clinician level. Requirements for all EMS Clinician levels are detailed in COMAR at <http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/comarhtml/30/30.02.02.13.htm>.

Please keep in mind the following: All individuals who desire to progress from Provisional Status to Full Certification/Licensure must file an application to do so within 180 days after the end of the emergency period. To be eligible to progress from

Provisional Status to Full Certification/Licensure, all requirements must be completed within the timeframe indicated.

Provisional Status personnel may provide EMS until the end of the emergency period plus 180 days.

Paramedics may continue to provide EMS under their provisional NREMT certification until December 31, 2021.

ALL Provisional Statuses other than paramedics terminate at the end of the emergency period plus 180 days.

COMAR 30.02.02.09E applies to individuals who are reinstated. For further information about transitioning from Provisional to Full Certification/Licensure in Maryland, please email [licensure-support@miemss.org](mailto:licensure-support@miemss.org).

# EARLY MARYLAND FIRE PROTECTION PART II

## CHIP'S FIREHOUSE LOGBOOK



**BY: CHIEF CLARENCE "CHIP" JEWELL**

As noted in the last edition of the Volunteer Trumpet, fire protection in Maryland predates the MSFA by well over 100 years. As early as 1721, records of the Maryland Assembly "Ordered that the Treasurer of the Eastern Shore send for a Fire Engine to Work with four Hands to play with a Brass Spout only (without Leather Trunks) and three dozen good Strong Leather Buckets" Though it is not noted exactly what town was to receive the fire engine and buckets, apparently the initial request for funding was felt insufficient as the Assembly noted,

6 "We also Observe, that the

The sum you mentioned for an Engine and Buckets is too Small and rather Propose that you send for a Good Fire Engine to work with four Hands to be made to play with a brass Spout only (without Leather Trunks), and three dozen good strong Leather Buckets and then there Can be no Danger of having a Bad Engine bought by a Restraint of the Price"

On January 4, 1807, an act was passed "... authorizing a lottery to raise a sum of money to purchase a fire engine and to purchase ground and build a schoolhouse, in Rockville, in Montgomery County. This legislation required that "...within twenty months thereafter, first to the purchasing ground in the said town, or the precincts thereof, and building a school-house thereon, and then to purchase of a fire engine." Even 200 years ago, the building of schools was a higher priority than fire protection! In 1808, "An ACT, authorizing a lottery to raise a sum of money to purchase a fire engine, and finish the church in Westminster-town, in Frederick county." was passed in January of 1808. The act authorized the "...to propose a scheme or schemes of a lottery for raising a sum of money, not exceeding two thousand dollars, and to sell and dispose of the tickets thereof..." The act also required several individuals in Westminster to "...give bond to the state of Maryland in the penalty of six thousand dollars..."

Communities in Washington County were also early in developing fire protection. Boonsborough (today spelled Boonsboro) received authorization for a lottery to purchase a fire engine, build schoolhouses, and to finish "...the Lutheran and Presbyterian church..." Sharpsburg (today's spelling) was another Washington County community to petition the Assembly for funds or permission to conduct a lottery in the amount of \$2000 to raise money for a fire engine. In 1815, an Act was approved by Governor Charles Ridgely, Esq. for a lottery to be conducted:

"... two years from the time the drawing of said lottery shall be completed, apply the money raised by such lottery or lotteries, for the purpose of purchasing a fire engine in the town of Sharpsburgh in Washington county."

# CONT.

On February 5, 1818, an act was passed by the General Assembly of Maryland "... authorizing the Commissioners to purchase a Fire-Engine for the use of the inhabitants of William's Port, in Washington County." The act also authorized the funds could be utilized "...also to procure by purchase, or otherwise, a suitable house in which the said engine shall be kept."

An act was passed on January 4, 1815, "...to authorize a Lottery for the benefit of Salisbury, in Somerset and Worcester counties." This legislation was passed for "...the purpose of purchasing a fire engine, for the use of the town of Salisbury, and building a house therefor in the said town, settling pumps and procuring buckets and ladders."

An act passed on February 24, 1834 "... authorizing the Collector of Worcester county to pay over to the Commissioners of the town of Snow Hill, or to their order, a certain sum of money..." that "...may be appropriated for the purpose of purchasing a fire engine, for the use of said town of Snow Hill..." The act further stated, "And be it enacted, That the said commissioners shall appropriate the aforesaid sum of one hundred dollars, towards the payment of the purchase money of the said fire engine, or to defray the necessary expenses attending the safety and preservation of said fire engine."

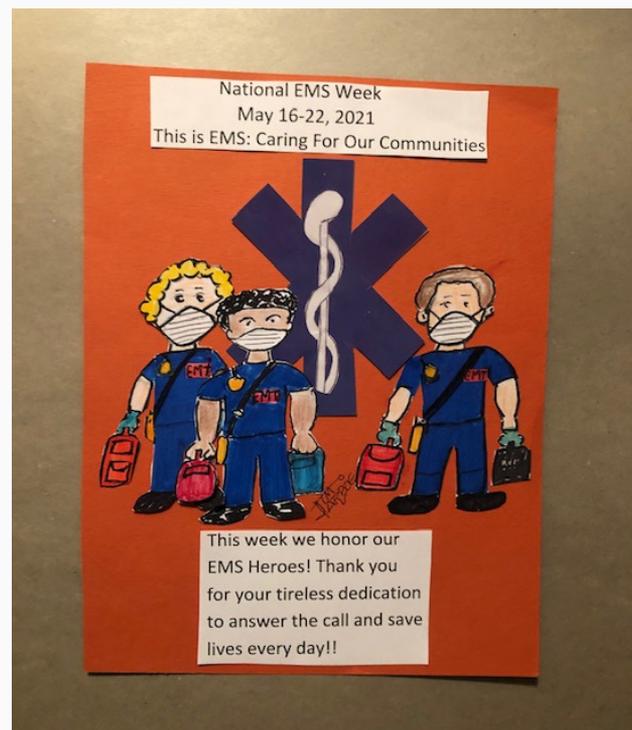
Much of the information I have provided is verbatim with the unique spelling of words and early towns. Research in the Session Laws of the Maryland State Archives provides a detailed glance at the early history of our state, and in particular, the Maryland fire service. Quite literally, many fire companies existed long before fire companies of today were organized. To research more about your community or fire company, go to the Maryland State Archive website at <http://aomol.msa.maryland.gov/html/laws.html>

BE SAFE, CHIP

From our partners at MIEMSS:

"During EMS Week 2021 (May 16-22), MIEMSS would like to recognize all Maryland EMS clinicians that provide life-saving emergency medical care across our state! Thank you for what you do – each and every day!"

And we thank MIEMSS for all they do, especially the tedious work this past year of keeping us all informed and up-to-date on everything COVID. We also appreciate the opportunity for many of our EMS volunteers to be reinstated provisionally during the pandemic. This has encouraged hundreds of responders to come back into the fold! #marylandvolunteers #partnersinservice



# ERIC SMOTHERS ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR 2ND VICE PRESIDENT OF MSFA

Eric Smothers, chairman of the MSFA EMS Committee, Assistant Chief of the Brunswick Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Company and past president of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association has announced his candidacy for 2nd Vice President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association. Chief Smothers will be on the ballot at the June 2021 MSFA Convention. A native of Brunswick, Maryland, Eric and his brother, Chief Andy Smothers, joined the Brunswick Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Company right out of high school. Both brothers chose law enforcement as a career. Eric Smothers served as a Brunswick City police officer and a Frederick County

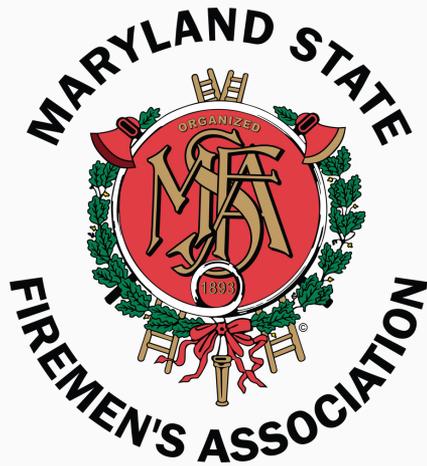
Deputy Sheriff before becoming a Maryland State Trooper with over 30 years of service. His brother Andy retired from the Frederick County Sheriff's Office. Eric was an early EMT and Cardiac Rescue Technician. He became one of the very first ALS providers in the Frederick County Advanced Life Support program, staffing the only medic unit in Frederick County with hundreds of volunteer hours. He continued his advanced training as a nationally certified paramedic and paramedic instructor.

Senior Paramedic Eric Smothers is well known in the Maryland EMS community as a dedicated paramedic in the Maryland State Police Aviation Division. He has been a part of the medivac program from the initial Bell Jet Ranger helicopters in the 1970's to the magnificent Agusta/Westland AW139 helicopters flown by MSP today. Chief Smothers is also an MFRI instructor teaching both in the EMT program as well as the paramedic level. Chief Smothers holds the Fire Officer IV certification.

Eric Smothers has been a staunch advocate of the volunteer fire and rescue service in his home county, serving six years as the president of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service. Under his leadership, the county budget process was re-designed to provide more equitable funding to volunteer fire and rescue companies. Training standards and department evaluation programs were implemented to help assure high service standards and help assure volunteer response.

His dedicated service to the volunteer fire and rescue of Frederick County and the State of Maryland is a reflection of his commitment to the Maryland State Firemen's Association. Assistant Chief Eric Smothers is very hopeful he can serve the volunteers in Maryland in the most honorable position of Second Vice President. He seeks your support at the virtual MSFA convention in June 2021.





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Representing the volunteer fire,  
rescue, and EMS personnel of  
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