

Firefighting Content for Maryland & Beyond



VOLUME XIII: ISSUE III

VOLUNTEER TRUMPET

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION



THANKSGIVING SAFETY TIPS
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK PHOTOS
In Memory: Charles W. "Chuck" Walker
THE COLBURN CUP



Maryland Fire Rescue Institute
College Park, MD



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Best Thanksgiving Wishes from all of us at the MSFA Volunteer Trumpet. Don't burn the turkey this holiday, and follow these safety tips!

Top safety tips around the Thanksgiving Holiday from NFPA

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey, and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot, and kids should stay three feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy, or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer, or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children – up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in a room with a lit candle.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks, or bags.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.



Editor's Corner



My seventh topic is all about **leading by example**. This is quite simple. You often want younger members to do precisely what you think and expect of them, but sometimes, they don't know all of the specific details or do exactly what senior members do, which may not be exactly how you envisioned it. So, with that said, don't expect younger firefighters to read your mind or know exactly what you expect, and instead teach and show them the ways of the firehouse and simply lead by example. In the day and age of cellphones, one simple thing is to stay off your phone and pay attention during meetings and presentations; you don't think people are watching you, but those newer members and firefighters are paying attention, and if you *don't* pay attention, don't expect them to either.

Because this section of the newsletter is meant to share ideas and start conversations, I want to hear from the readership new topics that I should cover and ways that we can work on expanding the readership of the Trumpet. If you want me to write about an issue, please send ideas to Jonathan Dayton at jonathan.m.dayton@gmail.com. About the Editor, Jonathan is a volunteer Firefighter/EMT serving Allegany County, MD. MSFA Committee Chairperson, Assistant Secretary, Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire Rescue Association Past President, President and Public Information Officer, Member of the Maryland Governor's Emergency Management Advisory Council, and Nation Fire Service Speaker and Educator. Jonathan holds an associate's degree in Fire Science and bachelor's and master's degrees.

Jonathan

-FIND THE PUMPKIN-

We're continuing the "FIND THE ___" Challenge that we started this year. The goal is to find a specific item hidden in the pages of this book. In this issue, you are tasked with finding this **PUMPKIN** (to the right). Starting on **November 20th**, once you find this small item hidden within the publication, you must email Stephen Jenkins (sjenkins@msfa.org). It can be located on ANY page EXCEPT the front and back cover. The first correct person to discover the item will win the opportunity to submit one free 1/4 page ad!



Volunteer Fire Departments across Maryland participate in National Fire Prevention Week and Halloween Activities.



The Maryland State Firemen's Association's Executive Committee met on Saturday, August 26th - Sunday, August 27th at Libertytown Volunteer Fire Department.



Training/Announcements

- **November 9-12, 2023;** IAFC Symposium in the Sun: More Info at vcossun2023.eventscribe.net/
- **November 18, 2023;** The Drift to Failure: A Leadership Seminar. Prince Frederick VFD. Registration and hotel information can be found at www.mfri.org/schedule/seminars
- **December 3, 2023;** Fire Police Orientation www.mfri.org/course/msfs/FIRE/112/
- **December 9-10, 2023;** MFCA Annual Leadership Training Weekend. Ocean City, MD. Hotel reservations must be made by November 7th. Register at www.mfri.org/register/SEM-121-S001-2024/seminars
- Maryland State Firemen's Association Recruitment & Retention Breakout Marketings Session (MSFA Breakout Session | **Wednesday, November 15** | 11:30 am – 12:00 pm) Google Meet joining info | Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/uce-hqjb-gzb>



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K9 Kachina Retires From the Office of the State Fire Marshal

With a list of accomplishments as long as her leash, beloved K9 heads into retirement.

STATEWIDE (September 29, 2023) - After eight years with the Office of the State Fire Marshal, Kachina, one of Maryland's most beloved arson detection dogs, is retiring.

The ten-year-old black lab is one of four Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) trained dogs within the agency. She was the most senior canine among the 62 teams across the United States. She and her partner, Master Deputy State Fire Marshal Oliver Alkire, have assisted in over 600 cases in their time together throughout Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania.

During her career, Kachina has responded to or trained in every Maryland county and Baltimore City, an accomplishment that few K9s have experienced and a testament to her drive and dedication to everyone in Maryland.



In Memory of Charles W. "Chuck" Walker

The Maryland State Firemen's Association regrettably announces the passing of MSFA's Past President (2020-2021) Charles W. "Chuck" Walker. Chuck also served the MSFA on the 17 State Circle Committee, VCAF Committee, and the Executive Committee. Chuck is a member of the MSFA Hall of Fame.

Chuck is a life member of the Chillum Adelphi Volunteer Fire Department, Past President of the Prince Georges County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association.

Please keep the Walker family and all of his fire service family in your thoughts and prayers.



Maryland State Firemen's Association News

REMINDER: December Executive Committee Meeting Notice: As per MSFA Secretary Cox, it has been announced that President Eric Smothers has scheduled his December Executive Committee Meeting of the Maryland State Firemen's Association for Saturday and Sunday, December 2 and 3, 2023. The meeting will be at the Westminster Fire Engine & Hose Company No. 1, Inc., 28 John Street, Westminster, MD. The meeting will be called to order promptly at 9:00 a.m.

NEW MSFA Fire Police Committee Established: President Smothers has appointed the following people to Chair and Co-Chair the committee. Any correspondence should be referred to them in reference to the committee: Chair Kevin Albaugh from Frederick County. Kevin is the Fire Police (FP) Chairman and Captain for Frederick County's program and Co-Chair, MSFA Past President, Bob Cumberland.

CALL FOR NEW Committee Leadership: President Smothers is looking for interested individuals to chair the new Drone and Lithium Ion Battery Committees. If you have interest or experience in any of these areas and would like to get involved, please contact President Smothers at esmothers@msfa.org

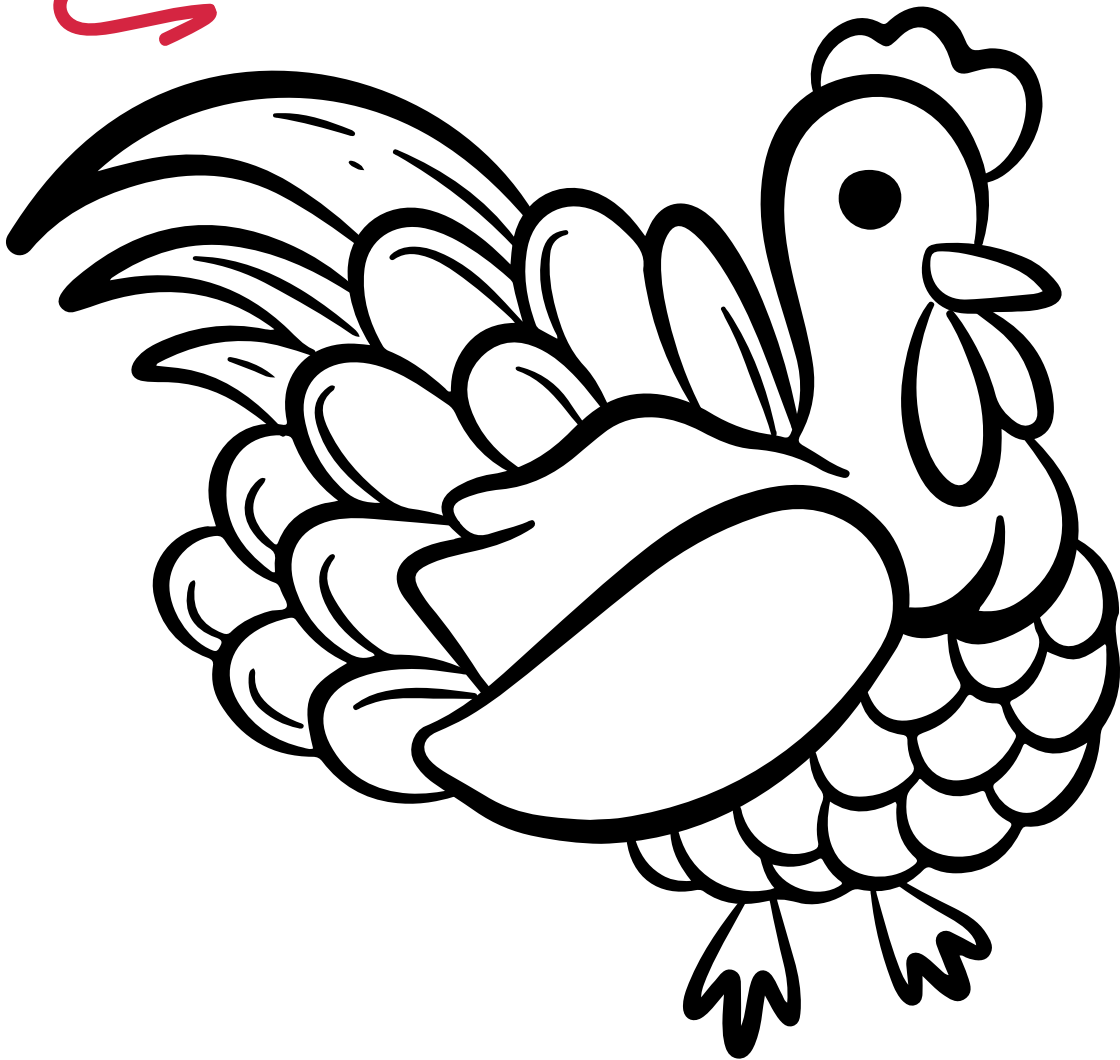


Baltimore Pike Volunteer Fire Company participates in Trunk-Or-Treat in partnership with Rocky Gap State Park in Flintstone, MD. Over 1,200 kids participated.

KIDS CORNER



Hey kids! Fire Dog Spotty is painting a picture of a turkey! He needs YOUR help to color him in! Find some crayons, markers, or maybe even some paint and fill it in!



When your finished, you can ask your parents or another responsible adult to post a picture of your completed turkey to Facebook! Be sure to mention the Volunteer Trumpet and we may feature your picture in the next issue!

The Colburn Cup – An Award of Distinction

The Colburn Cup was created in 1932 and named for Past President Dr. George W. Colburn. Dr. Colburn served as President of the MSFA 1931-1932 and Chairman of the Executive Committee 1930-1931. At the 40th annual convention of the MSFA held 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 within the MSFA member companies for an outstanding act of heroism or for some outstanding act for the good of the association. The qualifications and awards are 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 MSFA with appropriate ceremony.

The Princess Anne Volunteer Fire Company, home company of Past President Colburn, houses the original Colburn Silver Cup since its retirement in 1958. They now provide the Colburn Cup each year which the recipient keeps.

The rules and qualifications for the Colburn Cup are maintained on the MSFA website, www.msfa.org on the awards pages. The cup is only awarded to a single individual for heroism or a very outstanding act for the good of the MSFA. Many submissions for this award contain a group of persons that attained a successful incident mitigation, and later are then submitted for this award. Unfortunately, the award is for an individual only. In past years the award was occasionally given to more than one person who participated in an incident. This was an incorrect application of the award, and after discussion several years ago with the sponsoring company it was determined that only one individual would receive the award moving forward.

There have been years where there were no qualifying applications for the award and the Colburn Cup was not presented. We hope that member companies of the MSFA will remember to submit a member that showed individual heroism in saving lives or injury during the year between conventions. An application can be submitted at any time during the year between conventions to the Trustees Secretary. Any questions can be directed to any of the Trustees.



On September 16th, 2023, Bill Beeman reached an honorable milestone of SIXTY Years of ACTIVE membership with the Barton Hose Company. To date, Bill can be found spending his Thursday evenings still working BINGOS, walking the floor selling quickies, and not to mention he doesn't miss a membership meeting. Bill, we are blessed that you are such a dedicated member of our community and have passed on key values to your fellow members. At our September monthly membership meeting, we presented Bill with a cake commemorating his 60 years. Bill will be further recognized for his dedication to our community at our 104th year of service banquet held at a later time. Congratulations Bill Beeman!



2023 Recruitment & Retention Forum

hosted by the Recruitment & Retention Committee



We had a wonderful time at our 2023 Recruitment and Retention Forum! We hope everyone who attended was able to learn something new, get a new perspective, and spark an idea that they can take back to their departments. Thanks to our speakers, Rick Rando and Warren Jones, who gave engaging presentations on both leadership and retention strategies.

- Jonathan Dayton, Recruitment & Retention Chairperson

“Mr. Buck”
Volunteer Trumpet
Chip’s Firehouse Logbook
October, 2023

Recently, the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum was in need of a piece of Frederick County fire apparatus to be displayed as the 1939 Ahrens-Fox of the United Steam Engine Company No. 3 of Frederick was removed from the museum for repairs. I was aware that Mr. Bernard “Buck” Gladhill purchased the United 1919 Ahrens-Fox many years ago, and that engine was still stored at the Gladhill Tractor Company in Jefferson. I called the son, Mr. Maurice Gladhill, to see if he would be willing to have the antique engine on public display. As noted in the last Trumpet, he did agree, and the 1919 Ahrens-Fox lettered Gladhill No. 1 was on display the remaining weekends of the museum season.

“Mr. Buck” was an icon in Damascus and dedicated to the Maryland State Firemen’s Association and the volunteer fire service of Maryland. He was a charter member of the Damascus Fire Volunteer Fire Department and remained active in the fire department until his death at age 96 in 2016. I recall meeting Mr. Buck at a Maryland State Firemen’s Association Convention in the early 1970s when he fostered a project to develop the Maryland Volunteer Firefighter’s Room at the Adult Education Center of the University of Maryland.

“Mr. Buck” helped design and develop the room with artifacts from the MSFA, including some plaques and awards, as well as a beautiful diorama highlighting three centuries of volunteer firefighting in Maryland. To help fund the Volunteer Firefighter’s Room, “Mr. Buck” sold special numbered coffee mugs in a series over a 10-year period. Each mug had a piece of Maryland apparatus, with the “Lily of the Swamp,” the famous Clapp and Jones steam pumper of the United Steam Fire Company No. 3, having the honor of being on the first issued mug.

The Lily of the Swamp is also the featured model in the diorama to highlight firefighting in the 1800’s. A model of the 1878 steamer, a 1700’s period hand pumper, and models of the 1970 Mack CF pumper and Aerialscope are also a part of the three-century diorama. The Mack models were donated by Mack Truck, Fire Apparatus

Division, who were also on hand for the dedication of the Volunteer Firefighter’s Room. “Mr. Buck” was extremely proud of his involvement in making this room a reality at the University of Maryland.

Unfortunately, much of the room was almost lost when the Adult Education Center was contracted out, and major renovations forced the removal of the diorama and a beautiful set of Maryland Oak display cases. Thanks to the diligence of Past President Frank Underwood, then serving as Deputy Chief for volunteers in the Prince George’s County Fire and Emergency Services, most of the hard work of “Mr. Buck” was saved and continues to be on display at the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Museum in Emmitsburg. PP Underwood continues to serve as the Chairman of the MSFA Historical and Archives Committee and keeps a watchful eye on the remaining artifacts in College Park.

“Mr. Buck” was an avid collector of fire apparatus and memorabilia, purchasing items from around Maryland, in particular several items from Frederick. He had over 20 pieces of apparatus in a storage barn in Damascus. His collection included the 1949 Ahrens-Fox of the Junior Fire Company No. 2 in Frederick and the 1919 Ahrens-Fox formerly owned by the United Steam Engine Company No. 3. The 1919 “Fox” was his prized possession. As a chain-driven, right-hand drive apparatus, “Mr. Buck” had the engine painted and the letter “Gladhill No. 1”. He saved the engine from the scrapyard by \$1. His son, Maurice Gladhill, tells the story that a local scrap dealer bid \$500 to purchase the 1934 Ahrens-Fox of the Junior Fire Company and



\$500 for the 1919 Ahrens-Fox from the United. "Mr. Buck" saved the 1919 "Fox" by bidding \$501, thus keeping the beautiful 1919 Ahrens-Fox for generations to see. A picture of both "Foxes" in storage at the Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company prior to the sale is on display at the Frederick County Fire Rescue Museum in Emmitsburg.

Other Frederick artifacts on display at the museum from Frederick that came from "Mr. Buck's" collection include the life net that was carried on Ladder 4, the 1952 American LaFrance tractor-drawn ladder truck of the Citizens Truck Company. Most likely was the owner of what is believed to be the 1876 Silsby Hose Reel of the Junior Fire Company No 2 in Frederick. During my tenure at Frederick County Emergency Communications, I drove by an antique dealer at that time located in front of the Gladhill Tractor Mart on East Patrick Street in Frederick and noticed a hose reel sitting outside in a grass area.

I stopped by to check out the reel and discovered the words "Silsby Manufacturing Company, Seneca Falls, New York." Literally shocked to see these words, I asked the antique dealer how much he wanted for "that old hose reel." When he responded with \$1000, I immediately went back to my office located less than a mile away and began to research the internet to determine the probably age of the hose reel. It became evident the rig was most likely the original hose reel of the Junior Fire Co. No. 2.

A piece of masking tape with the name "Gladhill" indicated this piece of fire service history probably came from the collection of Bernard "Buck" Gladhill, giving an even higher probability it came from Frederick. The Junior Fire Company No. 2 purchased the reel assuming it was originally a part of the compliment of the 1876 Silsby steamer. Under the direction of Junior member Jim Deater, the reel was rehabbed and is now also on display at the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Museum.

"Mr. Buck" also collected bells, literally hundreds of bells. Fire bells, church bells, railroad bells, steamship bells, and any other kind of bell you could think of. He donated a large antique bell, which was placed in a

Column at the entrance to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Emmitsburg. According to his lifelong friend, the late MSFA Past President Leonard King, who served on the Board of Directors of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, the bell had to be totally dismantled to be transported from the storage barn in Damascus to Emmitsburg where it proudly honors our nation's heroes.

In the 1970's, the conversation started within Frederick County for the need for a county fire and rescue training center. The late Bob Renner, a Montgomery County firefighter and chief of the New Midway Volunteer Fire Company who was active in the MSFA, headed the efforts to convince our county commissioners to back the project. Chief Renner headed a search committee for property and dealt directly with "Mr. Buck" and the Gladhill family.

During an interview prior to his death, Mr. Gladhill said: We were looking to the future. We thought it was a good investment for everyone. ... Without training, you have no business being a fireman; His family donated part of the property where the Frederick County Public Safety Training Facility now stands on Reich's Ford Road near Frederick.

In an article I wrote in the Trumpet a few issues ago, I made a glaring error when I stated that "Mr. Buck" has served as the president of MSFA. As he was such a major center of influence when I first became active, I just always had in my mind he was a past president years before I became active. I learned a valuable lesson when I was told otherwise and double-checked the list of MSFA presidents.

Though most recently we have his son, Maurice Gladhill, to thank for allowing "Gladhill No. 1" to be publicly displayed, we have "Mr. Buck" to thank not only for saving the engine from the junkyard, but for the many actions he took to help preserve the history and traditions of the fire service in Maryland, particularly in Frederick and Montgomery County.

Though he didn't quite make it to his goal of living to 100 years of age, he will live on in spirit through his family and his dedication to MSFA.

Who Are the Maryland State Firemen's Association Trustees?

This is a question we hear far too often. The MSFA Trustees are five persons elected from the member companies of the MSFA, who are there to administer the Line of Duty injury and death benefits to member company personnel that are injured in the line of duty or death benefits to the surviving family of member company personnel that die in the line of duty. The members of the Trustees are elected for a five-year term, thus, one Trustee is elected each year at the annual convention. The funds for the Trustee Benefits come from the State of Maryland budget each year and are earmarked for the specific purpose of assisting fire service personnel injured in the line of duty or assisting the families of personnel killed in the line of duty. The definition of "line of duty" injury or death is defined in the Annotated Code of Maryland Article 7-202 through 7-204, and each application for assistance must adhere to this definition.

The MSFA Trustees meet as needed and at each Executive Committee meeting or before and review any applications that have been submitted for benefits. The forms are checked for complete and accurate information. The content is checked for applicability and qualification. Benefits for line-of-duty injuries can be short-term or long-term. Death benefits are not only for surviving spouses but dependent children as well. There is also a benefit for the college education of surviving dependent children. All types of applications must be considered and approved for each claim.

Currently, Doug Alexander from Mount Airy is the Chairman of the MSFA Trustees. The Vice Chairman is Jeff Clements from Potomac Heights, Tommy Mattingly from Leonardtown is the Secretary/Treasurer, and Theresa Collins from West Friendship and T. R. "Robbie" Blackiston from Sudlersville fill out the Board of Trustees. The Trustees are available to assist a member company to apply for benefits at any time. If anyone should have a question on whether someone is eligible for benefits from the Trustees or needs assistance with an application, please contact one of the Trustees for assistance. All requirements and forms needed to file a claim are on the www.msfa.org website on the Trustees page.



Potomac Fire Company No.2 Inc. hosts its annual open house with Tri-Towns, Barton Hose Company, and Bloomington Volunteer Fire Departments on October 15th.





SAVE THE DATE

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Public Fire & Life Safety Educator Seminar

Saturday, March 23, 2024

8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

MFRI College Park

4500 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20742

Networking Lunch provided

Registration will be available online
at www.mfri.org
In-Person Seminar



THE DRIFT TO FAILURE

NOVEMBER 18, 2023
8 AM - 2 PM

CHIEF OFFICER COMPLACENCY, ARE WE PART OF THE PROBLEM?

Unlock the potential of Chief Officers and aspiring leaders in shaping a culture of operational excellence. This thought-provoking seminar delves deep into the critical implications of complacency at the leadership level and explores the normalization of deviance, a pressing concern in today's fire departments. Participants will gain invaluable tools and strategies to combat complacency, steering their departments away from potential pitfalls toward sustained success.

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This training is sponsored by the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association, the Maryland State Firemen's Association, and the Eastern Division International Association of Fire Chiefs. In cooperation with the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute.



The Volunteer Trumpet

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Happy Thanksgiving!



linktr.ee/MSFA1

***THE MISSION OF THE MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION IS TO SERVE,
PROMOTE, ADVOCATE AND REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE,
RESCUE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF MARYLAND.***