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THE BULLETIN

Official monthly publication of the
Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association

Volume IX Issue 2 Dennis R Mallery, Editor

February 2014

Inside this Issue:

- Reports from MSFA Executive Committee Meeting
- February's Meeting Notes
- MSFA/MSFMO Grant Program Opens
- Equipment/Apparatus For Sale
- Tips For Burn Safety
- Activities from around the area



Upcoming Meetings

Maryland State Firemen's Association

April 12: Mechanicsville VFD

Allegany-Garrett Co. Vol. Fire & Rescue Association

March 2: Ellerslie VFD

Allegany-Garrett Co. Vol. Fire & Rescue Assoc. L.A.

March 9: GoodWill VFC

Garrett County Association

March 26: Eastern Garrett

Mike Walters Fellowship of Christian Firefighters

March 1: Midland VFD

MSFA Executive Committee Meets at Cordova

Last month, the reports from MFRI, MIEMSS and the MSFMO were reported here. The following are comments gleaned from the MSFA Committee reports submitted in advance of the February 22-23 Executive Committee meeting held at Cordova VFD.

The **Board of Trustees** will be meeting at 0800 on February 22 at Cordova. We have possibly two LODD claims to discuss as well as continuations on three LODI's, and perhaps other LODI claims from previous incidents. We also have a request for educational benefit from a surviving dependent. We have submitted through the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Company a constitutional change to allow us to change and update our benefits packages and procedures without having to ask for a constitution change each year when we set our benefit rates. This change request has been received by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee and will be processed as required. The MSFA attorney and Constitution and By-laws Committee chair have reviewed our request and assisted in the preparation of this change. We will begin to look closely at our budget and benefit funding as we have had virtually no success in getting additional funding placed in the state budget. Currently, we are significantly over budget for the year and still have four months to go.

We wish to remind everyone

that the Trustees need to have claims filed in a timely fashion. We request that LODI claims be filed within 30 days of occurrence and notification of the Trustees of the possible claim within 10 days. We request that LODD claims be filed within 90 days of death with notification of possible claim within 10 days of occurrence. Please do not hesitate to contact any Trustee if we can be of any assistance in preparing a claim for any Line of Duty death or injury benefit.

On Sunday January 19, 2014 the **VCAF Committee** met at the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department. All committee members were in attendance with the exception of Darron Long. It was a pleasure to see Past President Joe Robison and his wife Joan at the meeting. Chair Craig Harman provided committee members with the highlights of the December 30th meeting. He noted that the application process has been reduced from months to now no more than 5 weeks (thanks to Pat Bowser and a cooperative work environment with MD MIL Department) and that we'd now like to narrow down the time to completion for the Settlement process.

The VCAF Secretary will work with the VCAF representative and the company to determine the company's desired closing date and she will then notify MD MIL Department of the date so that they can appropriately plan. Ms. Bowser will

work with the company to assemble the closing file and assure all documents are forwarded to Mr. Porter, who is responsible for writing the settlement agreements on behalf of the Stat, so that he can review documents and coordinate settlement. Currently the VCAF program does not allow for construction progress payments. Mr. Antoszewski who chairs Baltimore County's loan program, has agreed to work with the MD MIL Department to establish a progress payment program for VCAF real estate loans. Mr. Porter was in agreement with the goal and will work with Mr. Antoszewski and Mr. Gordon to work through the legal aspects of making this possible (hopefully this year). As a carryover from the last committee meeting, Williamsport Volunteer Fire Company has not closed their loan, which the Executive Committee approved July 2011, approved by the BPW September 2011 for \$58,850.00 for rescue equipment. On December 1, 2013 Chief William Ball sent Chairman Harman an email stating, "We are NOT seeking to proceed with this loan". Chief Ball expressed concern about the process and that they bought and deployed the tools in 2011. Based on that information, Mr. Ganley made a motion, which was approved, that MSFA request the MD MIL Department to close out Wil-

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Association Gathers at Frostburg Area Ambulance for February Meeting



The February meeting of the Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association

was held at the Frostburg Area Ambulance with President Gene Kidwell calling the meeting to order at 1400 hours. Chaplain Pete Walbert offered the invocation and conducted a short memorial service for those who had passed away since the last meeting. Roll call of Departments showed 23 present (62%) with Bittinger, Bloomington, Clarysville, Corriganville, Deep Creek, Deer Park, Eastern Garrett, Grantsville, Kitzmiller, Oakland, Rawlings, Southern Garrett and Tri Towns Rescue not represented. Sixteen Past Presidents were in attendance including Bob Knippenburg, Ron Grabenstein, Pete Walbert, Aaron Winters, Dennis Bonner, Gerard McGann, Rod Bowser, Dave Kyle, Pat Bowser, Janet Elbin, Mike Simmons, Tim Dayton, Clarence Broadwater, Dennis Mallery and Barbara Knippenburg. Guests attending included Johnnie Roth, 2nd Vice-president MSFA; Pam Kyle, AG-CVFRALA president; Betty Grabenstein, Past President AGCVFRALA; Morgan Blank, MSFA Western Region Jr. Miss Fire Prevention; Shelby Simmons, Miss Fire Prevention; Todd Dyche, MFRI; Allegany Co. Commissioner Bill Valentine; Dick DeVore, Director-Allegany Co. Dept. of Emergency Services; John Herath, Allegany Co. EMS Chief and Dwayne Kitis, MIEMSS.



Johnnie Roth, MSFA 2nd Vice-president, offered greetings from President Ol-

son and 1st Vice-president Keller and congratulated Bedford Road and Flintstone on their many years of service. He also thanked the Fire Ambassadors for their great work during the past year. Johnnie reported legislation has been submitted in Annapolis to require high schools to require an AED/CPR course prior to graduation. He also noted that two amendments were turned down that would have adversely affected the Senator Amoss Funds and it remains intact. The MSFA Training Committee met on February 1st and had 20 in attendance. They are continuing with the Regional 10 Year Training Plan meetings. He also announced that the April 14th meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the Mechanicsville VFD. Johnnie also read a report from Donna Struntz, Western Region Coordinator for the MSFA Jr. Miss Fire Prevention Committee. Donna reported she had received three applications to date: Casey Overstreet, Sami Jo Kight and Jenna Holshey. Deadline to submit applications has been extended to February 28th. A workshop for all applicants is scheduled for March 8th beginning at 2:00 pm at the Potomac Fire Department. Tim Dayton also noted that he had the MSFA \$10,000 Raffle tickets and would be distributing them at the March meeting.



Pat Bowser, Volunteer Company Assistance Fund, reported the group held a work session on

January 18th due to not having any new applications to review. There will be new changes forthcoming. Pat will be the central person to review documents for applications and closings. Hopefully this will speed up the process. Applications are now being approved, normally, within a month and working on getting closings done within a month also. Pat noted the Fund has approximately \$18M to loan at 2% interest. If interested in applying or have questions, contact Pat by phone or email. Mike Simmons, **Garrett**



County Association, reported the next meeting will be held on March 26th at the Eastern Garrett

Co. VFRD beginning at 7:30 p.m. .Dwayne Kitis,



MIEMSS, noted the flyers/class information for the Miltenberger Trauma Seminar have been sent out. If more are needed or there are any questions, contact Dwayne at the Regional Office. There are good classes this year and the FBI will be doing a full class on Friday. It was also noted that Dr. Bass' replacement has not yet been found and a new nationwide search has been opened.



Todd Dyche, MFRI, thanked Tim Dayton and the Allegany County Fire Subcommittee for al-

lowing him to attend their meeting. He noted the following classes were open and still taking pre-registrations at the time of the meeting: EMT Refresher at Eastern Garrett (30+ enrolled); Instructor I at WMRTC (6 enrolled); Emergency Medical Responder at Baltimore Pike; Rescue Tech Site Ops at Garrett College (3 enrolled); Emergency Vehicle Operations at Southern Garrett Rescue (10 enrolled); Pump Operator at Shaft (5 enrolled) and Haz Mat Technician (9 enrolled). Todd also noted that the Spring training schedule is now online. He also reported the following classes will be scheduled in March and October: Fire Department Safety Officer, Fire Officer IV, HazMat Technician, Inspector I and II, Rescue Tech-Rope, Rescue Tech-Trench and Rescue Tech-Swiftwater. All other classes will be scheduled in April and November. Company Drills are still available utilizing MFRI instructors. They are three hour sessions, follow current MFRI lesson plans and include Fire, Rescue, EMS and HazMat topics. Departments are allotted two drills per years and can be done either on site at your location or at the Training Center. All instructors are provided free of charge and all that's requested is to provide at least 30 days

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Association Gathers at Frostburg Area Ambulance for February Meeting (cont)

notice to the regional office. Upcoming training opportunities include a Firefighter Skills Seminar at the WMRTC on April 12 and a Rural Water Supply Drill at the Grantsville VFD May 10 and 17th. In closing, Todd also reported that when completing the text book form, Departments will need to provide their Federal ID number so the Bursar's Office can process the text book billings.



Pete Walbert, Fellowship of Christian Firefighters, reported the January meeting was held at Ellerslie VFD with Cla-

rence Broadwater, president, presiding. Pam Kyle read the poem 'The Tiny Spark', and Pete gave the invocation and Blessing of the meal. Following breakfast, Pete read the 23rd Psalm in memory of those who had passed away since the last meeting and also offered the Prayer for Joys & Concerns. The speaker was Mike Matthew from the Ellerslie UMC who also read from Mark 1: 1-8. The Sunshine Committee reported sending six get well and four sympathy cards. The next

Prayer Breakfast will be held on March 1 at the Midland VFD beginning at 8:30 a.m.



Dick DeVore, Allegany Co. Dept. of Emergency Services, noted that the County is trying to recover from a virus

that has affected the allconet.org email system. Any email received that asks for your identification and/or password, do not reply! The search continues for a new location for the Barton tower. There was a good meeting recently with SHA and IT. The State will be replacing three of the towers on Dans Mountain. Dick also noted that Shannon Adams has an order pending for smoke alarms from the AES grant. Anyone needing any should contact him, Shannon or Tim Dayton. The dispatch center was again relocating the back-up center on PPG Road for about five weeks so work could be completed on the phone upgrades. January 31st was the cutoff date to submit LOSAP and Income Tax Incentive information to the County. Each department should have submitted three

forms, the contact information form, Income Tax Incentive report listing both qualified and non-qualified members and any new enrollment forms for the LOSAP program. Dick is also putting together the audit packet for the Sen. Amoss (508) Funds for the Maryland Military Department and may be calling departments for additional information.-please cooperate in a timely manner if contacted.

John Herath, Allegany Co. EMS, noted that the County has had an average 5% fail rate for the last quarter of 2013; however, there are several with double digit rates. In July 2014, MD protocols for EMT's will allow the administration of Narcan via the patient's nares. In Allegany County, four departments have contacted the County EMS Department for training to allow EMT's to administer Narcan prior to the July protocols. The 2014 Protocol Updates should be coming out within the next month online. John also reported that Allegany County has entered into an agreement with Bowman's Addition to provide paid drivers for them five days per week.



Chris Cage, Convention Liaison, noted that packets for the meal tickets and ads will be out

soon. He also stated the logistics for the Convention have been resolved. All meals will be served in the Social

Hall. The Ladies Auxiliary will be meeting in the training room and the Association will meet in engine bays. The Memorial Service is being held at the Calvary Baptist Church.



President **Kidwell** brought up the question of the **Ways & Means** Committee holding a

Cash Drawing possibly in June or September. Tickets would be \$5.00 each and include two numbers per ticket. Five hundred tickets would be available and would be based on daily lottery drawing. Each Department in Association would receive approximately 10-15 tickets each to sell. A motion was made to table discussion in order for members to discuss it at their home departments then bring it back up at the March meeting for a vote.



John Shuhart, Insurance, reported since the last meeting, Relief Fund payments were made for El-

eanor Deale, Deep Creek Auxiliary, Donald Dooly, Sr., Flintstone, and Eugene 'Buddy' Thrasher, Midland. If any company who belongs to the Relief Fund has a member pass away, please notify John so he can make payment. John received payment from Clarysville for their accident insurance. He received a phone call from the president

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ACTIVE MILITARY PHOTOS SOUGHT

The Maryland State Fireman's Association is looking to complete a tribute to members serving in the military at the convention this June. They are looking for photos of members that are currently serving our country so that they can be included. Being accepted are photos of members in their military uniforms and if they have sent any, photos from their duty stations as well.

For more information or to email photos, contact Teresa Crisman at tacrisman@co.pg.md.us or tacrisman@hotmail.com

Deadline to submit photos is June 1st

Association Meeting Notes (continued)

of Corriganville stating they were considering canceling the accident insurance and that he would get back to John, but hasn't as of the meeting date. A

few Relief Fund payments have been received, however, the list of members was not returned with the payments. Remember to read the instructions that



come with the form. Payments were due February 15th.

Clarence Broadwater,
Past Presi-

dents, noted that the dinner meetings needed to be moved to another day of the week except Saturdays due to banquets being held. It was decided to hold the dinner gatherings on Sundays and would start with February 23rd at Penn Alps beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Under old business, Barb Knippenburg noted she still has outstanding reports from the DHMH smoke alarm grant that she needs turned in. Currently those not having reported on alarm placement are Clarysville (12 alarms), Bowman's Addition (12 alarms) and Cresap-town (20 alarms). Please send addresses to Barb ASAP! Vice-president Roth noted departments should check the 'Document' link on the MSFA website for numerous resources that's available at no cost.

Prince George's County Accepting Firefighter/Medic I/II Applications

The Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department is currently seeking qualified candidates for the position of Fire Fighter/Medic I/II, grade Y-01. Recruits are trained in the Fire/EMS Training Academy as Fire Fighter I.

This position is entry-level firefighter trainee work responsible for combating and preventing fires, operating and maintaining Fire and EMS equipment, apparatus and quarters; providing first aid, basic life support, and transporting patients. This work may expose incumbents to hazardous conditions/situations and includes the operation of emergency vehicles and equipment.

Qualifications:

Applicants must have a High School Diploma or equivalent (GED) recognized by the Maryland State Board of Education; must be 18 years of age at the time of application; must have a valid driver's license at the time of application and be able to establish employment eligibility in accordance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 after conditional employment offer.

Selection Process:

Applicants must successfully complete and pass all of the following:

- Written Examination
- Candidate Physical Abilities Test (CPAT)
- Background Investigation
- Credit Check
- Criminal Background Check
- Psychological Screening
- Oral Board Panel Interview
- Conditional Offer of Employment
- Medical Examination – complete NFPA 1582 physical

Condition of Employment

All persons selected for the Fire Fighter/Medic I/II position must agree to and sign a Condition of Employment stating the following:

- At the completion of Fire/EMS Recruit School, the employee shall have obtained and thereafter maintain Maryland Emergency Medical Technician-Basic, Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate or Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic certification that meets or exceeds the minimum standard adopted by the Department.
- Maintain a driver operator license for class of vehicle specified by the Fire Chief.
- Maintain at least an overall satisfactory rating in the County's Past Performance Appraisal System.
- Participate in and successfully complete a mandatory Physical Fitness Program as designed by the Fire/EMS Department.
- Successfully complete Fire/EMS Recruit School, the probationary period (1-year), and the Recruit Study Guide under guidelines established by the Fire Chief.

Closing date:

In order to be eligible for the 2014 examination, each applicant must submit a completed application online, maintain the email account designated in the application, because notices will only be delivered via email, and update your profile whenever there are changes to your personal information, in order to be considered. The application must be completed and submitted online via the Prince Georges County website: All completed applications must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST) on March 19, 2014.

Applications WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED if received after 5:00 PM (EST) on **March 19, 2014.**

ONLY ON-LINE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED

For more information, visit <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/pgc> then scroll down to select the proper job title.



Odenton VFD Lists Brush Jeep For Sale

The Odenton Volunteer Fire Company is accepting bids from interested parties for the sale of Jeep-28, a 1986 Jeep CJ5 that has been converted for fighting brush fires.

This unit has a 6 cylinder engine and a manual 5-speed transmission. It only has 27,000 miles on it. It is also equipped with a 60 gallon water tank and Briggs and Stratton pump. It has an 8,000 lb. winch and has been modified with a roll cage. It currently has some problems with reverse that can be remedied with a little mechanical TLC.

The unit is being sold AS IS. Bids must be received by April 15 to be considered. The unit is available for inspection at the Odenton VFC station. For additional information, see the attached flyer or contact Jim McCartin at jmilkcartin@comcast.net. *Photo courtesy-Jim McCartin*



Kitzmiller Tanker For Sale

The Kitzmiller Volunteer Fire Department has a 1982 Chevrolet Tanker for sale. It has a 350 gpm Hale PTO pump, 1500 gal tank, 1800 gal portable tank, 10,700 miles, and in good condition. We are asking \$25,000.00 and it is located in Kitzmiller MD. For more information or schedule an appointment to see the tanker, call 301-453-3178 or 301-616-3007. Additional photos are available online at www.msfa.org then log onto the 'Members' section and check under 'Announcements'.

-Photo courtesy Sharon Paugh

2014 Chief Officers Seminar

April 26-27
 University of Maryland
 Shady Grove Conference Center
 9640 Gudelsky Drive
 Rockville, MD

Audience: Personnel having emergency services line or staff officer responsibilities

Registration is required and closes Friday, April 18th. Admissions limited to 300 with priority given to Maryland residents. Out-of-state applicants are welcome on an 'space-available' basis.

Topics include:

- 'See Something-Say Something' -Emergency Services Role in Homeland Security
- Rubes Rule of Leadership
- But They're My Friends; The Challenge of Supervising Your Former Peers
- Does Your Fire Department Have a Reputation? CHANGE and ETHICS: Two Words Firefighters Hate to Discuss
- Customer Service Leadership: This Is NOT Smile Training

For more information, contact MFRI at (301) 226-9900 or (800) ASK-MFRI or go to www.mfri.org/seminars

Cascade System For Sale

New Windsor is selling their Eagle Cadet Guard (2) bottle fill station and control panel that controls up to a 4 bottle system for \$2000.00. You haul it yourself. Any questions contact C10-1 Byron Welker at 443-677-6218. Unit will be available sometime in April

GoodWill VFC 500 Drawing

Saturday, March 8th
 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Tickets \$5.00/person
 Includes food and drink

*Must be 21 years of age *

Tickets available from any member of GoodWill VFC

MSFA Executive Committee Meets at Cordova VFD (cont.)

Williamsport's loan application and place the funds back into the VCAF account. The committee requested that the VCAF Secretary send Williamsport a Certified letter stating such if the Executive Committee approves terminating the loan.

A VCAF workflow handbook has been developed and sent to all of the area representatives of the VCAF committee. The handbook will hopefully reduce the time factor and prepare for automating the VCAF process. The next line of business for the committee is to review loan amounts and terms for apparatus. All members will look at current provisions and will bring their ideas for change to the next meeting. The committee still needs to address and define the criteria for grants. A recommendation made at this meeting was to consider removing the maximum amount for grants. It may be plausible to eliminate a set amount if there's proper criteria outlined-absolute need based

The Chairman provided a slide presentation for automating the VCAF loan application and settlement process. The cost for software licensing would be under \$3000.00 a year which would include for all software, regular software updates, hosting (and data storage), security, and data back-ups. After the presentation and discussions, Mr. Curfman made a motion, which was approved unanimously, to move forward with automating the process. The Chairman will work as appropriate with the MSFA to move forward with this project.

The next VCAF meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday March 30, 2014 at the Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Department

The **EMS Committee** offered the following report: Ambulance Safety Summit The Am-

bulance Safety Summit held in November was a success. The Ambulance Safety Committee's 6 primary points for ambulance safety that were discussed and agreed upon by everyone present. The MSFA EMS Committee has voted to support these six points. These points were sent out to the Executive Committee in early January and we are asking that for motion to support them. They are:

1. Screen ambulance drivers;
2. Insure effective initial driver training and periodic refresher training;
3. Increase the use of restraints and safety improvements during ambulance operations;
4. Reduce the incidence of excessive ambulance speeds and routine use of "lights and sirens"
5. Improve monitoring of ambulance safety issues and enforcement of safety practices;
6. Create an ongoing statewide forum for ambulance safety issues.

Ambulance Strike Team The initial effort of the MIEMSS Ambulance Strike was to simplify the administrative processes to respond to disasters both within and outside of Maryland. However, the current plan requires additional training, additional equipment and scheduling of on-call crews. We provided them with a document stating that rather than simplifying the process, they have made it even more difficult for the volunteers to support their efforts.

Standards The Standard's committee was told that the EMS committee has come to an impasse regarding the proposed changes. Until this committee has further guidance, we will not move forward. Vice-President Roth will discuss this with President Olson to determine a path forward.

VAIP The meetings have been

going very well, with no major issues. The draft will be sent out for approval shortly.

MIEMSS leadership: There have been 39 applicants for the Executive Director position. The process is continuing. Pat Gainer and Dr. Alcorta are currently acting Co-executive Directors
Veteran's full employment: MIEMSS is working with educators to be able to recruit veterans into the EMS system with credit for military EMS training. Rae Olivera is the point of contact.

EMS plan: The comment phase is closed; no issues with the core points. MIEMSS has taken all comments/concerns and have incorporated those into a document and will be moving forward.

Cardiac arrest Emergency Medical Dispatch recommendations: MIEMSS is encouraging jurisdictions to use the latest version (12.2 now, upgrading to 13 in May) of EMD to recognize and initiate CPR in cardiac arrests quickly.

Duodotes: Are on back order, FDA has issued a one-year extension on existing kits' expiration.

EMRC radio identification nomenclature: Will be hospital name only (UCMC, Franklin). Dave Lewis, **Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center**, presented the following:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this report to the Executive Committee in my role as serving the Fire and EMS communities as part of the MCAC staff I have now been on board this position for 9 months and continue to address the information and intelligence needs of our service. A key element of my position at MCAC involves scanning the daily volume of homeland security reports from both classified and unclassified sources to

determine any items that may impact the operations of our Fire and EMS departments. Since coming on board, I have distributed over 50 reports of interest to the Fire/EMS/EM communities, ranging from suspicious activity reporting, stolen uniforms and equipment reports, training opportunities, incidents involving hazardous chemicals, and future event assessment reports.

Of special note is the monthly Fire/EMS/EM Information Sharing Bulletin that summarizes incidents and trends that have emerged during the previous month. These reports are disseminated to the leadership of key organizations with a request that they be further disseminated to individuals needing to know this information. Similarly, these reports are routinely disseminated through the Maryland ALERT Network operated by the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association. I would encourage the leadership of each member company to register for the ALERT network so that our dissemination tree functions to get critical information down to the responder level.

On November 13 and December 7, 2013, I had the opportunity to apply some MCAC funding to present awareness level training to our Fire/EMS/EM personnel. These sessions addressed criminal and terrorist threat trends that potentially threaten the safety of emergency response personnel. It is critical that we maintain a situational awareness of these trends in order to ensure safe operations. These sessions were well attended and we hope to continue to provide relevant training and awareness programs. Please let me know if you have a special training interest and I will address it with

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MSFA Executive Committee Meets at Cordova VFD(cont.)

the MCAC leadership. Recent incidents around the country have brought to light the need to ensure law enforcement, emergency medical services, and emergency management are collaborating to develop common plans for responding to an assailant causing or threatening harm with a firearm or explosive device. At the request of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) and the Maryland State Police (MSP) convened an interdisciplinary work group to investigate current literature on these types of incidents, suggest general guidelines for response, make suggestions to ensure adequate levels of protection, develop consistent learning objectives to guide response training across the state, and identify gaps and resources to address those deficiencies. The group is in process of developing preliminary recommendations for a unified operational response that includes law enforcement agencies and Fire/EMS programs. Drafts of any material will be circulated to local officials for review and comment prior to final distribution. Public health officials across Maryland and other states are concerned with current trends with Fentanyl laced heroin. This deadly combination of drugs has resulted in more than 37 deaths across the state of Maryland. The combination of heroin and fentanyl creates a drug cocktail that is nearly 100 times as strong as heroin alone, making it an attractive combination to addicts. Addicts are also likely to engage in other criminal activity in order to generate revenue to support their drug habit. Due to its potency, the risk of overdose or death is a greater risk. The

drug is so strong that it does not have to be injected to provide an effect of the drug; therefore, it is critical that emergency responders take appropriate precautions to minimize the risk of absorbing its chemicals through skin contact.

I want to express my thanks to the Washington County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association for inviting me as a guest speaker at their meeting of the Local Emergency Planning Committee to provide an overview of the MCAC, the current homeland security threat environment, and the role of the public sector in reporting suspicious activity. I have also accepted invitations from MFRI to present at the Chief Officers Seminar and from MIEMSS to present at the EMS Care Conference. If your associations would like to have me as a guest speaker, please contact me and I would be happy to attend your meeting.

In closing, I look forward to the challenges that my position presents but beyond each challenge lays an opportunity to make our communities a safer place to live. If I can be of assistance to any of the member companies of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, please do not hesitate to contact me using the following contact information Office: 443-436-7776 // Cell: 443-694-9113 or Email: david.lewis@mcac.maryland.gov

Dave Lewis also reported for the **Grants Committee**, noting that they've not met since the December meeting; however, each of the committee members remains actively involved in supporting member departments with their grant application needs.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) application period closed on December 6th

with 115 applications being submitted by Maryland departments. Dave noted he had the pleasure of supporting the peer review panel process last week in Towson and we should expect award announcements to begin within a few months. The Fire Prevention and Safety (FPS) grant application period opened on February 18th and remains open until March 21st. Program guidance materials are posted to the FEMA website at www.fema.gov/firegrants. I would strongly encourage any member departments with an active fire prevention and life safety program to consider applying for these grant funds. The MSFA Grants Committee remains committed to assisting any member department with their application. The Grants Committee submitted an application to the AFG SAFER program on behalf of the MSFA. Over the past several weeks, we have participated in discussions with FEMA and the presidents of the MSFA and MCFA to discuss the details of our application. FEMA has recommended that we combine the MSFA and MCFA applications and that we are working on an alternate task list to meet this request.

Congratulations to the 41 non-profit organizations (30 were volunteer companies) that received grants up to \$10,000 from Baltimore Gas & Electric. Dave had the honor of attending their news conference on January 30th where it was noted that this was the second year for the grant program, with each year providing over \$350,000 in grants.

Congratulations to the 43 departments that received grant awards through DNR/Forestry and the 2013 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant Program. These grants will greatly assist

our member departments in purchasing wild land fire-fighting equipment. Thanks to Monte Mitchell for his continued support for this program. The Committee continues to collect grant information that will benefit our member companies. As this information is received, we have disseminated it using the MSFA announcement capability. If any company has a specific need for grant funding assistance, please do not hesitate to contact one of our committee members.

Major Frank Lioi, commander-**MSP Aviation Division**, reported on the following:

AW139 Transition Plan On January 27th, Trooper 7 (Southern Maryland Section) began transitioning into the AW139. All pilots and medics will go through a 6-8 week transition course that consists of one week of ground school and 4 weeks of mission flight training, and outreach training with EMS providers. Trooper 4 is operational on a 24/7 basis now. Currently, the plan is to transition Trooper 2 or 5 next. **Pilot Recruiting:** the MSPAC has received approval to fill 20 SIC Pilot positions. The MSPAC has hired 2 pilots in the last month, with 2 offers pending. The MSPAC has completed 10 pilot interviews this past week and will conduct 20 pilot interviews between now and the 15th of March

Trooper 4 Ribbon Cutting MSPAC will mark the full-service deployment of the new AW-139 helicopter with a ribbon cutting at the Salisbury Section on March 5th at 1300 hrs. An email invite will follow next week, but we want MSFA Leadership to be aware and hope everyone will be able to attend



MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
PUBLIC FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM



In order to support the fire and life safety educational efforts of local fire companies, the MSFA in partnership with the Office of the State Fire Marshal is continuing the Public Fire and Life Safety Education Grant Program. This program is designed to provide assistance to MSFA member companies by providing funding assistance in the form of fire prevention publications and supplies for the development, continuation and/or enhancement of local public fire and life safety education efforts. It is recognized that effective public and life safety programs are one of the best ways to protect citizens and firefighters from injury and death caused by fire or other traumatic incidents.

Under the Public Fire and Life Safety Education Grant Program, MSFA member companies will be able to receive this funding support for the purchase of printed materials and other approved educational resource materials. Funding support will be awarded on a complete basis. **Purchases made prior to being awarded funding will not be considered as part of the grant process. Purchases of products are to be made after monies are provided through the MSFA.**

The amount of funding available for 2014 is \$67,000. The maximum funding support available to each member company's application request is: \$500.00. Only one application per company will be accepted. The application is located on the MSFA website. Applications must be received via e-mail at fpgrants@msfa.org no later than midnight, April 11, 2014. Grant awards will be announced at the MSFA Convention in June 2014 and emails will be sent to email contact lists created from applications received. **A 20% Match is required to facilitate the grant process. In order to take full advantage of the \$500.00, please show the amount being spent is a minimum of \$600.00.**

Checks provided from the MSFA will be provided 'one time only' to the selected departments. If the check provided is misplaced and/or lost, a new check will not be re-issued. It is the sole responsibility of the department representatives to maintain control of funds provided.

Hillsboro VFC Pumper For Sale

For Sale: 1992 Pierce Dash: Milage 38,401. Unit is 32' 8" long / 9' 7" high / 206" wb 6 person cab / 10" raised roof, 5 SCBA seats, Detroit diesel - 6V92TA automatic transmission, Waterous 1250 gpm -top mount pump with 750 gallon tank. Includes galvanneal discharges on: drivers side - 2 X 2.5", 1 X 4" ; front - 1.5"; rear - 2.5"; 3" deluge; two (2) - 1.75" speed lays; one (1) - 2.5" deadlay.. Driver's side intakes include one 6" and one 2.5". Ladders included are: 24' and 12', two - 6' x 10' hard suction hose; a 5,000 watt Honda generator; two 500 watt quartz lights mounted @ pump panel; / two 500 watt tripods; cord reels: 2 air reels: a four bottle cascade - 6000 psi / fill station; strobe warning light package; Q2B & electronic siren; rescue-style compartments - hinged doors. There is no right side pump panel; added compartment note.: Bell not included. For more information, contact David Chaires - 443-262-2000 or visit www.qahvfc.com for photos.

Orleans VFC
Upcoming Events

- March 23: Hoagie Sale, orders due March 17th
 - April 20: BBQ Chicken & Ribs includes 2 sides
 - April 27: BBQ Chicken & Ribs includes 2 sides
 - May 3: Cash Drawing
- For more information, contact any member of the Orleans VFC

Upcoming Training

- Emergency Medical Responder**
 Mar. 4th Baltimore Pike
 1830 hrs Tue/Thurs
 - EMT Refresher**
 Apr 12 Garrett College
 0830 hrs Sat/Sun
 - EMR Refresher**
 Apr 13 Orleans
 0830 hrs Sunday
 - NIMS for EMS**
 Apr. 14th Garrett College
 1830 hrs Mon/Wed
 - Pump Operations**
 Mar. 16th Shaft
 0830 hrs Sundays
 - Mar. 22 Deer Park
 1830 hrs Tue/Thurs
 - Haz Mat Technician ***
 Mar. 20th Garrett College
 1830 hrs Tue/Thurs
 - Rescue Tech - Trench Rescue**
 Apr. 5 WMRTC
 0830 hrs Sat/Sun
 - Rescue Tech - Tech. Rope Rescue**
 Apr. 12 Garrett College
 0830 Saturdays
 - Emergency Vehicle Operator**
 Mar. 15th Southern Garrett
 0830 hrs Sat/Sun
 - Instructor I**
 Mar. 1st WMRTC
 1830 hrs Mon/Thurs
 - Instructor II**
 Apr. 24 WMRTC
 1830 hrs Mon/Thurs
- * requires Medical Clearance
- Always check the MFRI website for up-to-date classes and changes at www.mfri.org



IN MEMORY

- Donald C. Rice, Mt. Savage VFD
- Tim Morgan, Cresaptown VFD
- Robert Gourlay, Sr., LaVale VFD
- Donald Dolly, Sr., Flintstone VFD
- Eugene 'Buddy' Thrasher, Midland VFD
- Esther Durst, Grantsville Ladies Auxiliary
- William Emory, Bittinger VFD
- Eleanor Diehl, Deep Creek Ladies Auxiliary

It is safe to tell the pure in heart that they shall see God, for only the pure in heart want to.
 -Author Unknown

<p>*** FREE ***</p> <p>Dry Cleaning & Shirt Salon</p> <p>1313 National Hghwy LaVale, MD 21502 (or any of their branches)</p> <p>Offering Free Dry Cleaning of Class A Uniforms or Uniform Shirts</p>	<p>Oldtown VFD Auxiliary</p> <p>Pork & Kraut Dinner</p> <p>March 9th 12:00 pm</p> <p>Carry-outs available</p>	<p>Spaghetti Dinner</p> <p>Good Will Fire Company</p> <p>First Friday of each month 4pm-6pm</p> <p>Fireman's Armory in Lonaconing</p> 	<p>Eastern Garrett Co. V.F.R.D.</p> <p>Spaghetti Dinners</p> <p>2nd Saturday each month</p> <p>3:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Adults: \$7.00 Children: \$3.50</p> <p>Turkey Dinners</p> <p>4th Sunday of:</p> <p>March April September</p> 	
<p>MIDLAND VFD 501 DRAWING</p> <p>March 22nd April 19th</p> <p>3:00 - 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Tickets: \$5/person Includes food, drink and a chance for</p> <p>\$500!!</p> <p>Tickets available from members or at the Bar</p>	<p>District 16 & Oldtown VFD</p> <p>5th Annual Cash Bash</p> <p>Saturday, March 15th</p> <p>Doors open 11:00 am</p> <p>Early Bird Drawings begin 12:00 pm - must be present to win</p> <p>Bash Drawings begin 1:00 pm - need not be present to win</p> <p>Tickets \$20.00 per person Guests \$10.00 at the door</p> <p>Tickets available from any District 16 or Oldtown member</p>			<p><i>The Bulletin</i> is the official newsletter of the Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association who's business address is P.O. Box 252 Barton, MD 21521-0252. Information for inclusion in the newsletter should be sent to the Editor at P.O. Box 142 Oldtown, MD 21555-0142 or emailed to drm21555@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Send Us Your Information!!</p>		<p><i>The Bulletin</i> is the official newsletter of the Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association who's business address is P.O. Box 252 Barton, MD 21521-0252. Information for inclusion in the newsletter should be sent to the Editor at P.O. Box 142 Oldtown, MD 21555-0142 or emailed to drm21555@yahoo.com</p>		

Protect the ones you love

BURNS



Burns Safety: The Reality

We all want to keep our children safe and secure and help them live to their full potential. Knowing how to prevent leading causes of child injury, like burns, is a step toward this goal.

Every day, over 300 children ages 0 to 19 are treated in emergency rooms for burn-related injuries and two children die as a result of being burned.

Younger children are more likely to sustain injuries from scald burns that are caused by hot liquids or steam, while older children are more likely to sustain injuries from flame burns that are caused by direct contact with fire.

Thankfully, there are ways you can help protect the children you love from burns

Prevention Tips

To prevent burns from fires:

- **Be alarmed.** Install and maintain smoke alarms in your home—on every floor and near all rooms family members sleep in. Test your smoke alarms once a month to make sure they are working properly.
- **Have an escape plan.** Create and practice a family fire escape plan, and involve kids in the planning. Make sure everyone knows at least two ways out of every room and identify a central meeting place outside.
- **Cook with care.** Use safe cooking practices, such as never leaving food unattended on the stove. Also, supervise or restrict children's use of stoves, ovens, or microwaves.

To prevent burns from scalding water:

Check water heater temperature. Set your water heater's thermostat to 120 degrees Fahrenheit or lower. Infants who aren't walking yet can't get out of water that may be too hot, and maintaining a constant thermostat setting can help control the water temperature throughout your home—preventing it from getting too high.

For more information, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/Safechild/Burns/index.html>

www.agcvttra.org

Visit us on the web!!

E-mail: drm21555@yahoo.com

Phone: 301-478-5070

Oldtown, MD 21555-0142

P.O. Box 142

Dennis R. Mallery, Editor

The Bulletin

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