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THE BULLETIN

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

Volume IX Issue 7

Dennis R Mallery, Editor

July 2014

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- Area Volunteer Appointed to DCFM
- Breanna's Law To Become Effective Soon
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Upcoming Meetings

Maryland State Firemen's Association

Aug 23-24: Williamsport Fire & EMS

Allegany-Garrett Co. Vol. Fire & Rescue Association

Aug. 3: GoodWill VFC

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

Sept. 14: Oldtown

Garrett County Association

Aug. 13: Gorman

Mike Walters Fellowship of Christian Firefighters

Aug. 2: Eastern Garrett

Association Meets, Hears News From Around The State



The July meeting of the Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association was hosted by the Northern Garrett Rescue

Squad at the Friendsville station with President Clarence Broadwater presiding. Following the flag salute, Chaplain Pete Walbert offered the invocation and read the 23rd Psalm in memory of those who have passed on since our last gathering.

Roll call of departments showed 21 present (57%). Not present were Baltimore Pike, Bittering, Bloomington, Corri-ganville, Deep Creek, Deer Park, Ellerslie Ambulance, Frostburg Ambulance, Gorman, Grantsville, Kitzmiller, Mt. Savage, Oakland, Rawlings, Tri Towns EMS and Southern Garrett Rescue.

There were 12 Past Presidents in attendance including Bob Knippenburg, Ron Grabenstein, Pete Walbert, Dennis Bonner, Rod Bowser, Dave Kyle, Pat Bowser, Janet Elbin, Mike Simons, Tim Dayton, Clarence Broadwater and Barb Knippenburg.

Guests included Johnie Roth, Jr., MSFA 1st Vice-president; Mark Bilger, MSFA Executive Committee and candidate for MSFA 2nd Vice-president

2015; Ben Kirtz, MSFA Executive Committee and candidate for MSFA Trustee 2015 replacing Gene Worthington; Pam Kyle, PP LA AGCVFRA; Betty Grabenstein, PP LA AGCVFRA; Mary Carr, PP LA AGCVFRA; Sherry Soper, PP LAMSFA; Shirley Walbert, PP LA AGCVFRA; Kingsley Poole, Chair of MSFA Training Committee; Rick Blair, candidate for 2nd Vice-president MSFA, PP MD Fire Chiefs Assoc.; Rick Bower, MFCA Regional Chaplain; Dwayne Kitis, MIEMSS; Shelby Simmons, Miss Fire Prevention and David Kline, Walkersville VFD.



Johnie Roth, MSFA, brought greetings from President Keller and 2nd Vice-president Davis, who

were unable to be at the meeting. He noted that recently, Senators Barbara Mikulski announced a \$2.2 million grant for Recruitment & Retention for the MSFA and MD Fire Chief's Association. On July 21st, a critique of the recent MSFA Convention was held at Odenton. The MSFA Officers are in the planning stages of setting up meetings with our partners as well as attending numerous out of state conven-

tions in the next few months.. V.P. Roth stated the ribbon cutting for the new Trooper 2 will be held August 5th at Fed Ex Field in Largo, MD beginning at 1:00 pm. The Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service will be held October 11-12th at Emmitsburg. The Maryland Firefighters Weekend at the National Fire Academy will be held in February 2015. The next meeting of the MSFA Executive Committee will be held at the Williamsport VFRS August 6-7th. The 2015 MSFA Convention will be held at Ocean City June 20-26th.



Pat Bowser, Volunteer Company Assistance Fund, reported the interest rate on VCAF

loans were lowered to 1%, loan terms were extended for certain vehicles, and matching amounts for vehicle loans were lowered following the Convention and the Committee is working on progressive payments for building projects. The Committee also increased the amount of grant funds available to Departments. Each Department is reminded to file their Certification of Good Standing each April. Dwayne Kitis, MIEMSS, reported that SYSCOM will be

(Continued on page 3)

New Chief Deputy Fire Marshal Announced

(Editors Note: The following press release was received from the Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office on Wednesday, July 23, 2014)

The Maryland State Fire Marshal announced on June 23rd, the appointment of Michael



D. Hanson as the new Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal. Hanson replaces Deputy Chief State Fire Marshal Joseph Flanagan, who, after nearly eight years of outstanding leadership, took the open supervisory position in the Lower Eastern Shore Region. The role of Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal is a Field Operations Division management function involving the supervision and coordination of the agencies law enforcement activities in the field of fire prevention, fire safety inspections, fire investigations and explosives control. Chief Deputy Hanson is responsible for supervising five regions, the bomb squad and the accelerants/explosives detection canine unit. He serves as second in command to the State Fire Marshal and oversees various administrative programs for the agency. Hanson has been in the fire service for over 35 years. He is a 30 year veteran of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Department. He retired in July of 2014 serving as a Battalion Chief for the last 4½ years of his service. Hanson worked in numerous fire stations throughout the county as a Lieutenant and Captain and also served with the counties Hazardous Materials Response Team, USAR Team and as an Instructor at the Public Safety Training Academy. He graduated number one in his Fire-

fighter I class in 1984. In 2003, Hanson was chosen to transfer to the Fire and Explosion Investigation Section. He graduated from Session 43 of the Montgomery County Police Academy and graduated with honors receiving the James Daley Award, an award for the candidate who has demonstrated the greatest individual efforts and standards of excellence.

Hanson has been investigating fires and explosions for over 12 years. He is a certified fire investigator with the International Association of Arson Investigators and the National Association of Fire Investigators. He is a member of the National Fire Protection Association, and former member of International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators. Hanson graduated from the FBI Hazardous Devices School in 2005 as a certified bomb technician. He has attended numerous training sessions taught by the FBI, BATF, NFPA and the IAAI. He also attended numerous national and local conferences on determining the origin and cause of fires and explosions. As a fire investigator in Montgomery County Hanson worked on several high profile and complex arson cases working with various federal and local law enforcement agencies which concluded with arrests and convictions. As a bomb technician, Hanson responded to numerous explosive investigations in Montgomery County, including being part of the bomb squad component that operated at the Discovery Channel Building Hostage event in Silver Spring in 2010. Hanson graduated from Beall High School in 1975 and received an Associate of Arts Degree

from Allegany Community College. He graduated from the University of Maryland University College with a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Science with a certificate in Systems Approach to Fire Safety. Hanson also has worked as a private fire investigator for Fire and Arson Investigations Consultants Inc. in Pasadena, Maryland for 5 ½ years investigating fires and explosions for the insurance industry. Hanson remains an active and life member of the Frostburg Fire Department with 35 years of experience where he currently serves as the department's training officer. He is also a field instructor with the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) with more than 18 years of teaching fire service members. The Office of the State Fire Marshal welcomes Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Michael D. Hanson to his new position with the agency and looks forward to the continued success with our efforts to protect the citizens of Maryland from the effects of fire and explosives.

Upcoming MFRI Seminars

Aircraft Crash Strategies & Tactics
Hagerstown Airport
Aug. 16 0830 hours

Firefighter Skills Refresher
Deep Creek VFD
Sept. 20 0830 hours

Trauma Cases for EMS
Cresaptown VFD
Oct. 9 1830 hours

MD Fire Chiefs Statewide Alert Network

The **Statewide ALERT Network** is an emergency communications system used to disseminate to first responders critical and emergency information before, during and after a terrorism event, state of emergency or other major incident to the Chief Officers of the Fire/Rescue/EMS Service. This is our eleventh year of providing this free service to Volunteer & Career Officers in the Fire & EMS Service.

The Statewide ALERT Network is open to Chief Officers of the Fire/Rescue/EMS service and Officials of Federal, State and Local Government Agencies serving Maryland, West Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, Washington DC, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Ohio, although Officers from other jurisdictions are welcome.

The ALERT Network sends emergency alerts, notifications, and updates using (SMS) to cell phones, pagers, Blackberrys, or Smartphones and/or email accounts. Information sent is from Federal and State Government Agencies.

The registration form can be downloaded at www.mdchief.org/alert.pdf

If you have any questions, contact:
Skip Menzies,
Operations Chief
Maryland Fire Chiefs
Statewide ALERT Network
skip.menzies@leo.gov
(301) 979-5761

Association Meets, Hears News From Around the State



undergoing an update over the next six weeks but that there should be no disruptions in service.

Dwayne noted that all students from 9th grade up should become certified in hands-on only CPR. Applications are available now for the 2015 Night For Stars program held in conjunction with the Miltenberger Trauma Seminar. Copies were mailed to departments and also available through Dwayne at the Region office. The Miltenberger Seminar is scheduled for April.



Todd Dyche, MFRI, submitted a report as he was unable to attend the meeting.

Classes still accepting pre-registrations are EMT at the WMRTC (11); Rescue Tech-Collapse (11); Firefighter I (17); EMT at Garrett College (0); Firefighter II at Garrett College (2); Haz Mat On Scene Commander (3) and Firefighter II at WMRTC (11). Preregistration is being accepted online at www.mfri.org for the 12 hour EMT Refresher, starting August 1, and EVO Online on August 15th. Preregistration is also being accepted online for the EMS Leadership Symposium being held November 14-15. The MFRI website also has information on a new 'leadership' program developed by the National Fire Academy. The 18 month program has four courses that are prerequisites:

Leadership I, II, III, and Shaping the Future.

Students who have been flagged for book bills in the MFRI system will be prohibited from taking MFRI classes until the bill has been paid in full.



Pete Walbert, **Fellowship of Christian Firefighters**, reported on the Prayer Breakfast held at the Bloomington VFD on

Saturday, July 12th. Pam Kyle read two poems. Following breakfast, a prayer of joys and concerns was given by Rodger Long. The Rev. Rick Rankin offered the meditation for the morning. The Sunshine Committee reported sending three get well and four sympathy cards.



Dick DeVore, **Allegany Co. Dept. of Emergency Services**, noted that all Departments should have received a

packet from the auditing firm Turnbull, Hoover & Kahl PA. Each should also receive a phone call to set up a meeting with the president, treasurer, financial secretary (if applicable) and one trustee to go over their Department's financial practices. The 'I Am Responding' program has been approved and is in the process of being set up. A contact person from each Department has been identified. Under communications, Dick reported tower construction is continuing at Big Savage, Dan's Mountain and Barton. Under Allegany County EMS, Chief

John Herath noted the fail rate has been increasing for EMS calls. A reminder on eMEDS reports: ALL Priority I & II patients **must** have their eMED report left at the hospital prior to leaving. All others must be done within 24 hours and faxed to the hospital. Protocol updates still need to be completed, including the section 'Break It To Them Gently'.



Janet Elbin, **Fire Prevention & Education**, reported no one had

claimed the first 50-50 drawing at the Convention so it was placed in the Scholarship Fund.



Dave Kyle, **Ways & Means**, reported on the raffle for the AgExpo with the drawing to

be held on August 2nd. He plans on having four raffles this year. All unsold tickets, money and ticket stubs need to be returned prior to the 2nd.



John Shuhart, **Insurance**, reported making a payment on behalf of Clark Mallow, Flintstone. John

also note that Deep Creek VFD has not paid their Relief Fund payment for this year. John also reported under **Statistics** that Garrett County had 100% submissions and that Ellerslie Ambulance has yet to respond from Allegany County.

(Continued on page 5)

10th Annual A Night To Remember

A Gala Event To Honor Our Fallen Firefighters and Rescue Personnel Who Have Made The Ultimate Sacrifice!

Dinner, Dancing and a Silent Auction

Saturday, Sept. 27th
6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Hager Hall & Conference and Event Center

901 Dual Highway
Hagerstown, MD

Tickets \$10/couple

For tickets, contact
Joyce at (301) 290-1590

or

Betty at (301) 855-9336

For those wishing to stay

overnight, a block of

rooms have been

reserved at

The Clarion Hotel

901 Dual Highway

Hagerstown, MD

Continental Breakfast

Provided

\$79.00 + tax (cut-off August 27th)

Mention 'MD

Firefighters'

when making your

reservation

Call 1-888-528-6738

or

301-733-5100



**More
Photos
From
The**

2014 Convention



**Thank You Cresaptown For A Great
Convention!!**



Association Meets...



The Past Presidents will meet next on Saturday, August 9th at 5:30 pm for a picnic at Accident Park. PP Gene Kidwell ask

those attending, both Past Presidents and current officers the picnic to let him know by the Association meeting on the 3rd at GoodWill VFC.

President Broadwater reported that no site was selected at the Convention for the 2015 event. At the meeting, Potomac originally agreed to host the next Convention but withdrew their request when Bowman's Addition asked to host the 2015 Convention.

From The Office of the State Fire Marshal

The OSFM's budget has been reduced \$7.4 million in its FY2015 budget. As a result, two DFM positions and two civilian contract positions, the IT position and one Fire Safety Inspector position are unable to be filled.

The Office welcomed Fire Inspector George Via, who joined the agency in June, and is assigned to the Southern Region.

We received a new member from the State Police, canine Blitz. Blitz is a German shepherd that has been trained in explosive detection and is assigned to SDFM Ed Ernst out of the Western Region. SDFM Dan Giblin resigned from the OSFM to accept a position with the BATF&E.

Brianna's Law Becomes Effective During 2015-2016 School Year

Among the more than 100 bills signed by Gov. Martin O'Malley on Monday was Breanna's Law, named for a student in Baltimore County whose life was saved because someone at the scene performed CPR.

Supporters said it'll go a long way toward educating students and saving lives. Local boards of education will start to include CPR courses in their health curricula in the coming months. Perry Hall High School student Breanna Sudano helped fight for the law during this past session of the General Assembly. "It means a lot because if more people know CPR, more lives could be saved," Sudano said. Sudano was kept alive two and half years ago when someone performed CPR after she collapsed during a field hockey match.

The American Heart Association couldn't be more pleased now that the law is on the books. "It makes sense, and it's simple, and the kids love to do it," said Michaeline Fedder with the American Heart Association. "What we are doing is graduating generations of young people who will learn a skill who will populate every part of the state."

Under the new law, "this bill requires public high school students to complete, as part of the health or physical education curriculum, instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) that includes hands-only CPR and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2016 school year. Each local board has to provide instruction, as part of the health or physical education curriculum, in CPR

that includes hands-only CPR and the use of an AED in every public school that enrolls student in any of the grades 9 through 12 beginning in the 2015-2016 school year."*

"You're talking about the potential of saving 1,400 lives a year," said Sen. Catherine Pugh, D-Baltimore City. For the past few years, Pugh has been among those leading the charge for the equipment and to teach more CPR courses in schools. "We teach our children physical education, and you can do this through your physical education class. It takes 30 minutes to learn. We're talking about hands-on CPR," Pugh said. The new CPR requirement will start with students entering ninth grade in 2015. They'll have to pass the course in order to graduate from high school.

(The above information on Breanna's Law was provided through information from WBAL-TV11's website dated April 16, 2014 and a portion indicated by the '' comes from the legislation creating the law, SB503.)*

Sen. John Delaney Seeks Emergency Aid for Flooding Victims

(The following was released by Senator John Delany's office July 30th and is reprinted in its entirety here)

On June 12, 2014, heavy rain in Western Maryland produced severe flooding in Washington and Allegany County. Many residents saw their homes damaged or destroyed, businesses were flooded, and millions of dollars in damages were in-

curred. The damage was especially severe in Cresaptown, Bowling Green, and Clear Spring, where the flooding reached historic levels. Unfortunately, the State of Maryland has decided not to apply for federal disaster relief. Last week, I wrote to Governor O'Malley urging him to reconsider. After more than a month of displacement and loss, our flood victims deserve assistance.

In the storm's aftermath, I was proud to see our communities show incredible strength and compassion, as area churches, neighboring communities and the Red Cross worked together to shelter and feed those victims who lost their homes. Neighbors donated to neighbors, friends and families came together, and hundreds of people came forward and asked "how can I help?" As the rebuild continues, I'm going to fight for federal assistance for Allegany and Washington County.

As your Member of Congress, I've urged Maryland's state government to submit a formal request for federal assistance. State action is required as the first step for Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) aid to be delivered. Altogether, affected communities sustained \$3.6 million dollars in losses and over 200 buildings were damaged.

When the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) originally assessed whether flooded areas qualified for aid, the state agency estimated that flooding in Western Maryland did not meet federal standards. However, while the raw totals for damaged buildings fall short of federal standards for assistance, the Federal Emergency Management Administration

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Thanks to Joe and Joan Robison for your recent generous donation!!

Upcoming Training

EMT	
Aug. 20	WMRTC
1830 hrs	Wed/Sun
Sept. 8	GCC
1830 hrs	M/Th/Sa
F/F i*	
Sept. 6	WMRTC
0830 hrs	Saturdays
F/F II*	
Sept. 9	GCC
1830 hrs.	Tu/Th
Sept. 21	WMRTC
0830 hrs.	Sundays
Haz-Mat On-Scene Incident Commander	
Sept 13	Bowling Green
1030 hrs	Sundays
Rescue Tech: Structural Collapse Technician	
Sept 4	WMRTC
1830 hrs	Th/Fr/Sa/Su

** requires Medical Clearance*
 Always check the MFRI website for up-to-date classes and changes at www.mfri.org

**Ellerslie VFD
 All You Can Eat
 Chicken Wings**

Friday, Aug. 15th
 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

\$10.00/person

or

**\$.70 per wing
 Carry out**

Eat In Includes:
 AYCE assorted
 chicken wings, celery,
 fresh cut French fries.

No need to call in
 orders, just show up
 and select your choice
 of wings!

Midland Fire Co.



CARNIVAL

Returns!!

Featuring a
 70' Ferris wheel!!

August 12th - 16th

5:30 pm - 10:00 pm Tues. thru Thurs.

Open later Fri. and Sat.

Pre-sale wrist bans available for
 Tues. - Thurs. only

Fireman's Parade Aug. 15th 6:30 pm

Lineup begins at 5:30 pm.

For more information, contact

Joe Monahan (301) 697-9345;

John Monahan (301) 687-1095 or

Mike McGowan (240) 362-6330.

Baltimore Pike VFC

Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, August 16th

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Spaghetti - Salad - Roll

\$7.00

Dessert and sodas available
 for an additional charge

Extra sauce available - \$5.00/quart

Eat in or Carry out!

Orleans VFC

Upcoming Events

August 31: BBQ Chicken & Ribs

11:00 am til sold out

Sept. 21: BBQ Chicken & Ribs

11:00 am til sold out

Oct. 12: Spaghetti Dinner

12:00 pm until 3:00 pm or sold out

For more information, contact any member of the
 Orleans VFC



IN MEMORY

James Getson, Corriganville VFD

Ronald Shipway, Flintstone VFD

Mary Kelley, Grantsville VFD Auxiliary

Patricia Wright, Bedford Road VFD Auxiliary

Thomas Lillard, Jr., Frostburg FD

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

<p>*** FREE ***</p> <p>Dry Cleaning & Shirt Salon</p> <p>1313 National Hwy 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>Hamburger Steak Dinner</p> <p>Sunday, Aug 10th 12:00 pm until sold out</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 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. Adults: \$7.00 Children: \$3.50</p>
<p>Midland VFC Ladies Auxiliary</p> <p>Chicken Dinner</p> <p>August 12th September 9th 4:00 pm til sold out</p>	<p>Chicken BBQ</p> <p>Corriganville VFD</p> <p>September 12th & 13th - Chicken BBQ and Block Party</p> <p>October 3rd & 4th - Chicken BBQ</p> <p>\$7.00 gets you a half chicken, two sides and roll.</p> <p>We Deliver!! Just call (301) 722-7418</p>	<p>GoodWill VFC Gun/Cash Bash</p> <p>Saturday, Sept. 20th 4:00 - 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>‘Coney Armory</p> <p>Tickets \$25.00/person Guests \$10.00</p> <p>Grand Prize: \$2,500</p> <p>Other raffles also available day of event</p>	<p>Turkey Dinners</p> <p>4th Sunday of: March April September</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>		

Fire Safety - House and Business Address Numbers

When you need the fire, police or EMS departments, you want to be found quickly. Emergency response is about speed. Many public safety entities sell, for a small fee, these address markers to be used to assist in locating the address easily, day or night.

To assist emergency workers in finding your location in a timely manner, please do the following:

- √ On houses, the numbers should be a minimum 3 inches high.
- √ Businesses numbers should be sized so that they can be easily visible from the fire department access road.
- √ Use a contrasting color and assure they're reflective
- √ Place numbers at end of a long driveway.
- √ Assure that bushes or grasses do not impede the view of the address number.

Senator John Delay Seeks Emergency Assistance for Flooding Victims

(FEMA) can also consider the economic hardship of the communities affected, the number of flood victims without insurance, the concentration of the damages, and the depth of local resources. My letter to the state called attention to these factors, which I believe greatly increase our odds of securing assistance.

Although the Administration has missed the date to submit a request, it may still be possible to receive an extension to apply for assistance. In my letter to Governor O'Malley, I re-

quested that MEMA file an extension for federal aid and offered whatever support my office can provide. I also believe that the FEMA standards need to be revised, because clearly they are not accurate when it comes to assessing disasters in environments like Western Maryland. Local families and businesses have suffered devastating losses as a result of the recent flood, and as elected officials we must remain committed to helping affected areas make a full recovery.

While I am concerned that Maryland's state government never submitted a formal request for FEMA's assistance, I was happy to see the Administration request relief through disaster loan programs administered by the Small Business Administration (SBA). On July 25, 2014, Governor O'Malley wrote a letter to the SBA asking that the agency issue a disaster declaration to make low-interest loans available to impacted residents and businesses. With so many families and business owners still struggling

to rebuild, we have a responsibility to explore every avenue to recovery, and I was pleased to see the Administration do their part advocating for affected communities.

As our district works to repair damaged areas and move displaced families back into their homes, I will continue to act as a voice for those flood victims who have not received the help they deserve. If you or a friend of family member was impacted by the June floods, please [contact my office](#).