

MINUTES
Allegany Garrett County Fire & Rescue Association
Friendsville Vol. Fire & Rescue Dept.
September 7, 2014

The regular meeting of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association was held Sunday, September 7, 2014 and hosted by Friendsville Vol. Fire & Rescue Department. President Clarence Broadwater called the meeting to order at 14:00 hours

The Invocation was given by Chaplain Calvin Walbert who then read the 23rd Psalm in memory of Charles Riley, Bloomington; Dorothy Hunt, Midland Auxiliary and Robert J. "Doc" Wilson, Gaithersburg – Washington Grove VFD, and committee member of the MSFA.

Vice President Dick DeVore led the flag salute.

WELCOME: PP Rod Bowser, representing the host company welcomed everyone to Friendsville. President Broadwater said it was a pleasure to be at Friendsville today.

ROLL CALL OF DEPARTMENTS: Roll call of Departments showed 15 companies in attendance. Those not represented were: Baltimore Pike; Bittering; Bloomington; Bowman's Addition; Clarysville; Corriganville; Deep Creek; Deer Park; Eastern Garrett; Ellerslie Ambulance; Frostburg Ambulance; Georges Creek; Gorman; Grantsville; Kitzmiller; Midland; Mt Savage; Oakland; Oldtown; Rawlings; Tri – Towns Rescue and Southern Garrett Rescue.

Companies present were: Accident; Barton Hose; Bedford Road; Bowling Green; Cresaptown; Cumberland Hose; District16; Ellerslie; Flintstone; Friendsville; Good Will; Luke; Northern Garrett; and Potomac.

All officers were in attendance with the exception of the Treasurer and the Editor.

RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS:

President Broadwater recognized the following 10 Past Presidents in attendance: James F. Decker; Ron Grabenstein; Calvin 'Pete' Walbert; Rodney W. Bowser; David L. Kyle; Patricia A. Bowser; Janet Elbin; Michael A. Simmons; Timothy F. Dayton; Clarence B. Broadwater.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Guests present and recognized by President Broadwater were: Mary Carr, PP LA AGCVFRA; Donna Struntz, LAMSFA Chaplain; Dick DeVore, Allegany Co. Emergency Services; Betty Grabenstein, PP LA AGCVFRA; Dave Keller Jr. MSFA President; Johnie Roth 1st Vice President MSFA; Tracy Simmons LA AGCVFRA Secretary; Shelby Simmons AGCVFA Miss Fire Prevention; Pam Kyle, PP LA AGCVFRA; Todd Dyche MFRI; and Chief John Herath, Allegany County EMS Chief.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

All Officers gave a report of their activities since the last meeting.

Secretary's Report – Secretary Bowser made available copies of minutes for the day's meeting and e-mailed them to all companies and executive committee members.

Communications – None

Treasurer's Report – Due to absence of the Treasurer, Secretary Bowser reported the bills on hand:

Bills on hand were read: Mail Room \$ 196.50 and FP raffle \$100.00 (Oldtown VFD); Barton Post Office \$9.08 totaling \$305.58. It was motioned by Mike Simmons and seconded by Dave Kyle.
Motion Passed.

Class Update in Allegany / Garrett County

Notes:

1. Numbers in parentheses indicates total pre-registered students
2. *Red color, bold, and italicized font indicates additional enrollment needed for class to start

Additional Information

Pre-register online at <http://www.mfri.org/cgi-bin/schedule.cgi?S=Online> for the following training opportunities:

- *EMT Refresher (12 hours) – October 1*

Class	Log Number	Location	Start Date	Days	# of Students	Status	Class Closes
EMT	EMS-106-S010-2015	WMRTC	8/20/14	W/Su	17	Active	Closed
Rescue Tech: Collapse	RES-209-S001-2015	WMRTC	9/4/14	Varies	(13)	Canceled	Closed
Firefighter I (requires medical clearance)	FIRE-101-S014-2015	WMRTC	9/6/14	Sat	(46)	Active	Closed
EMT	EMS-106-S012-2015	Garrett College	9/8/14	M/Th/Sa	(24)	Active	Closed
Firefighter II	FIRE-201-S008-2015	GCTC – Accident	9/9/14	T/Th	(6)	Canceled	Closed
Haz Mat On Scene Commander	HM-221-S002-2015	Bowling Green	9/13/14	Sat	(7)	Canceled	Closed
Firefighter II	FIRE-201-S009-2015	WMRTC	9/21/14	Sun	(32)	Active	Closed
*Rescue Tech: Site Ops	RES-101-S015-2015	Eastern Garrett	10/5/14	Sun	(6)	Open	9/16/14
*EMR Refresher	EMS-207-S001-2015	Midland (?)	10/10/14	F/Sa/Su	(4)	Open	9/21/14
*EMT Refresher	EMS-203-S003-2015	Garrett College	10/18/14	Sa/Su	(7)	Open	9/29/14
*Rescue Tech: Rope	RES-205-S001-2015	Garrett College	10/25/14	Sat	(7)	Open	10/5/14

Pre-register online at <http://www.mfri.org/cgi-bin/seminars.cgi> for the following seminar:

- Trauma Cases for EMS – October 9 at WMRTC
- EMS Leadership Symposium – November 14 /15

The NFA has developed a new 18 month “leadership” program in which four courses are prerequisites: Leadership I, II, III, and Shaping the Future. Check out their website for more information.

Garrett County Assn. – The next meeting will be held September 24 at Grantsville starting at 7:30 p.m.

Allegany County Emergency Services – Dick DeVore reported.

Allegany County EMS – John Herath reported.

VCAF – Pat reported that the BPW’s approved the four applications, previously sent to them, this past Wednesday, including funds for Bedford Road for their new engine.

Pat noted that companies are their own worst enemies, as there is a company that could go to settlement and they’ve chosen to wait for nearly three weeks before a date suits them.

MIEMSS – Dwayne Kitis. Not in attendance.

MSFA – Tim Dayton report of Executive Committee meeting on August 23 & 24th at Williamsport Fire & Rescue attached.

FIRE POLICE – No report

Christian Firefighters – Pete reported the A. Mike Walter’s Chapter of Christian Firefighter’s met at Bedford Road yesterday morning at September 6th.

The welcome was given by President Broadwater and the response given by Tim Growden. Pam Kyle read a poem. The invocation and the blessing of the meal were given by Chaplain Walbert. Breakfast was served.

The pledge was led. Joys and Concerns were given by Chaplain Walbert. Lara Engle sang six songs. The 23rd Psalm was read for deceased members. During the business meeting, the minutes were read and the treasurer’s report given. The Sunshine committee sent Get Well and Sympathy cards. Ways and Means generated \$24.00. The Chapter discussed ways to generate more interest in member’s attendance to the breakfasts. The prayer breakfast adjourned at 9:45 a.m. after the benediction.

The next prayer breakfast will be held at Goodwill October 4 starting at 8:30 am. Everyone is welcome and invited to attend.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

By-Laws – Nothing to report.

Convention – No report

Fire Prevention/Education – Pat noted that a meeting will most likely be held this month to begin the planning of Fire Prevention Week. A notice will be sent out shortly.

Note: Fire Prevention & Education Committee’s Monthly Safety Fact # 98 to be included within the minutes and “The Bulletin”. A Little History Lesson...

DID YOU EVER WONDER HOW FIRE DEPARTMENTS WERE STARTED??



Did you know that in 1736, Benjamin Franklin started the first fire department ever? It was located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was called the Union Fire Company.

Ben Franklin lived in Boston until he was eighteen years old. The city of Boston had major fires in 1653 and 1676. After the fire in 1676, Boston purchased a London pumper. The city then hired Thomas Atkins and twelve other men to fight fires. These were the first paid firefighters in the United States. At the age of six, Benjamin Franklin witnessed another major fire in 1711. One hundred ten families lost their homes.

In 1682, the city of Philadelphia was founded by William Penn. When determining where to locate the city Penn gave careful thought to the dangers of fire.

In 1718, Philadelphia bought its first engine. It was named The Shag Rag but it was not put into service until 1730 when Philadelphia had a fire that destroyed much of the commercial district along the river.

In 1733, Ben Franklin often wrote about the dangers of fire and the need for organized fire protection in his newspaper, “The Pennsylvania Gazette”. Ben Franklin was familiar with Boston’s Mutual Fire Societies which were also known as “Fire Clubs.” But the “Fire Clubs” existed for the protection of its members, not for everyone in the community.

After a huge fire in Philadelphia in 1736, Franklin created a fire brigade called The Union Fire Company with 30 volunteers. The first full-fledged volunteer firefighter in America was Isaac

Paschall. The idea of volunteer fire brigades gained popularity. These citizens were able to afford to purchase equipment and pay fines for missing meetings and fires. (Does your department have a history of paying fines for not helping at a fire or for missing meetings?).

Some famous Americans who served as volunteer firefighters were: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, John Hancock, Paul Revere, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, John Barry, Aaron Burr, Benedict Arnold, James Buchanan and Millard Fillmore also served as volunteer firemen.

Janet reported a meeting will be planned following today's meeting. The date was Thursday September 11th at Bowling Green at 6:30 p.m.

Insurance/Benefits – John Shuhart sent his written report:

Since the last meeting a Relief Fund payment was made for Ronald Poole, Bowling Green. If any company who belongs to the Relief Fund and has a member die, please give me a call so that I may send out a check.

I have still not heard from Deep Creek on their status for the relief fund.

The questionnaire for the accident insurance will be mailed to each company during September. This is to let me know if your company wants to continue with the association insurance policy. Please return these to be by October 1st. I need to know in order to determine the cost for each company.

Last month it was reported that Selective Insurance Company will no longer write worker compensation insurance in the State of Maryland. This is a result of changes made to Labor and Employment Chapter 445 Section 9-503 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. This was changes with House Bill 1101. It states that a fire or rescue individual who acquires cancer as a result of employment, they may file for benefits. The problem occurs as to who can confirm the cancer was a result of said employment. The feeling is the insurance company must prove that it did not come from the employment.

Special Ops – No Report

Past Presidents – Next meeting September 25th at Ho Bo's restaurant. Pat also reminded those who wished to come to Eastern Garrett on September 13th for Spaghetti.

Auditing – Nothing.

Special Awards – Nothing

Training –

Recruitment/Retention – Nothing new to report.

Public Relations – Any company having information, please forward to the editor for inclusion into the *'The Bulletin'*.

Sprinklers – Nothing new.

Statistics – No report

Career Center & 5 / 10 Year Planning – There was no report given from either committee.

Ways & Means – Dave Kyle noted the committee would be working on future raffles.

UNFISHISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Tim Dayton noted a new Chief Deputy Fire Marshal has been appointed – another local boy – Doug Hanson from Frostburg. He said you'll be seeing more of him around the area.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

It was announced that GoodWill is serving Wings / Fries from 5 p.m. – 12 midnight every Sunday at their armory. There are several flavors and the cost is 50 cents each.

Don't forget the Wills for Hero's program. Forms are available on-line at msfa.org
The 50/50 was drawn and won by MSFA 1st Vice President Johnnie Roth.

The next Assn. meeting will be held at Luke October 5 at 2:00 p.m.
The next Prayer Breakfast will be held at Goodwill October 4 at 8:30 a.m.
Chaplain Walbert gave the benediction and the blessing of the meal at 15:20 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Rodney W. Bowser

Rodney W. Bowser
Secretary