

MINUTES
102th Annual Convention
ALLEGANY GARRETT COUNTIES VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE ASSOCIATION
Hosted by Cresaptown Vol. Fire Dept.
SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2014

President Gene Kidwell called the 102th Annual Convention of the Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association to order. The Convention convened at 10:30 a.m. at the Cresaptown Vol. Fire Dept., for the purpose of transacting any business that may come before the association.

Past President and Chaplain Calvin W. "Pete" Walbert noted there were 28 fire and rescue personnel and 9 auxiliary members memorialized at this morning's joint memorial service. Chaplain Walbert read the 23rd Psalm in his memory.

President Kidwell then called upon Chaplain Walbert to open the morning session with the invocation, which was followed by the pledge to the flag led by Vice President CB Broadwater.

Welcome: John Pratt, on behalf of the Convention Host, gave welcome remarks to the officers, delegates and guests of the 102th Annual Convention. He said it was an honor to host the convention.

Response: Response to the Welcome was given by President Gene Kidwell who said on behalf of the officers and members of the Allegany Garrett Fire & Rescue Assn., thanks to all the men and women of the Cresaptown Vol. Fire Dept. for all their preparation to host our convention today. They've worked very hard in preparation for this day.

Roll Call: Roll call was answered and showed 26 companies present for the day's Convention.

Recognition of Past Presidents – President Broadwater recognized the following 16 Past Presidents in attendance:

Robert E. Knippenburg	1972-73	Patricia A. Bowser	2000-01
James F. Decker	1973-74	Janet M. Elbin	2001-02
Ron Grabenstein	1983-84	Michael A. Simmons	2002-03
Calvin W. Walbert	1985-86	Timothy F. Dayton	2005-06
Aaron Winters	1988-89	Robert Ritchie	2006-07
Dennis Bonner	1989-90	Kathy Bever	2007-08
Gerard McGann	1992-93	Clarence B. Broadwater	2008- 09 2012-13
Rodney W. Bowser	1993-94	Dennis R. Mallery	2009-10
David L. Kyle	1999-00	Barbara R. Knippenburg	2011-12

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

PP Robert Knippenburg, Midland, recognized the following guests of the 102st Convention:

Jack Mosholder, Mosholder Insurance; **C J Bens**, Provident Ins.; **David C. Kline**, Walkersville; **Ron Watkins**, Damascus VFD; **Clark Beall**, Damascus VFD; Miss Shelby Simmons AGCVFRA Miss Fire Prevention; **Miss Sami Jo Knight**, Western Maryland Jr. Miss Fire Prevention; **Miss Jenna Holshey**, Western Maryland Jr. Miss Fire Prevention runner up. **Miss Tara Holshey**, Allegany/Garrett Miss Fire Prevention Runner-up; **Delegate Kevin Kelly**, Maryland House of Delegates; **Dawn Lindsey**, Allegany County Clerk of Court; **Dave Keller**, 1st Vice President MSFA Past President who brought greetings from the MSFA and said he was looking forward to the Convention in two weeks; Joan and **Joe Robison**, PP MSFA; MSFA 2nd **Vice President John Roth**; **Lee Lutz**, Glen Dale Fire Co.; **Rev. Harry Hetz**, MSFA Chaplain; **Jack Shade**, candidate for Allegany County Commissioner; **John Connell**, Maryland Fire Equipment; **Dick DeVore**, Allegany County Emergency Services; **John Herath**, ACES- EMS; **Ric Lillard**, DNR, Maryland Forestry; **Mike Davis** candidate for MSFA 2nd Vice President; **Phil Hurlock** PP MSFA, **Mark Bilger**, MSFA Executive Committee Member, **Robyn Hahn**, candidate for 2nd VP MSFA, **Wendell Beitzel**, Md. House of Delegates; **Senator George Edwards**; **Frank Underwood**, PP MSFA; and **Kingly Poole**, Washington County.

Credentials Committee Report – Mike Simmons, PP, Accident, reported all companies have paid their dues (100 %). There were 26 companies registered and eligible to vote (70.2%). Companies not registering were: Bittinger, Corriganville, Deep Creek, Deer Park, Ellerslie Ambulance, Frostburg Ambulance; Gorman, Grantsville, Kitzmiller; Oakland ; Rawlings and Southern Rescue(29.8%).

CONVENTION MINUTES: President Kidwell asked for a motion of approval of the minutes of the last Convention, held at and hosted by Good Will on June 1, 2013. A copy was placed in the packet and a copy was e-mailed to all companies and executive

members who have e-mail addresses. John Shuhart, Barton, made a motion to approve the minutes as printed. Rodger Long, Oldtown, seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The minutes of the last regular meeting held at Eastern Garrett on May 4, 2014 were also e-mailed to all companies and executive committee members having e-mail addresses and placed in the convention packet. The May minutes were also approved as printed and e-mailed. PP Jim Decker, District 16, motioned to approve the minutes as printed and seconded by PP Bobby Richie, GoodWill. Motion passed.

ROLL CALL OF COMPANIES:

The Secretary's Roll call of companies showed 26 Companies answering Roll Call and eligible to vote. Those companies in attendance were: Accident; Baltimore Pike; Barton Hose; Bedford Road; Bloomington; Bowling Green; Bowman's Addition; Clarysville; Cresaptown; Cumberland Hose; District 16; Ellerslie; Ellerslie Ambulance; Flintstone; Friendsville; George's Creek Ambulance; GoodWill-Lonaconing; Kitzmiller; Luke; Midland; Mt. Savage; Northern Garrett Rescue; Oldtown; Orleans; Potomac; and Tri- Towns Rescue.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

All Officers signed in and provided the following reports:

President Gene Kidwell – Report was placed in the Program booklet.

Vice President Clarence Broadwater – Report was placed in the Program booklet, and said thanks for the honor.

Secretary Rodney W. Bowser – Report was placed in the Program booklet.

Treasurer John J. Shuhart – Report was placed in the Program booklet, and said the financial report was in the packet.

Chaplain Calvin W. Walbert – Report was placed in the Program booklet and thanked everyone who participated in the Memorial Service; he also said he's the first Walbert in the book. (Memorial Program is attached, listing deceased members).

Editor Dennis R. Mallery – Report was read as it had not been placed in the Program booklet.

The Miss Fire Preventions gave their reports and remarks.

BILLS: Treasurer Shuhart noted the cost of the Officer's bond. After discussion, a motion was made by John Shuhart, Barton Hose, and seconded to do away with the Officer's bond. The motion passed by voice vote.

The following bills were presented: Officer Expense (\$50.00 each) \$300.00; Wal-Mart (Awards) \$53.34; Staples (Awards) \$830.30; Mosholder Ins. (Liability Ins.) \$255.00; Arts & Letters (Convention Badges) \$208.80; Wanda's Clocks (Special Awards) \$168.85; Mail Room \$222.41; Herald Printing (fair raffle tickets) \$140.00 Fire Prevention Raffle \$100.00; Friendsville Postmaster (Stamps) \$49.21; Rod Bowser (supplies) \$4.74; Shelby Simmons (FP Travel Expense) \$250.00; Tara Holshey (FP Travel Expense) \$250.00; totaling \$2,231.25; Receipts (Income) totaled \$ 740.00. An additional \$120.00 was taken in from the sale of books and placed in the Fire Prevention Scholarship Fund.

PP Jim Decker, District 16, moved to pay the bills as presented. The motion was seconded by PP Bob Knippenburg, Midland, and the motion carried by voice vote.

NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS AND PLACE OF NEXT CONVENTION:

President – Clarence Broadwater, Good Will, was nominated by John Shockey, Good Will.

Robert Richie, Good Will, moved to close nominations. Mike Simmons, Accident, seconded and the motion passed.

Vice President – Rodger Long, Oldtown, was nominated by PP Dennis Mallery, Oldtown.

Carl Blank Jr., Clarysville, was nominated by Dennis Blank, Clarysville.

Dick DeVore, Ellerslie, was nominated by PP Tim Dayton, Potomac.

PP Mike Simmons, Accident, moved to close nominations. PP David Kyle, Flintstone seconded and the motion passed.

Secretary – Rodney W. Bowser, Friendsville, was nominated by PP and Editor Denny Mallery, Oldtown.

PP Jim Decker, District 16, moved to close nominations and Mike Simmons, Accident seconded and the motion passed.

Treasurer – John J. Shuhart, Barton Hose, was nominated by PP Pete Walbert Cresaptown. Seconded by PP Jim Decker

Dist. 16, moved to close nominations and PP Gerard McGann, Mt Savage seconded to close. Motion passed.

Chaplain – Calvin Walbert, Cresaptown, was nominated by Treasurer John Shuhart, Barton.

PP Jim Decker, District 16, moved to close nominations and PP David Kyle, Flintstone seconded and the motion passed.

Editor – Dennis R. Mallery, Oldtown, was nominated by Rodger Long Oldtown.

PP Jim Decker, Dist. 16, moved to close nominations and PP Gerard McGann, Mt. Savage, seconded and the motion passed.

Place of Next Convention – There were no nominations for place of convention to host the 2015 Convention.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

By-Laws – PP Jim Decker, District 16, reported nothing as there were no submissions for changes this year.

Convention – Chris Cage, Cresaptown, thanked everyone and said things are going well so far.

Fire Prevention/Education – PP Janet Elbin, Orleans, provided both a written and oral report to those assembled. She noted the work of this committee is a total TEAM effort, including everyone within the Assn. Thanks were extended to everyone who supports the monthly and annual raffles for fire prevention and education.

Fund Raising – Gene Kidwell, Good Will reported raffle tickets are out for the fair’s raffle.

Insurance/Benefits – Secretary/Treasurer John Shuhart noted the Relief Fund report is in the packet. The annual report is attached.

Past President’s – CB Broadwater the Past Presidents met at Ho Bo’s for dinner.

Public Relations – PP Denny Mallery, Oldtown, noted “*The Bulletin*” is your place to advertise current events within your departments. Please continue to send in your announcements or noteworthy articles or events.

Recruitment/Retention – School Visitation will follow up.

Special Awards – PP Mike Simmons, Accident, noted that all awards will be presented this afternoon, after the luncheon meal.

Training – PP Mike Simmons, Accident, noted the training schedule has been distributed to all companies and is available on the MFRI website.

Auditing – PP Mike Simmons, Accident, reported the audit committee met on Thursday, May 16th at Northern Rescue, to audit the books of the Treasurer and Secretary. A routine audit was conducted on the books and records of the Treasurer for the Insurance Fund and the General Fund. All records were found to be true and correct. The record of funds/transactions by the Secretary were audited and found to be true and correct. Again, the Treasurer is to be commended for his record keeping. A copy of the Treasurer’s Report has been attached.

Statistics – John Shuhart, Barton Hose, noted that 92.3% of Garrett County companies (Kitzmiller still out) and 100% of Allegany County have responded and returned their statistical reports.

Sprinkler – PP Bob Knippenburg, Midland, Nothing new.

Allegany Fire Police – It was reported they’re still available if needed.

The blessing for the Luncheon Meal was given by PP and Chaplain Calvin E. Walbert. Members having extra tickets were encouraged to provide them for our guests. The morning session adjourned at 11:55 a.m. to visit with each other and our vendors.

◆◆◆◆◆ LUNCHEON BREAK ◆◆◆◆◆

◆◆◆◆◆ CONVENTION RECONVENE ◆◆◆◆◆

President Gene Kidwell called the afternoon session, of the 102th Annual Convention of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association to order at 13:05.

Credentials Committee Report – PP Mike Simmons, Accident, reported no changes in registration since the morning session and report. There are 27 companies registered and eligible to vote (72.9%), with Eastern Garrett registering just prior to lunch. Companies not registering were: Bittinger, Corriganville, Deep Creek, Deer Park, Ellerslie Ambulance, Frostburg Ambulance, Gorman, Oakland, Rawlings and Southern Rescue.

SPECIAL AWARDS:

Junior Firefighter of the Year Award – The Junior Firefighter of the Year Award was presented to Maxwell Cessna, Cresaptown Vol. Fire Dept.

◆◆◆◆◆ CONGRATULATIONS MAXWELL!!! ◆◆◆◆◆

FireFighter of the Year Award – PP Mike Simmons, Accident, read the letter of nomination, and presented the Firefighter of the Year Award to John Pratt, Cresaptown Vol. Fire Dept.

◆◆◆◆◆ CONGRATULATIONS JOHN!!! ◆◆◆◆◆

The Robert H. Shimer Memorial Award – Presented by the Allegany County Fire & Rescue Board – Dick DeVore and Tim Dayton of the Allegany County Emergency Services Board noted the award is for an individual who makes a significant contribution to or for public safety.

The Robert H. Shimer Memorial Award was then presented to very deserving individual, Bobby Patterson. A plaque was presented to Bobby and his name will be placed on a plaque to be displayed at the Allegany County EOC.

The runner-up was William Mayle. **The Allegany County ES Board sponsored this award.**

◆◆◆◆◆ CONGRATULATIONS BOBBY!!! ◆◆◆◆◆

Fire Prevention Award – PP Pat Bowser, Friendsville and Northern Garrett, along with Miss Shelby Simmons, Allegany/Garrett Miss Fire Prevention; Miss Sami Jo Kight, Allegany/Garrett Jr. Miss Fire Prevention; Miss Jenna Holshey, Allegany/Garrett Jr. Miss Fire Prevention Runner-up assisted with presentations. The books had been forwarded to the Fire Marshal's Office for judging in the MSFA Fire Prevention Award classes.

The **2013 James E. Lamberson Fire Prevention Award** was presented to Potomac Fire Company #2, of Westernport, accepted by Tim Dayton on behalf of the company. A plaque was presented as well as the traveling trophy. Orleans VFD received a Second-place Award plaque for their entry. Janet Elbin accepted on behalf of her company. A third place was presented to Miss Shelby Simmons, the current A/G Miss Fire Prevention.

◆◆◆◆◆ CONGRATULATIONS POTOMAC!!! ◆◆◆◆◆
◆◆◆◆◆ CONGRATULATIONS ORLEANS!!! ◆◆◆◆◆
◆◆◆◆◆ CONGRATULATIONS SHELBY!!! ◆◆◆◆◆

Past President's Award – The Past President's awarded their annual award to Barbara A. Knippenburg.

◆◆◆◆◆ THANKS & CONGRATULATIONS BARB!!! ◆◆◆◆◆

HALL OF FLAME – P.P. Mike Simmons and P.P. Pat Bowser presented the Hall of Flame Awards to the following inductees for 2014 –

- Clarence L Broadwater – GoodWill
- Brian Moses – GoodWill
- Eugene Thrasher – Midland, posthumously given.
- Jeff Baird – Bowling Green, posthumously given.

◆◆◆◆◆ CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL INDUCTEES!!! ◆◆◆◆◆

Ladies Auxiliary President Pam Kyle came down from the ladies meeting and presented President Kidwell with a gift.

President Kidwell then recognized all the DNR Workers who assisted with the serving of the meals today. They are faithful in helping out at Convention each and every year. They each have our deepest appreciation for their ongoing support.

MSFA Remarks –

First Vice President David Keller thanked everyone and said he'll see everyone in OC.
Second Vic President **Johnie Roth** said it was good to be here and looked forward to seeing everyone in Ocean City.

AGENCY REPORTS:

Garrett County Assn. – The next meeting will be held on Wednesday July 30st at Gorman VFD.

Fire Police – PP Gerard McGann, Mt. Savage, said the Fire Police is there to help out the firemen and they're willing to help when they can.

Christian Firefighters – Chaplain Walbert said the schedule for the next year is located within the Convention Book. All are welcome to attend. The next Prayer Breakfast will be held Saturday July 12th Bloomington at 8:30 a.m.

MSFA VCAF Fund – PP Pat Bowser's written and was in the package. A copy is attached.

MIEMSS – Dwayne Kitis not in attendance.

Election/Balloting:

Balloting – Due to one office up for vote there were balloting distributed and collected by roll call.

Clarence Broadwater was elected as President and Dick DeVore, Ellerslie was elected Vice President. All other incoming officers remained the same.

The place of the 103st Annual convention in 2015 – TBA... .

After the new slate of officers were read, PP Bob Knippenburg and PP Tim Dayton seconded to destroy the ballots. Motion carried by voice vote.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:

MSFA First Vice President David Keller conducted the installation of the following officers:

President – Clarence Broadwater, Good Will.

Vice President – Dick DeVore, Ellerslie

Secretary – PP Rodney W. Bowser, Friendsville

Dave Keller congratulated the new officers for 2014 – 2015.

Treasurer – John J. Shuhart, Barton Hose

Chaplain – PP Calvin E. Walbert, Cresaptown

Editor – PP Dennis R. Mallery, Oldtown

NEW OFFICERS PRESIDE:

PP Kidwell passed the gavel to incoming President Clarence Broadwater, Good Will.

Treasurer John Shuhart presented PP Gene Kidwell with his Past President's gavel courtesy of Mosholder Insurance.

Congratulations Gene for a terrific year and again, a job well done!

President Clarence Broadwater presided and asked if any company was interested in hosting next year's convention. If not, he said it would be discussed at the next meeting.

President Broadwater thanked Cresaptown for hosting the 102nd Convention.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

NEW OFFICER'S REMARKS:

President CB Broadwater– President Broadwater thanked everyone and said it was an honor to serve as your President. He's looking to the year ahead and needs everyone's support.

Vice President Dick DeVore – Vice President DeVore thanked everyone for their support.

Secretary Rodney W. Bowser – Secretary Bowser thanked everyone and looked forward to the year ahead.

Treasurer John Shuhart – Treasurer Shuhart thanked everyone. He also asked everyone to remember to support the efforts of the Fund Raising Committee once again this year.

Chaplain Calvin E. Walbert – Chaplain Walbert thanked everyone and said if he's needed to remember he's the first Walbert in the (phone) book. He's looking forward to the year ahead.

Editor Dennis R. Mallery – Editor Mallery thanked everyone for their support and he'll accept pictures, fund raising information for inclusion within *The Bulletin*.

President Broadwater thanked the all MSFA Officers for attending the Convention today.

President Broadwater then appointed the following parade judges – Ron Watkins, Damascus, Clark Beall, Laytonville. The parade will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

The Fire Prevention 50/50 afternoon drawing was drawn and Tim Growden, Bedford Road was the winner. He took \$50 and donated the rest for the Miss Fire Preventions.



Congratulations Tim!!!



Thanks for your generosity!!!

It was announced the next meeting would be held Sunday, July 13st at Northern Rescue St 3, at 2:00 p.m.

The next Prayer Breakfast would be held Saturday, July 12^h at Bloomington, at 8:30 a.m.

With nothing further to come before the 102th Anniversary Convention of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association, President Broadwater adjourned the meeting by motion by PP Jim Decker, District 16 and seconded by PP David Kyle, Flintstone at 14:45 hours. Motion passed.

In closing, Chaplain Walbert provided the Benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Rodney W. Bowser

Rodney W. Bowser
Secretary