

**MINUTES**  
**Allegany Garrett County Fire & Rescue Association**  
**Goodwill Fire Co. #1**  
**August 3, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association was held Sunday, August 3, 2014 and hosted by Goodwill Fire Company #1. President Clarence Broadwater called the meeting to order at 14:00 hours

The Invocation was given by Chaplain Calvin Walbert who then read the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm in memory of Kenneth L Fuller, Baltimore Pike; Alvin Shumaker, Northern Garrett Rescue; Merle Winters, Cresaptown Auxiliary; and Don R Robertson, Frostburg; and former MSFA Board of Trustee and Ways and Means Co-Chair, John W. Means, from the Pleasant Valley Fire Company.

Vice President Dick DeVore led the flag salute.

**WELCOME:** PP Gene Kidwell, representing the host company welcomed everyone to Goodwill. President Broadwater said it was a pleasure to be at his home company today.

**ROLL CALL OF DEPARTMENTS:** Roll call of Departments showed 21 companies in attendance. Those not represented were: Baltimore Pike; Bittering; Bloomington; Corriganville; Deep Creek; Deer Park; Ellerslie Ambulance; Frostburg Ambulance; Gorman; Grantsville; Kitzmiller; Oakland; Orleans; Rawlings; Tri – Towns Rescue and Southern Garrett Rescue.

Companies present were: Accident; Barton Hose; Bedford Road; Bowling Green; Bowman's Addition; Clarysville; Cresaptown; Cumberland Hose; District 16; Eastern Garrett; Ellerslie; Flintstone; Friendsville; George's Creek; Good Will; Luke; Midland; Mt Savage; Northern Garrett; Oldtown and Potomac.

All officers were in attendance

**RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS:**

President Broadwater recognized the following 15 Past Presidents in attendance: Robert E. Knippenburg; James F. Decker; Ron Grabenstein; Calvin 'Pete' Walbert; Aaron Winters; Dennis Bonner; Rodney W. Bowser; David L. Kyle; Patricia A. Bowser; Michael A. Simmons; Timothy F. Dayton; Clarence B. Broadwater; Dennis R. Mallery; Barbara A. Knippenburg and Gene Kidwell.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

Guests present and recognized by President Broadwater were: Mary Carr, PP LA AGCVFRA; Dick DeVore, Allegany Co. Emergency Services; Betty Grabenstein, PP LA AGCVFRA; Tricia Blank Guard, LA AGCVFRA; Miss Sami Jo Knight, MSFA Jr Miss Fire Prevention; Bill Valentine, Allegany County Commissioner; Rose Schurg, PP LA AGCVFRA; Tom Striplin, Candidate for Allegany County Commissioner; and Chief John Herath, Allegany County EMS Chief.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

PP Mary Carr, The Ladies Past Presidents made a donation of \$50.00 to the Association's Scholarship Funds in lieu of the giving of a plaque to a deserving member. Applause was heralded from those assembled – thank you ladies.

**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** – A thank you letter was received from Elaine Huttenlock, Chairman Bessie Marshall Benefit Fund that acknowledged our donation in memory of PP Frank Clark.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Treasurer Shuhart reported the following fund balances: Savings Certificates: General Fund - \$14,102.92; Plaque Fund CD - \$2,928.34; Plaque Fund Cash \$94.00; Checking Account \$3,298.14 Prime Saver \$2,461.12; and Fire Prevention Scholarship Fund \$867.55.

Bills on hand were read: Denny Mallery (Mailing Envelopes) \$ 45.00, Mail Room \$ 233.30 and FP raffle \$100.00 (Mary Carr) totaling \$368.30. It was motioned by Gene Kidwell and seconded by Jim Decker. Motion Passed.

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/Open	7/31/14
<b>*Rescue Tech: Collapse</b>	<b>RES-209-S001-2015</b>	<b>WMRTC</b>	<b>9/4/14</b>	<b>Varies</b>	<b>(12)</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>8/15/14</b>
Firefighter I (requires medical clearance)	FIRE-101-S014-2015	WMRTC	9/6/14	Sat	(29)	Active/Open	8/17/14
<b>*EMT</b>	<b>EMS-106-S012-2015</b>	<b>Garrett College</b>	<b>9/8/14</b>	<b>M/Th/Sa</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>8/19/14</b>
<b>*Firefighter II</b>	<b>FIRE-201-S008-2015</b>	<b>GCTC – Accident</b>	<b>9/9/14</b>	<b>T/Th</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>8/20/14</b>
<b>*Haz Mat On Scene Commander</b>	<b>HM-221-S002-2015</b>	<b>Bowling Green?</b>	<b>9/13/14</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>8/24/14</b>
Firefighter II	FIRE-201-S009-2015	WMRTC	9/21/14	Sun	(16)	Active/Open	9/1/14

**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**

1. Pre-register online at <http://www.mfri.org/cgi-bin/schedule.cgi?S=Online> for the following training opportunities:
  - EMT Refresher (12 hours) – September and October 1
  - EVO Online – August 15
2. Pre-register online at <http://www.mfri.org/cgi-bin/seminars.cgi> for the following seminar:
  - EMS Leadership Symposium – November 14 /15
3. 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.
4. Students that have been flagged for book bills in our system will be prohibited from taking MFRI classes until the bill has been paid in full.

**Garrett County Assn.** – The next meeting will be held August 13 at Gorman starting at 7:30 p.m.

**Allegany County Emergency Services** – Dick DeVore reported.

The ESB will meet August 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Pump testing will be in September, Still need six departments to send in information for I AM Responding Program, Flood relief funding program for low interest loan to be held at Cresaptown VFD this week

An appeal was sent to MEMA and it was denied. The office will continue to work to assist those companies experiencing a loss. A team will set up at the Cresaptown fire hall to take applications for small business loans at low interest. They will be set up there from August

The Financial Accountability Study survey was sent out from Turnbull, Hoover and Kale. They have identified the President and Treasurer of each company and they should have received a questionnaire. This will assist companies on how to improve their accounting practice.

He noted that the Alerting program, I AM RESPONDING will be replacing the regular phone alerts. Work continues to replace the department addresses.

**Allegany County EMS** – John Herath reported. He noted the fail rate of ambulance responses has increased by 6.5 % and the call volume is down. Work continues on the Allegany/Garrett/Washington Incident Management Team that will forge an organizational structure for use at the Deep Creek 2014 Whitewater trials at ASCI.

John also noted the D of D and the Health Dept. are sponsoring medical clinics at the Allegany County Fairgrounds from **Wednesday, August 13 to Thursday, August 21, 2014.** These clinics include dental, vision and veterinarian evaluations and treatments. I have been asked if I could find crews to staff an ambulance at the fairgrounds from 0900 to 1700 hours on the eight days that the event is occurring. What I am asking of all of the companies in the county is to get the word out to your members to see if any of them are interested in volunteering a day to help with this event by staffing the ambulance. Have anyone that is interested contact John Herath at 301-876-9155 or jherath@allconet.org.

**VCAF** – Pat reported that the VCAF Board met last Sunday in Friendsville. Of the applications heard, was Bedford Road who is seeking funds for a new engine. Their request was approved. Applications are available on-line at the msfa.org website.

**MIEMSS** – Dwayne Kitis. Not in attendance.

**MSFA** – Tim Dayton noted the next Executive Committee will be meeting on August 23 & 24<sup>th</sup> hosted by Williamsport Fire & Rescue;

**FIRE POLICE** – Gene said they were available. The annual picnic will be held at Mt. Savage on the third Thursday this month. (August 21<sup>st</sup>).

**Christian Firefighters** – Pete reported the A. Mike Walter's Chapter of Christian Firefighter's met at Eastern Garrett yesterday morning at August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The welcome was given by President Broadwater and the response given by Sharon Malone. Secretary Mary Carr 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. Rev. Dan Agnew gave the morning meditation. The 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 Bedford Road on September 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:30 am. Everyone is welcome and invited to attend.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**By-Laws** – Nothing to report.

**Convention** – Denny Bonner, Bowman's Addition has held their first meeting to get things under way.

**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 # 97 to be included within the minutes and "The Bulletin".**

**October 5 – 11, 2014      The 2014 Fire Prevention Theme is once again about:  
WORKING SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES – TEST YOURS EVERY MONTH!**

**It's Fire Prevention Week — Help us sound the alarm that working smoke alarms save lives. Did you know that many people don't test their smoke alarms as often as they should? When there is a fire, smoke spreads**

fast. You need working smoke alarms to give you time to get out. Test yours every month!

## Smoke Alarms at Home

• **Smoke** alarms should be installed inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level. Smoke alarms should be connected so when one sounds, they all sound. Most homes do not have this level of protection. Roughly 2 out of 3 fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or the alarms are not working.

### Some FACTS:

**Smoke alarms are a key part of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.**

**SAFETY TIPS** to share with your family and neighbors:

- ✓ Install smoke alarms inside and outside each bedroom and sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- ✓ Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- ✓ It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds they all sound.
- ✓ Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- ✓ There are two kinds of alarms. Ionization smoke alarms are quicker to warn about flaming fires. Photoelectric alarms are quicker to warn about smoldering fires. It is best to use both types of alarms in the home.
- ✓ A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the stove.
- ✓ People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- ✓ Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

**Courtesy: [nfpa.org](http://nfpa.org)**

**Insurance/Benefits** – John Shuhart reported that since the last meeting Relief Fund payments were made for Alvin Shumaker, Northern Garrett Rescue; and Kenneth Fuller, Baltimore Pike. If any company belonging to the Relief Fund and has a member die, please give me a call so that I may send out the check.

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

**Special Ops** – Tim Growden noted that there needs more people to sign up for class from the county or can't not use money from his budget for the class.

**Past Presidents** – Next meeting August 9<sup>th</sup> at the Accident Community Park. This will be the annual picnic all Past Presidents and officers are invited. Fried Chicken, potato salad, baked beans, rolls and fruit pies will be provided. All attendees can to bring a covered dish if they wish.

**Auditing – Nothing.**

**Special Awards** – Mike noted that plaques are at Wanda's Clocks being updated.

**Training** – Tim noted the MSFA training meeting will be held in Southern Maryland on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

**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** – John reported nothing till later in the year.

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

**Ways & Means** – A raffle for a \$250.00 meat certificate from B&B Meats and \$ 100.00 gas card took in \$ 940.00; after expenses, showed a \$450.00 profit. Winners of the meat certificate were Debbie Marsh and Ron Smith won the gas card. Dave Kyle noted that a lot of Companies **did not** sell any tickets at all.

**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.

Midland VFC is hosting a Carnival for the first time in 25 years. It will run August 12<sup>th</sup> thru 16<sup>th</sup>. The Parade is Friday August 15<sup>th</sup>. Bracelets are being sold for \$12 to ride all evening or \$20 at the gate. The bracelets are not available for Friday and Saturday.

Don’t forget the Wills for Hero’s program. Forms are available on-line at [msfa.org](http://msfa.org)

The 50/50 was drawn and won by Gene Kidwell.

The next Assn. meeting will be held at Friendsville on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

The next Prayer Breakfast will be held at Bedford Road on September 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.

Chaplain Walbert gave the benediction and the blessing of the meal at 15:10 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

*Rodney W. Bowser*

Rodney W. Bowser

Secretary

Think Safety:

Soon the room was full of smoke,  
Roberta then began to choke.  
She turned to Peter and gave a shout,  
she screamed at him to get out.  
There was such a hullabaloo  
as out the house the couple flew.  
"Oh Peter," poor Roberta cried,  
'I only wanted the washing dried.  
I've been a silly girl, of course,  
it was far too near the heat source.  
And look at all the mess I've made,  
**we'll have to get the fire brigade!"**

