

MINUTES
Allegany Garrett County Fire & Rescue Association
Frostburg Area Ambulance
February 2, 2014

The regular meeting of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association was held Sunday, February 2, 2014 and hosted by Frostburg Area Ambulance. President Gene Kidwell called the meeting to order at 14:00 hours and Vice President Clarence Broadwater led the flag salute.

The Invocation was given by Chaplain Calvin Walbert and reading of the 23rd Psalm in memory of Timothy William Morgan, Cresaptown; Donald L. Dolly, Flintstone; Eugene "Buddy" Thrasher, Midland; William L. Emory, Bittering; Eleanor Deal, Deep Creek Auxiliary; Ester Mae Durst, Grantsville Auxiliary; Robert S. Gourlay, Sr. of LaVale.

WELCOME: Sandi Bucklew, representing the host company welcomed everyone to Frostburg Ambulance. She noted there were drinks, coffee and food available. President Kidwell said it was a pleasure to be at Frostburg.

ROLL CALL OF DEPARTMENTS: Roll call of Departments showed 23 companies in attendance. Those not represented were: Bittering; Bloomington; Clarysville; Corriganville; Deep Creek; Deer Park; Ellerslie Ambulance; Gorman; Grantsville; Kitzmiller; Oakland; Rawlings; Tri – Towns and Southern Garrett Rescue.

Companies present were: Accident; Baltimore Pike; Barton Hose; Bedford Road; Bowling Green; Bowman's Addition; Cresaptown; Cumberland Hose; District16; Ellerslie; Flintstone; Friendsville; Frostburg Ambulance; George's Creek; Good Will; Luke; Midland; Mt Savage; Northern Garrett; and Oldtown, Orleans and Potomac.

All officers were in attendance.

RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS:

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

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Guests present and recognized by President Kidwell were: Dick DeVore, Allegany Co. Emergency Services; Miss Morgan Blank, Jr. Miss Western Maryland; Miss Shelby Simmons, AGCVFRA Miss Fire Prevention; Todd Dyche MFRI; John Hearth EMS; Bill Valentine County Commissioner; Dwayne Kitis MIEMSS; Johnnie Roth, MSFA 2nd Vice President; Pam Kyle, President LA AGCVFRA; Betty Grabenstein, PP LA AGCVFRA; and Mary Carr, PP LA AGCVFRA.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

All officers presented a brief report of their activities during the past month.

Secretary's Report – Secretary Bowser made available the January minutes for members at the day's meeting and e-mailed to all companies and executive committee members. The minutes were approved as printed by motion from Dave Kyle and seconded by Gerard McGann.

Communications – None

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Shuhart reported the following fund balances: Savings Certificates: General Fund - \$14,044.09; Plaque Fund CD - \$2,928.34; Plaque Fund Cash \$94.00; Checking Account \$2,372.14; Prime Saver \$2,457.54; and Fire Prevention Scholarship Fund \$675.79. Bills on hand were read: Bulletin \$195.34; FP Winner \$100.00; totaling \$295.34. It was motioned by Bob Knippenburg and seconded by Gerard McGann to pay the bills. Motion passed.

Agency Reports –

MFRI – Todd Dyche – The following report was received:

Due to the logistics of running MFRI specialty courses, I have to report any requests to MFRI HQ on March 11, 2014. If your department is wanting to host a specialty course please let your county training coordinator know ASAP. The specialty courses include:

1. Fire Department Safety Officer
2. Fire Officer IV
3. Hazardous Materials Technician
4. Fire Inspector I and II
5. Rescue Technician: Rope
6. Rescue Technician: Trench
7. Rescue Technician: Swift-water (this course requires use of the flume at Dickerson Power Station)

Additionally, the Rescue Technician: Collapse Course can be requested but must run at WMRTC or approved location. This course also has an additional cost to run due to use of heavy equipment, building materials, etc. The cost will need to be offset by the host organization and is rather pricey.

Please send any above requests to the following coordinators in your county:

Washington County – Jason Eckstine (fireco27@aol.com)

Allegany County – Tim Dayton (tddayton@pennswoods.net)

Garrett County – Jean Tressler (jean.tressler@garrettcollege.edu)

Todd noted that for processing class booklets or books departments must provide their Federal ID Numbers.

Garrett County Assn. – The next meeting will be held March 26th at Eastern Garrett at 7:30 p.m.

Christian Firefighters – Chaplain Walbert reported the A. Mike Walter's Chapter of Christian Firefighters met at Ellerslie on February 1st. The Welcome was given by Clarence Broadwater and the response was by Susan Reese. Pam Kyle read a poem about Love. The Invocation and Blessing was given by Chaplain Walbert. The pledge was led by Clarence Broadwater. The meal was sausage gravy/biscuits and home fries.

Joys and Concerns were given by Chaplain Walbert. Pam Kyle read a poem and led the flag salute. The speaker was Mike Matthews and the meditation was taken from the book of Mark.

Birthdays were recognized. The Sunshine committee sent out six Get Well and four Sympathy Cards. Ways and Means took in: \$15.00 for the Bus fund; \$5.00 for the general fund; \$10.00 for the flower fund; and Ellerslie donated \$25.00.

The next Prayer Breakfast will be held at Friendsville on April 5th starting at 8:30 am. All are welcome to attend. All companies were reminded that the schedule for next year is now being formed. If interested let a member know your interest in hosting a prayer breakfast.

Allegany County Emergency Services – Dick DeVore reported. He said they were trying to recover from the virus that penetrated the Allconet web server. They are looking at a new location for Barton Power as they continue the tower project.

Smoke Alarms will be available upon receipt of their last order.

All LOSAP documents/paperwork were due January 31st.

The 508 Audit package is being compiled to send to DMIL. He noted that some additional info may be requested to complete the report.

EMS Chief John Herath reported that the fail rates are on the increase.

The next protocol updates for the coming year will include the addition of Narcan as an EMT skill. He noted that currently Allegany County had implemented the skill and EMT providers are currently permitted to administer the medication.

Drivers are now scheduled 5 days / week at Bowman's Addition.

VCAF – Pat noted the Board met on Sunday January 19th at Arbutus. The work-session was well attended and very productive. Pat noted some changes will be taking place as far as the settlement process. She will be the central contact for collecting all documents for pre-closing and closing. It was noted that it made

sense that one person would coordinate the vast amount of paperwork leading toward settlement and the applicant's receipt of their monies.

This will be presented to the MSFA Executive Committee this month with possibly some other recommendations for down the road.

EMS Board – The next meeting will be held on January 7th.

MIEMSS – Dwayne Kitis reported. The search for Dr. Bass's replacement continues.

MSFA – MSFA Vice President Johnnie Roth brought greetings from the MSFA officers and members. He thanked the Fire Prevention Ambassadors for the job they do.

Vice President Roth noted the leadership met with the Legislators on the HB and 508 funds will remain the same. The next Executive Committee meeting will be held the weekend of Feb 22 & 23 at Cordova. The April meeting will be held at Mechanicsville.

Once again, Vice President Roth thanked everyone for their participation and help for the MSFA and their communities. He said that Vice President David Keller is forming his committees for next year. He's looking for your help.

Tim Dayton noted he forgot the MSFA Raffle tickets and would have them next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

By-Laws – Jim Decker, Chairman noted the committee will have a meeting on January 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at District 16.

Fire Police – Gerard reported on the group's activities: assisted with a parade in Westernport; a working fire in Mt. Savage; and other events.

Convention – Chris Cage noted that Cresaptown has the next meeting scheduled on Sat. February 8th at Cresaptown at 12:00 noon. Any questions call: 301.697.7024. He noted that ads notices and meal tickets will be mailed soon. The Memorial Service will be held at Calvary Baptist Church.

Fire Prevention/Education –

Note: Fire Prevention & Education Committee's Monthly Safety Fact # 91 to be included within the minutes and "The Bulletin".

The Need to Increase Education Efforts Regarding Burn Prevention

Pediatric Burn Injuries

- ❖ **On average, more than 107,000 children sustain nonfatal fire or burn injuries each year.**
- ❖ **On average, about 1300 children under the age of 4 are hospitalized every year for fire and burn-related injuries.**
- ❖ **Children under age 5 account for nearly 20 percent of all burn injuries in the US annually.**

Scald Injuries

- ❖ **Every day, hundreds of young children with scald injuries are taken to emergency rooms for treatment.**
- ❖ **Scald burns (caused by hot liquids, steam or hot foods) are the most common burn injury to children age 4 and younger.**
- ❖ **Mortality rates for scald burns are highest for children under age 4.**
- ❖ **Scalds or other contact burns are the cause of 90 percent of burn injuries to children age 5 and younger.**
- ❖ **Sixty (60) percent of all scald injuries are to young children (age 0 – 4).**
- ❖ **Seventy-five (75) percent of all burns to young children are scalds.**

Clearly working to prevent burn injuries should be a priority of anyone who cares for children.

(From Safe Kids USA, American Burn Association, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, NFPA, and National Center for Health Statistics was used in this safety message).

The fire prevention raffle from last night was won by Gunter Corrado. Pat thanked everyone for their support of the raffle. All tickets were sold out today.

Ways & Means – The committee will have a cash lottery. Tickets will be sold during April and May for the June drawings. A total of \$500 tickets will be printed with two (2) numbers. Tickets will be \$5.00 each and will generate \$2,500. There will be 30 chances to win. The Association would make \$1,000.00.

John Shuhart would write the checks for each winner.

John motioned to take it back to each company for support of the project. Doug seconded and the motion carried.

Insurance/Benefits – John Shuhart reported that since the last meeting Relief Fund payments were made for Eleanor Deal, Deep Creek Auxiliary; Donald Dolly, Flintstone; and Eugene Buddy Thrasher, Midland. 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 received payment from Clarysville this month for the accident insurance. I received a call from the President of Corriganville stating they were thinking about dropping out of the accident insurance. He stated he would get back to me but he never did.

I have received a few of the Relief fund payments. However, they did not return the listings of members to me. Please read the instructions and do what they say. It will pay off in the long run with beneficiary changes. They are due February 15th.

Public Relations – Work continues on the web site. Changes are taking place and will be updated and completed soon. Please send election results from your companies to be published in *The Bulletin*.

Special Ops – No Report.

Safety – the safety tip was to play it safe in frigid temperatures.

Special Awards – A reminder was for all departments to send in their nominations for the awards at this year's annual convention. As departments hold their annual banquets, so send in your nominees for any of the awards.

Training – Registration is changing. After the first of the year, one must register on-line at the MFRI website. In Allegany County requests go to Tim Dayton and for Garrett County, send them to Phil Rook.

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 – Please turn the statistics into John after you file them on-line. Print a copy for his files.

Career Center & 5-10 Year – No report from either committee.

UNFISHED BUSINESS:

It was noted that Dick DeVore continues to have a supply of smoke alarms for the asking.

The Western Maryland Jr. Miss Pageant will be held on Sunday April 27th at Flintstone at 1:00 p.m. A workshop will be held in March at Bowling Green.

NEW BUSINESS: None

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Regards to Rocky Gap casino, there are no plans for bingo at Rocky Gap.

It was reminded to all that there are a lot of awards given in Ocean City at Convention. Rules are on-line at MSFA.org.

All MSFA registrations are now required to be sent in electronically. There are no more hard copies. The registrations are to be sent to MSFA Secretary Doyle Cox on-line.

Don't forget the Wills for Hero's program. Forms are available.

It was reported that Ron Watkins had surgery on the 15th. Please send him a card at: 25120 Woodfield Road, Damascus, Md. 20872

A moment of silence was held for a family that was devastated in Kentucky. An 8 year old child and her mother were lost and the father and one child survived.

The next meeting will be held at Baltimore Pike on Sunday April 6th at 2:00 p.m.

The next Prayer Breakfast will be held in Friendsville on Saturday April 5th at 8:30 a.m.

The 50/50 was won by Johnie Roth.

Chaplain Walbert gave the benediction and the blessing of the meal at 15:20 hrs.

Respectfully submitted

Rodney W. Bowser

Rodney W. Bowser

Secretary

Lenton Communion

Rest in a friend's house, Dear, I pray:
The way is long to Good Friday,
And very chill and grey the way.

No crocus with its shining cup,
Nor the gold daffodil is up, --
Nothing is here save the snowdrop.

Sit down with me and taste good cheer:
Too soon, too soon, Thy Passion's here;
The wind is keen and the skies drear.

Sit by my fire and break my bread.
Yea, from Thy dish may I be fed,
And under Thy feet my hair spread!

Lord, in the quiet, chill and sweet,
Let me pour water for Thy feet,
While the crowd goes by in the Street.

Why wouldst Thou dream of spear or sword,
Or of the ingrate rabble, Lord?
There is no sound save the song of a bird.

Let us sit down and talk at ease
About Thy Father's business.
(What shouts were those borne on the breeze?)

Nay, Lord, it cannot be for Thee
They raise the tallest cross of the three
On yon dark Mount of Calvary!

So soon, so soon, the hour's flown!
The glory's dying: Thou art gone
Out on Thy lonely way, alone.

Katharine Tynan