



The Bulletin

Official Publication of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association

Volume XV Issue 7

Barbara A. Knippenburg, Editor

January 2020

Rawlings Fire Company Hosts Allegany and Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association Meeting

The January meeting of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association was called to order by President Gene Kidwell on Sunday, January 5, 2020 at Rawlings Fire Company. The Pledge to the flag was led by Vice President Jonathan Dayton. The Association was welcomed

by Jeremy Athey, President of Rawlings Fire Company. Twenty companies and thirteen Past Presidents were in attendance. Guests included: MIEMSS, Dwayne Kitis and Alex Kelly, MSFA Mike Faust, President, Joel McCrea, 2nd Vice President, Donna Struntz – Sr.

Vice President LA MSFA, Pam Kyle, President FCFE, AGCVFRA LA Tricia Morgan, President, Georgann Shuhart, Treasurer, Mike McKay, Betty Grabenstein, PP LAMSFA and AGCVFRA LA, Delegate Mike McKay and Chris Fairall, US Census Bureau.

Agencies and Organizations

MSFA

Mike Faust, Pres, Life Safety Conference, March 1st, **Important Dates-** Please check MSFA.org for more details.

Legislative Session starts in Annapolis January 8, 2020. MSFA legislative reception January 14, 2020 from 5:00 -7:00 in the Senate Building Life Safety Seminar Saturday, March 21, 2020 at MFRI HQ in College Park. LAMSFA Spring Conference Level VFC on April 18, 2020. The Statewide Recruitment Day Sunday, April 19, 2020, Maryland Fire Rescue Memorial Service June 7, 2020, MSFA 2020 Convention in Ocean City will be June 20-25, 2020. It is important that you book your room as early as possible due to possible rate increases Executive Committee Meeting Level VFC on March 28&29, 2020 The 5th Annual MSFA Cancer 5K Courage to Walk

Sunday, April 26, 2020 starting at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Memorial in Annapolis. The deadline for registration is March 31st

Joel McCrea, 2nd VP - MSFA website is up and running. Everyone needs to reapply for access to the Members Area. If you have any problems please reach out to Johathan Dayton or our Executive Director, Kate Tomanelli.

As now, all tag requests have been processed by our Crofton office and are currently with the MVA. The MVA has ordered more tags to fulfill the rest of the requests. Once you receive your new tags, please put them on your vehicle as the old tags were turned off. Be sure to update EZ Pass as well.

The 2019 edition of the Fire Law Books were printed and distributed at the meeting. There is one book for each company that is a member in

good standing with the MSFA.

The Convention Committee is finalizing the training schedule with the OC Fools and MFRI and the schedule should be posted to the website in the next couple of weeks. We will be also be offering an EMS refresher again as well as “lay person” classes.

MSFA did not receive a SAFER Grant for 2019, but will submit a SAFER grant request for 2020. The grant is for a fulltime Recruitment and Retention person and four regional Recruitment and Retention coordinators.

For those departments that are celebrating their 25th, 50th, 75th or 100th, please bring it the attention of the one of the MSFA Presidents so we can give you recognition.

Reminder that the Board of Trustees manual and forms are on line. It is highly recommended that a company

CANCER

While **cancer** is a disease that can impact anyone, studies have shown that firefighters have a higher rate of many types of cancer that the general population. To help raise awareness of this threat and provide specific actions that firefighters can take to protect themselves, the NVFC and VCOS teamed up in 2018 to develop the Lavender Ribbon Report, which details the 11 best practices for reducing the risks of occupational cancer. By following these 11 actions, firefighters can better protect themselves, their crew, **and their families** from fire-fighting hazards and exposure. Please check out their web sites and download the Lavender Ribbon Report and additional resources for addressing firefighter cancer at www.nvfc.org/cancer and www.vcos.org/BeatFFCancer.

Upcoming Meetings:

- **Maryland State Firemens Association Executive Committee— March 28,29, 2020 at Level VFC**
- **A. Mike Walters Prayer Breakfast— February 1 at Ellerslie—**
- **AGCVFRA - February 2, 2020—1400 hours— at Southern Garrett County Rescue**
- **AGCVFRA Convention June 6, 2020—Bowman's Addition**
- **LA AGCVFRA—March 8, 2020 Bedford Road VFD**
- **Garrett County Fire Rescue Association—January 29, 2020, 1930 Hrs. Bittinger VFC**



officer print a copy for their station and become familiar with what is required should you have the unfortunate situation of a line of duty injury or death. There are some very strict timelines that will need to be met.

If applying for federal grants, you must be registered with SAMS, Duns & Bradstreet and FEMA.Go. MSFA Grants Committee is available to provided assistance, but will not write the application for you.

The Bessie Marshall Fund paid 28 cases in 2019 totaling over \$28K. Your continued support is vital to this program.

MSFA also relies on the success of the \$10,000 raffle for part of its funding. If every company sold its tickets, that would add an additional \$50,000.

Reaching the Next Generation Committee is reaching out to the next generation to try to educate a new generation of leaders about MSFA, what is all about, what it does and how it operates. Currently, it has 7-8 participants and looking for more. If you have people that may be interested, please contact Ron Block or Past President John Denver. Please send banquet/other invitations for MSFA officers to:

Maryland State Firemen's Association

2130 Priest Bridge Drive
Suite 4

Crofton, MD 21114

443-302-2911

Executive Committee Meeting at Sudlersville on December 7,8, 2019—
Tim Dayton reported

MFRI

EMT Pilot

*Results Total # of students 108 Dropped out— 28 (25%) Three best NREMT test pass rates Failed out- 26 (24%) AACoFD- 93%

Eligible to test- 54 (50%)
Western MD- 100%
**Passed to date- 43 (80%)
College Park- 100%
Dropped after NR Testing 1 Left to retest - 8

• **We expect to see NREMT testing pass rates in the mid to upper 80 percentile for overall program after retesting.

• Curriculum: Positive Platinum E EMT Pilot

• Results Total # of students- 108 Dropped out- 28 (25%)

Three best NREMT test pass rates Failed out- 26 (24%) AACoFD- 93%

MS Testing Most beneficial addition to the EMT program within the pilot- not waiting until after MOD 3 o Allowed the students to take their module test on the computer in preparation for National Registry Questions were set up like the NR testing format Helps students learn how to practice/learn material Allowed many practice test to be prepared and assigned to the students Allowed group testing within the classroom and helped instructors reinforce teaching points Jones & Bartlett Products JB AAOS textbook builds each chapter upon previous lesson JB slides are better than current EMT program Previous EMT students like JB Learning better than MyBrady- wording is more clear. Takes less time outside of class to complete than

MyBrady assignments

• Reasons for student drop out: change in work schedule, personal/family illness/pregnancy, program not what was expected, class was too much work, missed too many class sessions

• Reasons for students failing out: overall students felt prepared to pass testing/retesting of module exams, each thought they had committed enough time to studying, a few felt that they were not prepared for modular exams due to lack of study time related to work schedule/family obligations, adaptive type testing tutor program hard to understand, struggled to understand multiple answers for test questions/questions did not make sense/not what was expected.

• EMT Pilot - Going forward Reinforce this is college level course. Assessment tool has been a good indicator of student success. Students need support/re-enforcement for studying/completing assignments from their Company Training Officer/Chief. Class session sequence to follow textbook chapters. Revise slides to reduce wordiness. Additional adaptive test practice and instructor reviews prior to retesting for the 8 students needing retesting.

• 2nd Round EMT Pilot Classes: SM Region- Leonardtown- began October 7th NE Region- NERTC- began October 12th NE Region- Hartford County High School Cadets – began November 19th WM Region – WMRTC – begins- January 13th 2020 WM Region - Washington County High School Cadet program – began December 2nd UES Region – Oxford – begins Jan 27th, 2020

FF-I Pilot Programs

*Will be piloting two new FF-I programs at the NERTC
-New Book, online/app basedresources -
- Skillsvideos -
- Online tool identification tutorial -
-ExamPrep —
Interactive content

• MFRI has been approved to establish Pearson Vue test centers @ all 7 MFRI Regional training areas.
-College Park (30 seats) completed and open.
-North Central (Frederick County Training Academy) – Operational in about a week.
-Upper Eastern Shore (MFRI Centerville facility) – Operational as of today.
-NERTC, SMRTC, and LESRTC should be operational by the first of the year...

Legislative Comm.

The 2020 Legislative Services is rolling out a NEW Legislative website but it won't go online until January 8, 2020, which is the start date of the new session. The session has yet to begin and changes are made on a daily basis which is already making it challenging. At this writing MFRI, MIEMSS, and the Professional Firefighters of Maryland have indicated that they will not propose any new legislation other than their budgets.

The MSFA Legislative Committee continues to receive information and request letters of support regarding the Maryland Law pertaining to Sprinklers installed in Newly Constructed Single Family Homes. Some letters have been received but the committee is disappointed in the low number after requests have been made to the MSFA Executive Board members.

The MSFA legislative Committee has received a copy of the 2020 Amos Instructions and is passing along that information to the member company leadership (a copy is attached to these minutes). A copy of important save the dates in Annapolis has been included in this report. The county, Allegany, has put this information out also.

Thanks to PP Mark Bilger, the Chairman of the Fire Laws Books Committee, the new



books were printed for the State Legislators and the MSFA Member Companies and have been delivered to the MSFA storage area in Crofton, Maryland. The MSFA Legislative Committee has transferred their needed books and awaits the distribution plan from the President. Books are printed for all member companies to receive one (1) book per company per the MSFA Executive Committee's directive and a copy will hopefully be available to access from the MSFA website on line in the future.

Co-Chairman Malone has secured the date for the MSFA Legislative Reception, which will be Tuesday, January 14, 2020 in the Miller Reception Room from 5p-7p. Invitations will be hand delivered to Maryland Senators and Delegates offices with the New Maryland Fire Law Books and others will be mailed out.

Grants

As we prepare for the FY-2019 application period, it is important that each department take note to a key change in the application process. FEMA has implemented the new FEMA GO (Grants Outcome) application for submission and management of all grants. It is important that all departments with current awards and anticipating applications in future awards take the time now to register in the new FEMA GO system as the legacy system will no longer be maintained for grant management. One key requirement is that the department must be registered in SAM before they will be allowed to register in FEMA GO. You must also have your SAMS and DUNNS number up to date. Do it now before the process starts.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee

First Item was from the United Communities VFC of Queen Anne's County which is a proposed Change to Article 5 of the Bylaws regarding staggered 3 year terms in office for the Secretary, Financial Secretary, and Treasurer. Primary reason for this change is to prevent the Association from losing a large amount of institutional knowledge in a single election. Following discussion, the committee recommends that the Executive Committee approve the proposed change.

Second item was from the Sudlersville VFC which mirrors the proposal from last year regarding removing the Recruitment and Retention Committee from the Standing Committees of the Association. The Committee also recommends approval of this item.

Third item was a Request from the Presidents to the Committee to develop an enhanced policy regarding Discrimination and Harassment. Those present discussed this at length and Dr. Biddle provided copies of the Anti-Discrimination policy that he prepared for the Glenn Dale Fire Association. The committee felt that this item needs a certain amount of work that will take more than one meeting to attain, but we will push forward to try to meet the required deadline in the Constitution and Bylaws regarding proposed changes.

Cancer Support Committee

The contents of the Cancer Support Bags were discussed at length and it was felt that an adjustment should be made to its contents. It was decided that there needs to have several items removed and that some items will

need to be purchased for future bags. It was further determined that Red Colored bags would be for men and Green colored bags would be for women. Children's Bags will continue to be in the Backpacks and available from Cynthia Wright-Johnson

Cynthia Wright-Johnson brought up the idea of customizing the wipes with a MSFA/LAMSFA logo of Hope. After discussion a Motion was made by Darby Byrd and Seconded by Rosa Maher to spend up to \$3,000.00 for 4 imprint logo wipes @ \$.99 to go into Cancer Bags and to distribute at Cancer Walk as well as the MSFA Cancer table at the 2020 MSFA Convention. MOTION PASSED

The 2020 Cancer Walk on Sunday, April 26, 2020 in Annapolis, Maryland

1) Pre-Registration for an individual walker will be \$30 and they are entitled to either a shirt or Challenge Coin. Children (age 5-12) will be \$15 and will be entitled to either a shirt or Challenge Coin.

2) Late Registrations are classified as after the printed deadline and will be charged \$35 and will NOT be guaranteed a shirt until the conclusion of the walk but will be allowed to opt for the 5th Annual Challenge Coin.

Secretary Office

Chairman Blackiston and members of the Executive Committee the time of year has come again for the member companies to submit their 2020 Credentials. Please remind the companies in your area that when they have completed their election of officers, they should submit their credentials by going on the MSFA web page and completing the form. This year, as in the past years, we asked for the Total Number of

Responding Volunteers and Non Responding Volunteers, along with a list of their officers, delegates and alternates, including their e-mail addresses.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Executive Committee, the Office of the Secretary received an Application for Membership from Calvert County Rescue Dive Team, 755 Solomons Island Road, Prince Frederick, MD. The application was turned over to Chairman Kenneth Bush of the Standards Committee. The Committee met with members of Calvert County Rescue Dive Team and completed their inspection on December 4, 2019. Chairman Bush advised that the committee has no objection to the approval of membership. It was recommended that the Executive Committee approve the membership of the Calvert County Rescue Dive team.

Mr. Chairman at the last Executive Committee in September, copies of the 2019 – 2020 Directory were passed out. If there is a need for any corrections, please let me know.

MIEMSS

The Medicare Emergency Triage, Treat & Transport (ET3) Program. In February 2019, the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation announced a new five-year program, the "Emergency Triage, Treat & Transport ("ET3") Program," to reimburse EMS for Medicare Fee for-Service (FFS) patients when those patients are treated in place or transported to an alternative destination. Under ET3, Medicare fee-for-service reimbursement will cover instances where a low-acuity Medicare patient calls 9-1-1 and: • EMS transports the low-acuity patient to an alternative destination, such as an urgent care clinic or doctor's office. Medicare has indicated that ambulance payment for these



transports will be at a rate equivalent to the Medicare Part B ambulance fee schedule base rate for basic life support (BLS) ground ambulance in addition to mileage and any other applicable add-on or adjustment to the BLS rate. OR

- An EMS team responds and includes a qualified health care practitioner that treats the low acuity patient on either scene or using telehealth. A qualified health care practitioner is a Medicare-enrolled health care practitioner who meets state, local, and professional requirements to render particular health care services to beneficiaries, e.g., a physician or nurse practitioner, who partners individually or through their group practice with a participant to render services through the ET3 Model.

Mobile Integrated Health is not eligible for inclusion in the current ET3 model. Traditional Medicare reimbursement for ambulance transports to hospital emergency departments and other currently permitted destinations are not impacted by the ET3 program.

In order to participate in the ET3 program, ambulance providers and suppliers must apply and be approved by Medicare to participate in the program. Five (5) Maryland EMS jurisdictions applied to participate in ET3. The anticipated performance period for the ET3 program will start in Spring 2020 and end December 31, 2024.

The best way to stay up to date on the latest ET3 Model news and updates is by subscribing to the ET3 Model listserv. Initial CRT Licenses. MIEMSS is reminding the EMS community that after December 31, 2019, Maryland will no longer license new Cardiac Rescue Technician (CRT) candidates who are

seeking an initial CRT license, since the NREMT will no longer offer examinations at the I/99 level. Testing at the I/99 level must be completed by December 31, 2019, as retest opportunities will not be available to candidates beyond this date. They WILL continue to recert the CRT's that we have now.

eLicensure System. MIEMSS is working to enhance functionality in the eLicensure's public portal. This will include functionality that will allow EMS systems administrators to access the public portal to retrieve data, including provider license or certification status, issue and expiration dates, and continuing education credits that will assist with staffing, and other critical decisions during daily operations. The eLicensure Statewide Steering Committee continues to meet quarterly to develop recommendations for modifications and improvements to the new system.

eMEDS®/CRISP Integration. As of January 1, 2019, MIEMSS has completed the technical work and pilot testing of the integration between eMEChesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients (CRISP), Maryland's designated health information exchange. This integration includes a data linkage between participating jurisdictional EMS operational programs and CRISP, automatically uploading 138 data elements directly from 3 eMEDS® to CRISP. This data, which is available in the CRISP Provider Portal, is designed to provide clinical EMS treatment DS® and the data to in-hospital and community healthcare partners to better streamline

a patient's care across the entire healthcare system. Additionally, this program allows jurisdictional QA officers and medical directors from public safety EMS operational programs to access the CRISP Provider Portal for quality assurance and mobile integrated health purposes. As of December 1, 2019, all EMS jurisdictions are participating except Anne Arundel, Cecil, and Prince George's Counties. The program is open to all of Maryland's public safety EMS operational programs and MIEMSS has set a goal that all jurisdictional EMS operational programs will be participating by the end of calendar year 2019. MIEMSS and CRISP are working together to develop a feed of all NEMESIS required national and recommended state elements from eMEDS® to CRISP to further develop this project.

eMEDS® / ESSENCE Integration. MIEMSS is working with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to develop a near real-time data exchange between the State of Maryland's EMS electronic patient care report (eMEDS) and the Maryland Department of Health surveillance system. This linkage will allow for EMS data to be utilized by MDH for the early identification of intentional or natural emerging infectious disease outbreak(s), providing for expedient public health threat and risk assessment for situational awareness, and ensuring prompt applications of public health interventions in the event of a public health emergency. Additionally, MIEMSS will partner with alth's syndromic MDH to engage in the development of an EMS data module

within the State's syndromic surveillance system. The Regional Programs and Data Management departments have worked with MDH to conduct analysis on historic data and are working on development of the EMS syndromic surveillance module for ESSENCE.

Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program (VAIP). The Statewide VAIP workgroup has reconvened to conduct a thorough review and update of the VAIP standards in an effort to allow more jurisdictional EMS operational programs to participate. The workgroup conducted a virtual meeting to finalize the 2019 VAIP standards on September 12, 2019. A draft document will be reviewed by the EMS Board and SEMSAC during their upcoming meetings.

Other Notes From Meeting

Statewide Recruitment Day on April 19, 2020, and the need to keep costs as low as possible.

National and Maryland traffic incident management and use of approved ANSI/ISEA Class 3 reflective breakaway traffic safety vests as the outermost garment worn at all highway/roadway incidents was issued and discussed. The MD - SHA does want ALL ACTIVE FIRST RESPONDERS trained in Traffic Incident Management as soon as possible. This training can be done by any of the over 300 TIM Instructors throughout Maryland.

An updated MSFA-P.2.2 has been prepared and sent out in to each County Points Coordinator along with a cover letter announcing the next \$250.00 increase bringing the deduction to \$5,000.00 for 2019.



We also included a letter the Points Coordinators can send to each company with the rules on how to determine qualifying members. A copy of all letters sent out were copied to the Director for the Executive Committee.

Each subsequent year an updated form increasing the amount will be distributed in the same manner until we reach the current limit of \$7,000.00 in 2022

VCAF Funding- President Faust, Vice President Walker, Vice President McCrea, Executive Director Tomanelli, and Legislative Chair Roth met with David R. Brinkley Secretary of Budget and Management regarding several issues including turning back on the funding source for VCAF. As anticipated, those funds are currently being directed to fund other items in the State. We expressed to him our need of the funds but left the meeting without any final resolution. We didn't expect him to be able to do anything currently, but he is aware of our needs. Vice Presidents Walker and McCrea will continue to pursue this during their terms.

Dues are due April 1st and paperwork will be sent out to companies.

If every department would sell or buy their raffle tickets, this would increase the budget by \$50,000.00. Make your reservation for the convention NOW rates maybe higher than you usually pay as we are a week later. Air show will not interfere with us this year.

DNR – Chris Robison is the new state fire supervisor for Maryland DNR Forrest Service.

NVFC and MSFA are watching the NFPA on recertification of Firefighters as being

proposed in the NFPA Standard review this year coming.

March 14th class on Taking Care of our Own – location will be on the Eastern Shore.

WMRTC – start work in July and take 15-18 months.

OSFM will be putting in a bill to enforce the residential sprinkler law on 1 and 2 family dwellings

Memorial Foundation is looking for a photo of ALL of the LODD. If you have one check with me, I have photos of the ones we need.

MSFA Tags – this is a work in progress. They have made it through all the paperwork that they have and sent it to MD DMV. They have ordered a large amount of tags to get this project completed. Ron and Rod have new form, and this looks to me like it works much better.

Volunteer Company Assistance Fund—Barbara Knippenburg

Barbara Knippenburg reported that Next meeting is February 23, 2020. Location TBD. New application deadline is February 9, 2020 at 11:59 PM. There is a new procedure for submitting an application to VCAF. You must submit the completed necessary documents to your VCAF representative. If they are complete, the online application will be available for you to complete your application. Please contact Barbara if you are interested in submitting an application. If you have received a grant or loan from VCAF in the past, please write a letter to your legislators supporting increasing this fund.

Garrett County Association will meet January 29th at Bittinger at 1930.

Fellowship of Christian Firefighters—A. Mike Walters Chapter—Secretary Mary Carr reported that they

met on January 4, 2020 at Potomac Fire Company with 25 in attendance. New officers were elected and sworn in. **Fire Chaplains – Jim McKenzie** - Chaplains Training - March 21, 22 in Salisbury MD

Smoke Alarms—Gary Carpenter reported

LODD Memorial Committee - Gary Carpenter reported bricks are still available.

Convention—Dennis Bonner reported that there would be a convention meeting on January 16th at Bowman's Addition 1800 hours.

Fire Prevention & Education Donna Struntz reported that Fire Prevention Committee still looking for a candidate for Jr. Vice President.

Insurance & Benefits— John Shuhart reported that Relief Fund lists passed out today. The rate is \$6.50 per member. Please make corrections to the list and return the list, check, and any new beneficiary cards to the Secretary by February 15, 2020. Kitzmiller and Accident still have not paid supplemental accident insurance.

Past Presidents—Gene Kidwell reported that the Past Presidents will be meeting in February. Date and place to be announced.

Recruitment & Retention, Jonathan Dayton – The Recruitment, Retention and Reaching the Next Generation Committee held a food drive for the monthly December meeting. Everyone who attended the meeting held at Potomac Volunteer Fire Company, Westernport, MD, was asked to bring a food item or a pet food item for the Allegany County Animal Shelter. The committee received enough food for three different baskets.

They then took anonymous nominations from local volunteer fire departments for members who may be in need of a little help of the Christmas Season. They received three different nominations two from Allegany County and one from Garrett County. All three baskets were delivered by the committee chairman Jonathan Dayton one week prior to Christmas. Two baskets were also stocked with a Martin's Gift Card for additional food items. The gift cards were supplied by the food collection held by Potomac Volunteer Fire Company. Thank you Potomac for the donation. The pet food which totaled in excess of two laundry baskets was donated to the Animal Shelter.

Residential Sprinkler Systems-

Tim Dayton reported on the status of Residential Sprinkler Systems in new construction in Allegany County. The Association voted go on record to support Residential Sprinkler Requirements in Allegany County. Allegany County is still one of a few counties that offer a tax incentive to install sprinklers in new construction.

Good of the Association: US Census Bureau Chris Fairall – Would like to reach out to Fire Service to help count people. The more accurate the count the more help you will get from Federal Grants. Would like to participate in any event that your company has to get the information out to the public. Would like to hire people to gather information 18.50 per hour plus mileage. Chris's phone: 703-397-7653

With company award banquets happening now, be sure to submit your award winners to the Association Awards Committee as well as MSFA Awards. Lets recognize these volunteers for their hard work.



MIEMSS Region I Update January 2020

Cardiac Devices Grant (formerly 50/50 matching grant)

All Region I Grant requests were funded in first round. Grant agreements have been sent out please return the signed agreements to the Region I office ASAP.

Allegany County DES: 2 LP15's 2 AED's

Lavale Rescue Squad: 1 AED

Cresaptown VFD: 4 AED's

Garrett County Emergency Services: 1 LP15

Bloomington VFD: 1 AED

Eastern Garrett VFRD: 1 LP15

Southern Garrett Rescue: 1 AED

MIEMSS Region I and II Associate Regional Administrator

Dwayne Kitis will now serve as the Regional Administrator for both regions I & II. In his expanded role, Dwayne will serve as the agency's representative to Garrett, Allegany, Frederick, and Washington Counties. Additionally, we intend to hire one Associate Regional Administrator in the near future to assist Dwayne and Diane in providing coverage to these four counties.

UPDATE: Alex Kelly Named Region I & II Associate Administrator. Alex comes to us with many years of EMS experience including years of volunteer service with the Frostburg Area Ambulance Service, Commercial experience with Allegany Ambulance. He retired as a Sergeant after 22 years with the Maryland State Police most of which was in the Aviation Command including Section Supervisor of Trooper 5. Alex will be based out of the Frostburg office and we both will be sharing duties in both regions. His contact information is below, please join me in welcoming him!

Pediatric High Performance CPR Rollout

The protocol for HPCPR for pediatric patients is now in new protocols. Classes with high fidelity infant mannequins is available through the Regional Office with 2 hours of continuing education credits.

Voluntary Ambulance Inspection Program (VAIP). The Statewide VAIP workgroup has reconvened to conduct a thorough review and update of the VAIP standards in an effort to allow more jurisdictional EMS operational programs to participate. The workgroup is conducting a virtual meeting to finalize the 2019 VAIP standards on September 12, 2019 at 9:00 AM. **UPDATE:** VAIP Booklet Finalized sent to EMS Board for Approval.

Upcoming events

Region I EMS Council –April 16th location Allegany County Emergency Services, Frostburg

Miltenberger 2020 March 13-14th Rocky Gap

Region I Office: 301-895-5934

Dwayne Kitis cell: 410-350-1368, email: dkitis@miemss.org

Alex Kelly cell: 443-562-1364, email: akelly@miemss.org

Kenneth “Pete” May, a lifelong leader in volunteer service who served as the president of the LaVale Volunteer Rescue Squad for nearly 40 years, died Monday. He was 91.

“We lost an extraordinary man today,” James Pyles, director of the Allegany County Department of Emergency Services, said. “Ken May’s commitment to the emergency services community is unmatched.” Diane Shoemaker, who succeeded May as president of the LaVale Rescue Squad several years ago, said May was “like a father to me.”

Shoemaker said she was present when May joined LaVale Rescue in 1978.

“Ken did so many things. It’s hard to narrow them down to just a few,” Shoemaker, a retired nurse and former paramedic who began her volunteer service more than 40 years ago with the American Red Cross, said. “He served his country in more ways than one. He always offered a helping hand no matter what the need was.”

May was the first of three generations of his family to serve with the LaVale Rescue Squad, which observed its 50th anniversary in 2018. He was a member of the LaVale Volunteer Fire Department before he began volunteering at the rescue squad.

Ken and his service will be missed by many companies in Western Maryland.



Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute
University of Maryland
Western Maryland Regional Training Center
Post Office Box 5153
13928 Hazmat Drive
Cresaptown, MD 21502-5153

Class Update in Allegany / Garrett County (note: may not reflect entire schedule)

Report Date: January 2, 2020

Class	Log Number	Location	Start Date	Days	# Students	Status
EMT	-	GCCTTC	8/19/19	M/W/Sun	14	Active
EMT	-	WMRTC	8/20/19	T/Sat	19	Active
Firefighter I	-	WMRTC	9/15/19	W/Sun	17	Completed
EMT Refresher	-	WMRTC	12/7/19	Sat/Sun	11	Completed
Health and Safety Officer	-	WMRTC	1/5/20	Sun	(8)	Canceled
*EMT Pilot	EMS-101-S005-2020	WMRTC	1/13/20	M/W/Sat	(8)	Open
Fire Officer III	-	Grantsville	1/20/20	M/W	(2)	Canceled
*Firefighter I	FIRE-101-S051-2020	WMRTC	1/21/20	T/Th	(10)	Open
*Haz Mat Ops	HM-102-S059-2020	Deep Creek	1/21/20	T/Th	(5)	Open
ICS-300	MGMT-263-S010-2020	Cresaptown	2/1/20	Sat	(29)	Full / Active
*Instructor I	MGMT-110-S025-2020	WMRTC	2/3/20	M/Th	(10)	Open
ICS-400	MGMT-264-S010-2020	Cresaptown	2/29/20	Sat	(30)	Full / Active
*Haz Mat Ops	HM-102-S048-2020	WMRTC	3/2/20	M/W	(1)	Open
*EMR	EMS-105-S015-2020	Deep Creek	3/3/20	T/Th	(1)	Open
Rope Rescue	RES-205-S004-2020	Shaft	3/8/20	Sun	(20)	Open / Active
*Instructor I	MGMT-210-S012-2020	WMRTC	3/23/20	M/Th	(6)	Open

Notes:

- Numbers in parentheses indicate total preregistered students
- *red color, bold, and italicized font indicates additional enrollment needed for class to start
- OOS represents students from out of state



IN MEMORY



Donald D. Lantz, District 16

Kenneth "Pete" May, LaVale Rescue Squad

Edward K Beard, Bloomington Vol Fire Co

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27

Eastern Garrett Co. V.F.R.D.

Spaghetti Dinners

2nd Saturday each month

3:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Adults: \$7.00

Children: \$3.50

Turkey Dinners

4th Sunday of:

March

April

September

Midland Fire Company

Chicken Dinner

Friday, September 20th

1600—1830 hours

Adults—\$9

Children—\$5

Includes: 1/2 chicken, fries or mashed potatoes w/gravy, green beans, coleslaw, roll, desert

Ellerslie/LaVale VFDs

Annual Bash

Saturday, March 14, 2020

Held at LaVale Station I

Doors Open at 11:30

\$25 Donation

Early Bird Drawing 12:00

Wayne's Meats Package

Bowman's Addition Vol Fire Co

&

Cumberland Raiders Roller Hockey

CASH BASH

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Doors open at 1230

Tickets: \$20 Donation

Goodwill Fire Company

February 2020 Drawings

Winners based on MD Evening Pick

3 Lotto

Donation \$10

Midland Firemen's Tavern

WINGS Wednesdays

Deer Park Fire Department

SPORTSMAN'S RAFFLE

January 24, 2020

Donation \$2 or 6 for \$10

See members for tickets

Barton Ladies

Auxiliary

Public Dinners

2nd Tuesday of the month

From 3:00 pm to 6:30

Cook books for sale call

301-697-0923

Friendsville Volunteer

Fire & Rescue Department

Spring Gun Bash

Saturday, February 29, 2020

1130 hours

See members for tickets

Spaghetti Dinner

Good Will Fire

Company

First Friday of

each month

4pm-6pm

Fireman's Armory

in Lonaconing





The Bulletin

Official publication of the
Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and
Rescue Association

PO Box 935 Frostburg, MD 21532

Editor

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**Getting to the call safely is
the most important job you
have!
Buckle up!
Remember
Everyone Goes Home!**

Fire Safety during Winter Storms

Winter storms can happen almost anywhere. They can cause us problems. Know what to do before, during and after a storm. This will help keep you and your family safe from a winter fire. • Test all smoke alarms. Do this at least once a month. This way you will know they are working. Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home. Test the alarms. • Plan two ways out of the home in case of an emergency. Clear driveway and front walk of ice and snow. This will provide easy access to your home. • Make sure your house number can be seen from the street. If you need help, firefighters will be able to find you. • Be ready in case the power goes out. Have flashlights on hand. Also have battery-powered lighting and fresh batteries. Never use candles. • Stay aware of winter weather. Listen to the television or radio for updates. Watch for bulletins online. • Check on neighbors. Check on others who may need help. • Generators should be used outdoors. Keep them away from windows and doors. Do not run a generator inside your garage, even if the door is open. • Stay away from downed wires. Report any downed wires to authorities. • Be ready if the heat stops working. Use extra layers of clothes and blankets to stay warm. If you use an emergency heat source, keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away. • Turn portable heaters off when you leave the room. Turn them off when you go to bed. Important reminder there is more home fires in winter than in any other season. Half of all home heating fires happen in December, January and February. As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, be fire smart!

Frostburg, MD 21532

17608 Old Dans Rock Road

and Rescue Association

Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire

Barbara Knippenburg, Editor