



The Bulletin

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

Volume XVIII Issue 4

Barbara A. Knippenburg, Editor

February 2023

Midland Hosts

Allegany and Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association Meeting

The February Meeting of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association was held Sunday, February 5, 2023 at Midland. Vice President Jonathan Dayton called the meeting to order. The Association was welcomed to

by Craig Alexandeer, Treasurer of Midland Fire Company. Twelve companies were in attendance and eight past presidents. Guests included: Eric Smothers, 1st VP MSFA, Mark Bilger, Miemss., and Nicole Stottlemeyer, R&R, MSFA

Partner Agencies

MIEMSS—Mark Bilger: Upcoming Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar March 8—11, 2023 being held at the Wisp.

MSFA—Eric Smothers 1st VP : NAME CHANGE TOWN HALL DATES & LOCATIONS: Please see the attached agenda. Saturday, February 18th Branchville VFD 10am – 12pm Sunday, February 19th Washington County Training Ctr 10am – 12pm Monday, February 27th Huntingtown VFD 1800 – 2000

MSFA Tag Reminder: ALL required signatures and owner/vehicle information MUST be on the tag application form. Please do not send in copies of the vehicle registration. If you are a county coordinator, please make sure the application is filled out in its entirety and that the appropriate fee is included. Incomplete applications are

being mailed back for corrections.

2022 Tax Forms Now Available: For the newest tax subtraction form, letter from the Incentives

Committee Chair Rick Hemphill, and tax rules for 2022, please visit: <https://www.msfa.org/packages/tax-incentive-documents/>

SAVE THE DATES: **March 8-11, 2023** Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar **March 12-17, 2023** Staff And Command Course; Annapolis, MD. Register at www.mfri.org. **March 25, 2023** Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Seminar; MFRI HQ College Park **March 30-31, 2023** 1st Responder Conference on Mental Health and Wellness; Ocean City

MSFA 2nd Vice President Candidate Position for 2023 Now Open: If you or someone you know is interested in running for



the Office of 2nd Vice President of the MSFA in 2023, please submit a formal interest letter to the Office of the Secretary.

-Submissions of department credential forms began on January 1st at <https://convention.msfa.org/registration/department-credentials/>

-Check out the available awards that you can nominate your members for at <https://www.msfa.org/awards/> Awards are presented at the Convention in June.

Dues Notice: Financial Secretary Mitch Vocke has mailed all departments their dues invoice as of December 31. Reminders will be sent on February 14th. If you have not received your dues invoice, please contact Mitch at wmvocke1@gmail.com

MSFA Executive Committee—Tim Dayton: Voting at Convention will be at Convention Hall.

Important Reminder...

There are 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!



FACT: Nearly half of all space heater fires involve electric space heaters.

Upcoming Meetings:

- ♦ **Maryland State Firemens Association Executive Committee**— April 1-2, 2023 Flintstone VFD
- **A. Mike Walters Prayer Breakfast**—
- **AGCVFRA - April 16, 2023, Mt Savage, 1400 Hrs**
- **LA AGCVFRA**—
- **Garrett County Fire Rescue Association—March 29th, 1930**



Upcoming Executive Committee meetings: April 1-2, 2023 Flintstone

MSFA Volunteer Company Assistance Fund—Barbara Knippenburg: Here is the VCAF committee's timeline for this application period:

01 December 2022 – Open the VCAF application period

12 February 2023 – Last day to open a new online VCAF application

01 March 2023 – Last day to complete and submit opened online VCAF applications

02 March 2023 – Assign applications to the VCAF committee for review and scoring 12 March – In person VCAF meeting (Location TBD)

01 April 2023 – MSFA Executive Committee meeting (Flintstone VFD)

Contact Barbara if you are interested in submitting an application for equipment or apparatus.

Email:

barbarak3@comcast.net or 301-268-3793

Recruitment & Retention—Nicole Stottlmyer—Membership Program rolling out this spring.

Training—Jonathan Dayton: Garrett County is developing a Cadet Program in their schools. Fall 2024—EMT, Rall 2025—Fire

Fire Police—Gary Carpenter—one call in Frostburg.

Garrett County Association—Next meeting March 29th, at Grantsville, 1930 hours

Fellowship of Christian Firefighters met at Rock of Ages Restaurant on March 4th

Safety Tim Dayton Responder Safety course on line. MFRI has a Traffic Incident Control course available—Sign Board Truck has been requested from SHA for interstate calls, but, we have been denied.

LODD—Gary Carpenter: working on replacing flags and ropes at memorial.

Fire Chaplains: Will have their annual Convention in Maryland in 2026.

Patricia Bowser Scholarship Committee—Rod Bowser: Now is the time to apply for a scholarship—Applications and requirements are on AGCVFRA website. Multiple Scholarships available for high school students as well as non-traditional students.

History & Archives – Collecting information on Older Firefighters – oral history



Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute

University of Maryland

Western Maryland Regional Training Center

Post Office Box 5153

| Class | Log Number | Location | Start Date | Days | # Students | Status |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| Firefighter I | - | GC EOC | 8/23/22 | T/Sun | 21 | Completed |
| EMT | - | Cresap-town | 9/22/22 | Th/Sat | 29 | Active |
| HM Ops | HM-102-S015-2023 | Shaft | TBD | 2/23/23 | (21) | Open |
| EMT Skills | - | Cresap-town | 11/28/22 | M/W | 5 | Completed |
| EVO | - | Shaft | 1/8/23 | Sun | 18 | Completed |
| Instructor I | - | GCCTTC | 1/9/23 | M/W | 5 | Active |
| EMT | - | GCCTTC | 1/23/23 | M/W/Sat*** | 14 | Active |
| Firefighter I | - | Shaft | 1/26/23 | Th/Sat | 21 | Active |
| *EMT Refresher | EMS-203-S048-2023 | GCCTTC | 2/18/23 | Sat/Sun | (7) | Open |
| Instructor II | MGMT-220-S015-2023 | GCCTTC | 2/20/23 | M/W | (5) | Open / Active |
| *Site Ops | RES-101-S034-2023 | Bedford Road | 3/4/23 | T/Sat | (11) | Open |
| *Engine Co Ops | FIRE-207-S001-2023 | Deep Creek | 3/5/23 | Sun | (6) | Open |
| *EMT Skills | EMS-202-S027-2023 | Cresap-town | 3/20/23 | M/Th | (0) | Open |
| Rope Rescue | RES-205-S009-2023 | Bedford Road | 4/1/23 | Sat/Sun | (22) | Open |
| EMT | EMS-106-S042-2023 | Cresap-town | 4/5/23 | W/Sun | (12) | Open |
| *EMT Refresher | EMS-203-S049-2023 | Cresap-town | 4/15/23 | Sat | (4) | Open |
| VME | RES-210-S025-2023 | GC EOC | 4/16/23 | Sun | (16) | Open |
| *Pump Operator | FIRE-113-S020-2023 | GC EOC | 4/17/23 | M/W | (5) | Open |
| *HM Ops | HM-102-S013-2023 | GC EOC | 4/29/23 | Sat | (10) | Open |

Additional Information

Renovation is progressing well and final completion is set for end of March.

Potential for new EMT program in Garrett for high school students. *

Remember that classes will be centralized starting in the spring semester.

Garrett County – all classes at either EOC or GCCTTC
Allegany – all classes will be at WMRTC once reopened



IN MEMORY

Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association



*Floyd Mallow,
James Rethann
Richard Fetters
Sam Glenn
Virginia Jillander
Helen Blank
Don Reid*

*Baltimore Pike VFD
Grantsville VFD
Ellerslie VFD
Cresaptown VFD
LaVale Auxiliary
Mt. Savage Auxiliary
Cresaptown VFD*

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

Midland Fire Company Spring Gun Bash

April 15, 2023

1—6

Tickets \$25

Barton Ladies

Auxiliary

Public Dinners

2nd Tuesday of the month

From 3:00 pm to 6:30

Good Will Ladies Auxiliary Hot Roast Beef Sandwich Dinner

Sunday, March 5, 2023

Noon-5 (or sold out)

Eat in or take out

Adults \$12 Child \$6

Friendsville Volunteer Fire & Rescue Dept.

2021 Spring Bash

February 27, 2021

Doors Open at 11:00

Bedford Road VFD

Late Night Bingo

Friday, April 14th

Doors open at 830PM

Quickie 930 PM

Bingo 1130 PM

\$6000 in payouts

Tickets \$50

Free Breakfast included

Tickets purchased before
April 7th will receive a free 9
pack

Goodwill Fire Company

Spaghetti Dinner

First Friday of month

Bowling Green VFD

Bingo

Every Friday doors open at 5

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

Midland Fire Company

Fish or Chicken Dinner

Every Friday during Lent

Beginning Friday, February 24, 2023

~Eat in or carry out ~

1600—1830 hours

Adults—\$12

Child—\$7

Includes: Fish or 1/2 chicken , and choice
of two sides: fries, Mac and cheese, stewed
tomatoes, coleslaw,

Roll and desert

Barton Hose Company

BINGO

Wednesdays

Doors open at five

Flintstone VFC

Ladies Auxiliary

Hoagie Sale

Last Tuesday of each month

Bowman's Addition VFC

CASH BASH

Saturday, March 18, 2023

Doors open at 12:30

Donation \$20

Food and Drinks during the
event

Midland Firemen's Tavern

WINGS Wednesdays

starting at 1700 hours.



The Bulletin

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**Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and
Rescue Association**

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Check us out:

Facebook: Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Res-
cue Association

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Twitter: @AGCVFRA

E-mail: agcvfra@gmail.com

**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.

NFPA

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