



The Bulletin

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

Volume XVIII Issue 2

Barbara A. Knippenburg, Editor

October 2022

Baltimore Pike Hosts

Allegany and Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association Annual Meeting

The October Meeting of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association was held Sunday, October 9, 2022 at Baltimore Pike. Vice President Jonathan Dayton called the meeting to order and welcomed the Association to

Baltimore Pike. Eleven companies were in attendance and six past president. Guests included: Georgann Shuhart, Treasurer LAA-GCVFRA, Jim Schell, MFRI, Janet Heavner, candidate for Board of Education, Heather Miltenberger,

UPMC Diabetes Prevention Program, Delegate Mike McKay, Mark Bilger, MIEMSS, Nicole Stottlemeyer, MSFA regional coordinator, Amanda Jones – LAAGCVFRA President.

Partner Agencies

MSFA: SAFER Grant Contractor Job Announcements: There are two immediate contractor positions now available through the MSFA SAFER grant. The job announcements are attached to this report.

-Northern Maryland Regional Recruitment and Retention Coordinator for Kent, Harford, Cecil, Baltimore Carroll counties

-Social Media/Community-Focused Marketing Manager

MSFA Name Change: President Kurtz will be scheduling regional open forums over the next few months at locations TBD to address the name change and allow members to voice their opinions and concerns. County association leadership and voting delegates that attend the convention in Ocean City are strongly urged to attend. More information to follow.

-The name change survey has been disseminated by

Taskforce Chair Teresa Crisman and will be available until October 15th. It asks several questions regarding the proposed name changes and why the proposals failed. We ask that those who receive the survey to reply in a timely manner as we continue discussions on how we move forward into 2023. The Taskforce is working diligently to collect the survey data and the feedback generated by the membership.

-To be clear, and taking into account the sensitivity and importance of this initiative, it is important to allow the taskforce to complete its work. President Kurtz asks that member Departments and Associations be patient with the process and not create negativity around what should be a positive endeavor.

-As a reminder, President Kurtz has asked that **NO NAME CHANGE PROPOSALS BE SUBMITTED** until after January 1, 2023.

MSFA Mentorship Program Rollout: The MSFA Recruitment and Retention Committee and all County Recruitment and Retention Coordinators will be invited to attend Phase One of the rollout of the newly-created statewide, SAFER-funded Mentorship Program. This training will be held at MFRI College Park on Saturday, November 5th from 10am-2pm. Invitations to attend will be sent via email this coming Monday. Once this phase of the training is complete, the MSFA SAFER Regional Coordinators, R and R committee, and county recruiters will begin scheduling local training in their designated regions. We hope to complete a full roll-out to all departments by June 2023. **Mental Health Training:** If your department would like to host a mental health awareness presentation, please reach out to Teresa Crisman at tacrisman@hotmail.com or PP Dave Lewis at dlewis533@comcast.net for content that is appropriate for your members.

AUTUMN SAFETY TIPS

- Service Your Furnace -
- Use Fireplaces Safely
- Use Caution with Space Heaters -
- Reconsider Leaf Burning -
- Exercise Candle Caution
- Change Smoke Alarm Batteries.

Autumn Home Maintenance Safety Tips

Fall is the time for yard clean-ups and readying your house for the cold winter ahead.

- Look Up Before Pruning Trees -
- Use Caution on Ladders -
- Clean Up Fallen Leaves -



Upcoming Meetings:

- **Maryland State Firemens Association Executive Committee—December 3—4 Showell**
- **A. Mike Walters Prayer Breakfast— December 10, Rock of Ages Restaurant, time TBD**
- **AGCVFRA - December 11, Orleans, 1400 Hrs**
- **LA AGCVFRA—**
- **Garrett County Fire Rescue Association— November 30th, Eastern Garrett, 1930**



988: Please be aware and spread the word regarding the recent launch of the Maryland Department of Health National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline; 988. For more information visit:
<https://health.maryland.gov/newsroom/Pages/Maryland-Department-of-Health-launches-988,-the-new-National-Suicide-&-Crisis-Lifeline.aspx>

Upcoming Executive Committee meetings:

December 3-4, 2022 Showell VFC

February 11-12, 2023 Prince Frederick VFD

April 1-2, 2023 Flintstone VFD

MSFA – Executive Committee - Tim Dayton – Distributed \$10,000 Raffle tickets to companies.

MSFA Volunteer Company Assistance Fund—Barbara Knippenburg: The current VCAF application period will be as follows:

- 01 September 2022 – Open the VCAF application period
- 14 October 2022 – Last day to open a new online VCAF application
- 30 October 2022 – Last day to finalize and submit open applications
- 13 November 2022 – VCAF meeting (location TBD)
- 03 December 2022 – MSFA Executive Committee meeting at the Showell VFC

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

Email:

barbarak3@comcast.net or 301-268-3793

Safety—Gene Kidwell— A number of Maryland laws changed or went into effect on October 1st. Most important was the expansion of the “move over” law, which requires motorists to shift lanes or slow down when approaching any vehicle pulled off to the side of the road with blinkers on. Previously, the law only required motorists to shift lanes or slow down for emergency vehicles like police cars, ambulances, fire apparatus, and tow trucks. Violators will face fines up to \$110 and a point on their license. If the driver causes a crash, the fine increases to \$150 and three points are added to their license. It’s a \$750 fine in the event of a crash that leads to a serious injury or death.

Smoke Alarm – Have a few left. Have contacted the Red Cross for more. They need to have the address where smoke alarms were placed.

Insurance & Benefits - John Shuhart reported that benefits were paid for four deceased members.

Garrett County Association- Next meeting November 30th Eastern Garrett, 1930 hours

Fellowship of Christian Firefighters met at Rock of Ages Restaurant. Their next meeting will be in December at the same location.

MIEMSS Region I Update Winterfest/Milttenberger Seminar 2022

Milttenberger Seminar has partnered with Winterfest and

have placed numerous classes online for EMS clinicians continuing education credits. The sessions will be online until the end of the year. Please visit the MIEMSS online training center to participate in the online seminar.
<http://www.emsonlinetraining.org/>

EMT Education Stipend Program

MIEMSS is supporting a \$2,000 stipend for new EMT students starting after January 1st. For more information go to <http://www.miemss.org/home/EMS-Clinicians/EMT-Stipend-Program>.

Be sure to get your flu shot and your COVID Booster shot.



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: October 6, 2022

Class	Log Number	Location	Start Date	Days	# Students	Status
EVO	-	Bittinger	8/7/22	Sun	12	Completed
Firefighter I	-	GC EOC	8/23/22	T/Sun	21	Active
Fire Officer I	-	Flintstone	9/11/22	Sun	13	Active
Firefighter II	-	Shaft	9/15/22	Th/Sat	20	Active
EMT	-	Cresaptown	9/22/22	Th/Sat	29	Active
EMT Refresher	-	Cresaptown	9/25/22	Sun	8	Completed
Fire Officer IV	-	Grantsville	9/28/22	M/W	8	Active
EMT Refresher	EMS-203-S006-2023	GCCTC	10/22/22	Sat/Sun	(8)	Open
*EVO	FIRE-130-S008-2023	LaVale Rescue	10/29/22	Sat	(10)	Open
*HM Ops	HM-102-S015-2023	Shaft	11/5/22	Sat	(10)	Open
*EMT Skills	EMS-202-S007-2023	Cresaptown	11/28/22	M/W	(3)	Open

Notes:

1. Numbers in parentheses indicate total preregistered students
2. *red color, bold, and italicized font indicates additional enrollment needed for class to start OR need an instructor
3. OOS represents students from out of state

**See entire schedule online at www.mfri.org

Additional Information

1. Renovation is progressing ahead of schedule. Possibly be complete by December of this year.
2. Spring 2023 Scheduling will be available online soon.



IN MEMORY

Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association



Joy Bible - District 16 Auxiliary

Robert Burt—Midland Fire Company

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

Barton Ladies

Auxiliary

Public Dinners

2nd Tuesday of the month

From 3:00 pm to 6:30

Corriganville/Wellersburg VFC

8th Annual Holiday Bash

December 3, 2022

12:00 –5:00 doors open at 11:00

Tickets include food and drinks

Tickets \$25 - see members for tickets

Bedford Road VFD

1st Annual Cash/ Gun Bash

Saturday, October 22

What is your company doing?

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

Fall Gun Bash

October 29, 2022

1—6

Tickets \$20

Bowling Green VFD

Bingo

Every Friday doors open at 5

Midland Fire Company

Chicken/Fish Dinner

October 21, 2022

1600 –1830 hours

Adults \$12

Includes:

Includes 1/2 chicken or 2 fish tails,
mashed potatoes w/gravy or fries,
green beans, coleslaw, roll, and
desert.

Barton Hose Company

BINGO

Wednesdays

Doors open at five

Flintstone VFC

Ladies Auxiliary

Hoagie Sale

Last Tuesday of each month

Goodwill Fire Company

Chicken BBQ

Oct 15th

Spaghetti Dinner

First Friday of month

Midland Firemen's Tavern

WINGS Wednesdays

starting at 1700 hours.



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Facebook: Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association

Web Page: www.agcvfra.net

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!**

Fall Safety Tips That Will Keep Your Family Safe This Season

- *Be Cautious of Back to School Traffic. ...*
- *Don't be Fooled by Falling Leaves. ...*
- *Get Your Fire Safety up to Speed. ...*
- *Avoid Slip and Falls From The Rain. ...*
- *Be Prepared For Unexpected Cold Weather. ...*
- *Wash Your Hands Constantly. ...*
- *Make Sure Your Batteries Are in Order.*
- *Practice Caution When Taking Your Kids Trick or Treating...*
- *Wear Something Reflective When Walking at Night...*

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and Rescue Association
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