

Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
 Booster Meeting March 15, 2009
 Marion Volunteer Fire Department PA

President Daniels called the group together for lunch. Assistant Chaplain James Wharry gave the blessing for the meal. Lunch was provided by the auxiliary and the fire company members. Jerry called the meeting back to order at 13:00 hours. He asked James for the invocation and Guy Flory to lead the group in the pledge to the flag. Jerry introduced Chief Houpt who gave a warm welcome. Jerry asked the kitchen crew to come out and thanked them for their hospitality. He then presented the complimentary \$100 check for expenses.

Introduction of Guests – Jerry introduced the fire prevention queens who were with us at the last meeting and became members of the CVVFA.

Secretary Worthington took roll call with 81 representatives and delegates being recorded in attendance.

| TITLE | NAME | OCT | BOARD | MARCH |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----|-------|-------|
| President | Jerry Daniels | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1st Vice President | Walter Robertson | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2nd Vice President | Greg Yost | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 3rd Vice President | Michael Sullivan | | | |
| 4th Vice President | Steven Haines | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Treasurer | George Dove | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Financial Secretary | Stephen McBee | | 1 | 1 |
| Recording Secretary | Gene Worthington | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Home Office Manager | Stephen Heefner | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Publicity Manager | Robert Timko | | | 1 |
| Chaplain | Charles Barnhart | | | |
| Assistant Chaplain | James Wharry | | 1 | 1 |
| Attorney | Howard Cohen | | 1 | |
| Pennsylvania Delegate | Charlie Myers | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Director, Pennsylvania (2009) | Rich Bruner | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Director, Pennsylvania (2010) | Gerald Holtry | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Director, Maryland (2009) | Wayne Baker | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Director, Maryland (2010) | Robert Cumberland | | 1 | 1 |
| Director, West Virginia (2009) | Rodney Kelley | | | |
| Director, West Virginia (2010) | Harry Alt | 1 | 1 | |
| Director, Delaware (2009) | Harry Balthis | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Director, Delaware (2010) | Steve Austin | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Director, Virginia (2009) | Larry Smallwood | | | |
| Director, Virginia (2010) | Allen Brennan | 1 | 1 | |
| Past President | Steve Flickinger | 1 | 1 | |
| | Totals | 16 | 20 | 17 |
| Past Presidents | | 10 | 11 | 9 |
| Maryland Fire Depts | | 8 | 0 | 7 |
| Delaware Fire Depts | | 6 | 0 | 10 |
| Virginia Fire Depts | | 6 | 0 | 2 |
| West Virginia Fire Depts | | 10 | 0 | 4 |
| Pennsylvania Fire Depts | | 25 | 0 | 32 |

Communications – Secretary Worthington read a card from the Fire Prevention Queens Erin and Bobbie, Dear Board of Directors, CVVFA, thank you so much for welcoming us into your organization. We really appreciate the opportunity to work with each of you. We love the vests too. It was great to meet you all and we look forward to working with you in the future. Thank you.

Gene then read from a letter from State Farm Insurance reference the transcribing equipment.

We received an application for a convention program book ad from the MSFA.

Motion to accept the minutes with any corrections of the Board meeting held in January as published on the web site by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Ray Street, no further discussion, voice vote taken, motion passed.

Officers reports –

President Daniels read from his written report. Fellow Officers, Members, and Guests, I welcome you to the March booster meeting here in South Marion, Pa. My thanks to the Marion Fire Department for hosting today's CVVFA meeting. Thank you to everyone for attending today's meeting. I have attended all my company's board of directors and regular business meetings. I attended all county association meetings as well as Fire Police meetings in the counties of Kent and New Castle. I attended the Delaware State Fire Police quarterly meeting held at the Delaware State Fire School in February. Also in February, I attended the Delaware Valley Fire Chiefs induction of new officers and presented a CVVFA resolution to one of their members. Once again, I'd like to thank the Marion VFD for hosting today's meeting. Have a safe trip home and I look forward to seeing you again in the near future. A complete copy of the President's itinerary was attached.

First Vice President Robertson presented his written report and commented from it. Mr. President, Fellow Officers, Members and Guests, I would like to thank the Marion VFC for hosting this booster meeting. I have attended my fire company's meetings and all other activities. Also, I have attended my county meeting as well as committee meetings. This year was really hard working on the Volunteer end of our county fire/rescue budget. I have attended all of my state meetings and state committees, and also taught a few EVOC classes. I hope that everyone has a safe trip back home.

Second Vice President Yost submitted a written report and spoke from it. Thanks to Marion for hosting the Board meeting today. My new duties as Chief of my department have taken a great deal of time. Therefore, I have not spent a lot of time on CVVFA. I have a couple of ideas for the training weekend in June, however nothing is firm yet. I have communicated with Bob Timko on the convention program ads but have not followed through yet. I look forward to seeing you in Hancock in May. If anyone is planning to stay overnight, please let me know, as we will come up with something to do.

Third Vice President Sullivan was absent.

Fourth Vice President Haines submitted a written report and spoke from it. President Jerry Daniels, Fellow Officers, Members, and Guests, Good afternoon and welcome to Marion for today's booster meeting. I would like to thank the Marion Fire Department for hosting this booster meeting. Since our Board of Directors meeting in January, I have attended my own company meetings and trainings and also, my county association meetings. Also, I have attended the meetings of the New Bloomfield Fire Company and their annual firemen's banquet. Hopefully, I will be able to attend the Presidents Council meeting next month. It all depends on my work, as we are going thru some changes and training. Good seeing everyone today, looking forward to seeing everybody at the next booster meeting to be held in Hancock, MD. Take care and everybody have a safe trip home.

Treasurer Dove presented his written report. Account balances are as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| CVVFA #4100840 death | 839.67 |
| General Account | 5480.29 |
| CVVFA HH bonds | 4000.00 |
| CVVFA #236 | 78711.24 |
| Net Worth | 89031.12 |

George thanked Marion for hosting the meeting. He also stated that he has attended his fire company meetings and functions. George welcomed all to the Apple Blossom parade. He then read from the written treasurer's report.

Financial Secretary McBee nothing to report.

Recording Secretary Worthington stated, Good afternoon, thanks to Marion for being our host today. The minutes of the Board meeting were transcribed and distributed through the email system. I also sent out printed copies to those desiring them. If you did not get a copy and would like to get on the mailing list, please let me know and I will make sure that happens. I attended all of my local meetings and training classes and performed the duties of this office. We have received another transcribing machine from State Farm and it is being used today. In addition, I had the opportunity to testify on behalf of the CVVFA reference the move over bill introduced by Delegate Bates of Howard County. The hearing went very well as no one testified against the bill, those in favor included the MDOT, FOP, several local police agencies and the fire service. No vote has been taken to date by the committee. I also played a role in the emergency services rally in Annapolis regarding 3 senate bills that would destroy the system, as we presently know it. I testified on some other bills, with one true to my heart. The MD Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation is seeking legislation that will recognize the first Sunday in June as the fallen firefighters day in Maryland. This will correspond with our annual memorial service.

Home Office Manager Heefner presented a written report. Officers, Members, and Guests, welcome everyone to the first booster meeting of the year, with special thanks to Chief Jerry Houpt and members of the Marion VFD for hosting today's meeting in Marion, PA. I hope everyone has had a Happy New Year thus far. Since convention time, at the request of fund raising chairperson, PP Joe Bukowski, I have contacted all members associated with our bear fund raising project and collected either money or bears which I re-distributed and collected money and turned over same to Treasurer Dove at the October 2008 booster meeting and the annual BOD meeting in January. Today, I have an additional \$160 to be turned in. This, in my opinion, brings the bear fundraiser project to a close. I received 13 applications for our scholarship programs, tags for our CVVFA trailer and Delaware state revenue forms, all of which have been passed on to committees. I arrived too late for the grunt work at yesterday's work detail at the Chambersburg Fire Museum, but I was able to view a tremendous amount of fire history including CVVFA. As always, the continued efforts of filling future booster meetings and convention sites are a challenge. If you or a department in your area would like to host a meeting, please contact them and let me know.

Publicity Manager Bob Timko reported on the status of the ads for the convention book. Also, please get some patron ads. Mailings have gone out to businesses soliciting ads, working at the local level to get additional. We actually have done good so far, commitments for the covers and 5 full pages. Please send them electronically camera ready. The deadline is in June.

Assistant Chaplain Wharry presented a written report, read the following from it. Thank you to the Marion VFD for hosting the booster meeting. Since the last meeting, I have sent cards when requested. Aetna has finalized the place of the memorial service for the convention. It will be at the Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church, 200 Marrows Road, Brookside, Newark at 11AM on Thursday, August 1.

Attorney Howard Cohen was absent; however he sent the following report. Gene, I won't be in attendance at Sunday's booster meeting as that's little league season. I do anticipate attending convention, arriving Thursday morning as usual, and look forward to seeing everyone then. Thanks.

Pennsylvania Delegate Charlie Myers spoke about the next quarterly meeting in April. At this time, I would like to ask Ernie to make some remarks reference the building code changes. Ernie stated that many states are trying thru legislation to bypass the national code requirements. He spoke about a meeting held in Harrisburg whereby they are forming a coalition to make our concerns made to the homebuilders groups and keeping them from taking out the sprinkler standards recently passed. He passed out a resolution for all the PA folks to take back home to your respective fire company and follow up with mailing the resolution to the Institute who will be the repository. The goal is all 2500 companies adopt the resolution. Ernie then went over some statistics reference emergency calls. Bottom line, sprinklers are the answer. Another issue is the tax rebate for PA, we wanted a \$500 rebate on taxes, however the legislature approved \$100. The issue is that it costs up to \$45 from a tax firm to get the \$100 credit. For additional information on these two items, look at the PA Fireman.

Directors reports –

Pennsylvania Director Brunner presented a written report. Good afternoon President Daniels and Members of the CVVFA. I would like to first thank the Marion VFD and all of their staff who helped prepare the meal and make this meeting possible for a wonderful time and an excellent meal. With all that we have to do in our busy lives these days it is the volunteers, such as the members of the Marion Fire Department, who keep associations such as ours alive and well. Thank you. Since our last meeting a lot has occurred, as I am sure you are aware in the volunteer fire service, especially in PA. We received a \$100 tax credit and Act 7 was implemented to assist volunteer organizations and municipalities come to terms with operational costs. However, after looking at these two areas more in depth they are not turning out to be as beneficial as first seemed. With regards to the tax credit it only benefits those who are filing single and who owe taxes. While this is a help, it is a far cry from what is needed in PA to assist in recruiting and retaining volunteers. Act 7 is also very complicated and unless both organizations are in agreement this Act could cause more problems for the volunteers than help. Since our last meeting I have attended all my fire company functions and have attended statewide training on Act 7 and Fireman's relief. Training classes are being held all over the state on Act 7. Rich spoke on some items that were briefed during these classes. Have a safe trip home.

Pennsylvania Director Holtry submitted a written report. Mr. President, Fellow Officers, Gentlemen and Ladies, welcome to the village of Marion, Franklin County, PA. I wish to thank the Marion VFD for hosting this weekend's activity. I hope they had a good turnout yesterday. I could not attend, however did spread the word. Some of my activities included the October booster meeting, the PFESI program and banquet in Camp Hill, PA where Billy G was the featured daytime speaker and Steve Austin was the evening speaker. I attended the Board meeting in January, the viewing for Don Harper of Carlisle and attended my county Fire Chief meetings and Fire Police along with my local firefighters meetings and Shippensburg Fire Police. Have a safe trip home and hope to see all of you in Hancock.

Maryland Director Wayne Baker thanked Marion for hosting the meeting and thanked all for their attendance. Wayne has attended most of the meetings in the Taneytown area. He then spoke about some of the logistics for the Apple Blossom parade.

Maryland Director Bob Cumberland presented his written report. He spoke on some highlights. President Daniels, Officers, Directors, and Guests, I want to thank the Marion Volunteer Fire Department for hosting the Highway Safety Class and the Booster meeting this weekend. Since the directors meeting in January, I attended Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association meetings and all my fire department meetings. I also attended the Long Range Planning committee meetings the past two months looking at the needs and planning for future purchases and replacement of apparatus for the Westminster Fire Department. I attended the Maryland Fire Rescue Education Training meeting and the Executive Committee meetings and Board of Director meetings of Children's Village of Washington County. I participated at the quarterly meeting of the BOV of NFA by conference call and worked on a sub-

committee looking at Regional or National accreditation for the EFO program at the Fire Academy, this was done by conference calls and emails. I completed the 30-hour Incident Safety Officers class by MFRI, attended the Maryland Weekend at the NFA, along with attending the Chief Officers Seminar sponsored by the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association and MFRI. I worked on getting the Pleasant Hill Volunteer Fire Department to host a Highway Safety Class and a booster meeting in October. I tried to present a 50-year Service certificate to Mr. Maurice L. Bossom of Brushtown Fire Company but no one knew him or had records that he was a member of Brushtown. I tried to locate addresses for other members of the Association in the Hanover and York Pennsylvania areas and found one with a new address and two others that had passed away. I returned that information to Steve McBee. I continue to work on improving the CVVFA store with Lou Jordan of Emergency Training Associates. I have added the Tri-Mountain dress shirt and we can now have departments or individuals join on line through the store. I am requesting that all directors and officers promote the store and get members of your departments to look at the CVVFA web page and the store, this way we can start making some money for the Association.

West Virginia Directors Harry Alt and Rodney Kelly were not in attendance.

Virginia Directors Larry Smallwood and Allen Brennan were not in attendance.

Delaware Director Harry Balthis thanked the host company for their hospitality. Harry has attended numerous meetings and continues to work on the convention and will be working on the scholarship award.

Delaware Director Austin spoke about his Orlando trip, the NTIMC meeting in Washington DC and the organizational meeting where they are trying to raise some money. Steve was in Charlotte where he spoke at the PPE seminar on the debate between CVVFA and the 3M Corporation. Steve then spoke about the training class cancellation. Thanks to Guy Flory for his leadership with the museum. Information is being disseminated about the upcoming Presidents Council meeting for April. Question was asked about the 3M debate, Steve explained the petition from them about the vest standard.

Past President Flickinger was not in attendance, however he submitted the following written report. Please excuse me from today's meeting, as I will be on my way to Florida. My wife and I are going to celebrate her father's 80th birthday. Parade sponsor letters are ready to go out sometime in April. I have been in touch with Steve Austin concerning a few items for the convention prize list. Hopefully, everything will be discussed or decided before my April mailing. Steve Haines has the sample plaque to be awarded for prizes. Have a good meeting and I'll see you at the Presidents Council meeting.

Committees –

Archives – Guy thanked everyone who participated in the work detail on Saturday at the museum. He continued by talking about some of the inner workings associated with the archives.

Auditing – no report

Budget & Finance – Chairman Dove reported everything is up to par, the budget was approved at the Board meeting.

Business & Ops Plan – no report

Constitution & ByLaws – Bob Cumberland reported that he and Financial Secretary McBee are looking at the beneficial membership and how long they need to be kept on the rolls when there is no contact information for them. They will also be working with the attorney on this matter.

Convention – This report was given under PP Flickinger's written report. Steve Austin added additional comments. He stated that we have two parade prizes open for sponsorship, best marked ambulance for highway scene safety and best appearing privately owned antique. Steve continued with the local convention committee report. Invitations will be going out for the parade soon, hundreds of them. We are anticipating a large parade. Ray Street reported on the golf outing planned, fee of \$43 with tee time Wednesday at 2pm with deadline of June 15 for registration. Please get your reservations at the

Sleep Inn in Newark now, \$69 plus tax. Steve continued with some specifics about convention, all of this info will be sent out and the info will be on the CVVFA web page. Steve Haines passed out the sample plaque that will be awarded for parade.

Credentials – no report

Emergency Responder Safety Institute – Steve Austin requested to report at the end of the meeting, as he would like to show the latest video produced for the Association from the Texas Sheriff's grant.

Web Page – Steve Austin reported on CVVFA.org, will post articles anyone sends in. The Cumberland Valley Express Newsletter seems to be working great in getting info out quickly. Hopefully as the newsletter grows, we will be able to reduce our mailing which has costs associated with.

Grants – Steve Austin gave an update on the grants. First, the MDOT funds of approximately \$15K should be forthcoming. We are waiting on our extension of the cooperative agreement for \$45K for the PSA we have been talking about. We have been approached by the Delaware City VFD reference being a part of this PSA. We have submitted a fire prevention and safety grant for \$96K to develop a manual on being safer on the highway. Joe continues to monitor our funds.

Topics – no report

Fire Person of the Year – no report

Fire Prevention – no report

Legislative – Bob Cumberland provided a written report on legislation from the MSFA. He highlighted 3 specific bills. These would remove MFRI from under the University of Maryland, Shock Trauma out from under the University, set up a new cabinet Secretary level position as Director of the Emergency Services Department. Bob testified against these bills at a hearing in Annapolis. For additional info on all the MD bills, go to the MSFA.org web site and click on the legislative section. The fire prevention grant process closed on March 6, the AFG applications will be open soon. Any peer review personnel need to know that the review process will probably not be held at the academy. Thanks to Gene for testifying on the move over law hearing.

Memorial – James Wharry stated that we are looking into a place for holding the Saturday morning prayer breakfast.

Publicity – no report

Resolutions – not in attendance

Scholarship – Harry Balthis has assumed the chairmanship replacing Harry Alt. Harry reported that we have 13 applications for this year. The committee will review and make a recommendation.

Sergeant at Arms – no report

Training – This was covered by Greg Yost earlier.

Unfinished business

Concern was offered about the health of Harry Alt. We need to respect the privacy of the family.

Reputational Management Seminar update - Steve Austin stated that the draft is complete and is being circulated for final review. The report will be published after some final editing. Oklahoma State University will do the final document both in print form and electronic format. Firehouse is currently working on the banner for the web site. We are looking for a proper title of the program.

SOG for the web site e-mail addresses – Steve Austin reported progress.

Scholarship publicity brochures for colleges – Rich Brunner spoke to Ernie about the printing of the posters, he will be in contact with other printers that can do the larger poster format.

Officer nameplates and badges missing – Heefner, badge ordered for President, should be delivered within the week.

New membership application – Bob Cumberland stated that it is up on the web via the store and has been used for payment of dues.

President Daniels asked the fire prevention queens if they had anything words to offer. Erin and Bobbie, both reported on their activities. Pictures were passed out for everyone's enjoyment.

New business

Robert Trace presented the Association with a decanter from the 75th convention.

Motion that the Association support the President going to the CFSI dinner this year for overnight lodging by Steve Austin, seconded by Ray Street, no further discussion, voice vote taken, motion passed.

Motion to purchase a full page ad for \$200 for the MSFA convention program book and use that ad to present highway safety information by Steve Austin, seconded by Dale Myers, no further discussion, voice vote taken, motion passed.

Motion to support the PA resolution passed out earlier and to present it to the PFESI by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Dale Myers, no further discussion, voice vote taken, motion passed.

Steve Austin reported that attorney Richard McCann for Aetna and also the corporate agent for CVVFA has passed away. Currently we are working with the Delaware Secretary of State for some guidance.

Emergency Responder Safety Institute – Steve Austin spoke about the failure to conduct training classes at our weekend meetings. Crawford continues to work on a plan of action for presentation at convention. The May class will be cancelled two weeks in advance if there not sufficient folks registered to take the training. Hopefully, Hancock will work with their members. Steve then gave the itinerary for the next several months for displays and classes. We are extremely busy and need help at the events. Steve spoke of the award given to Jack Sullivan from the NTIMC. Congrats Jack and thank you for all your efforts in assistance to the Institute. He then showed the video produced from the Texas Sheriff's grant. Steve continued with comments about the video.

President Daniels thanked Steve and all the folks working with the ERSI for all their hard and continuous work on behalf of the Association.

Good of the Association -

Vivian Myers thanked all for their online condolences, cards and calls during the loss of her mother.

Jerry thanked Bob Trace for the donation of the decanter, will do something with it at convention.

Assistant Chaplain Wharry gave the benediction, meeting adjourned at 3pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Worthington
Recording Secretary