

Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association  
 Booster Meeting October 19, 2008  
 Keyser Volunteer Fire Company WVA

President Daniels called the group together for lunch. Ray Mowen gave the blessing for the meal. Lunch was provided by the auxiliary and the fire company members, hot roast beef sandwiches with French fries all covered with gravy. Jerry called the meeting back to order at 13:00 hours. He asked Ray for the invocation and PP Flickinger to lead the group in the pledge to the flag. Ray spoke of those needing our prayers. President Daniels then welcomed Harry Alt to the meeting and presented him with a card from the Association. Harry spoke about his illness, thanked all for their cards and phone calls. Jerry introduced President Jimmy Teets 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** – We had two gentlemen from the New Creek VFC who had apparatus on display outside. The Assistant Chief made some comments about the reflective striping on the apparatus and welcomed anyone to look at it.

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

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

Maryland Fire Depts	8
Delaware Fire Depts	6
Virginia Fire Depts	6
West Virginia Fire Depts	10
Pennsylvania Fire Depts	25
 Grand Totals	 81

**Communications** – Secretary Worthington read a memo from VP Yost with his new cell phone number being 240-329-6202.

We received the following letter from the Delaware Volunteer Firemen’s Association. It reads as follows: On behalf of President Warren Jones and Officers and Members of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen’s Association it gives me great pleasure in offering our sincere congratulations to the CVVFA on receiving the Chief Billy Goldfeder Organizational Safety Award from the IAFC health & safety section at their annual conference in Denver. The CVVFA and the ERSI have proven themselves leaders in the nations fight to keep our first responders safe on our nation’s highways. For this we say thank you. The DVFA is proud to be a strategic partner in this important project. Please convey our best regards to the hardworking members of your association.

**Motion** to accept the minutes with any corrections of the convention as published on the web site by Walter Robertson, seconded by Robert Sweetman, 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 October booster meeting here in Keyser, WV. My thanks to the Keyser Fire Company for hosting today’s CVVFA fall meeting. I was privileged to represent CVVFA at the IFCA convention in Denver, CO approximately two weeks after our convention in Berkley Springs. It was at the meeting of the Safety and Survival Committee I accepted the prestigious Billy Goldfeder Fire Service Organizational Safety Award presented to our organization. I have attended all my company’s board of directors and regular business meetings. Fire Police meetings attended included the counties of New Castle and Kent. Other meetings attended were DVFCA meetings held in Delaware and Pennsylvania. In September, I attended the DVFA conference in Dover, DE and represented CVVFA. Also, in Dover I had traffic and pedestrian duties for the NASCAR race held in late September. Once again, thank you Keyser Fire Department for sponsoring today’s meeting. Thank everyone for attending today’s meeting. Have a safe trip home and I look forward to seeing you again in the near future.

First Vice President Robertson presented his written report and commented from it. I emailed my report to Gene a couple of nights ago. I want to take this time and thank Keyser VFC for hosting this booster meeting. Since our convention in Berkeley Springs I have attended all my fire company auxiliary and monthly membership meetings. Also attended all our fund raising activities when possible. Attended all the county officers monthly meeting. I attended and worked the Responder Safety Booth at the Virginia State Firefighters Assn. Convention in Hampton, Virginia, also the West Virginia Firefighters State Convention in Charleston, West Virginia, the Pittsburgh Fire Expo and the Pennsylvania State Firefighters Convention. This has been a very busy time getting the word out about November 24<sup>th</sup>, and the vest standard.

Again I want to thank Keyser VFC for hosting this booster meeting and that everyone has a safe trip back home. I do want to thank Keyser again for hosting the meeting today.

Second Vice President Yost submitted a written report and spoke from it. Thanks to the good folks here in Keyser for hosting this weekends events. Since our very good convention in Berkley Springs, I have attended all my company meetings and county association meetings. I have also begun lining up classes for the third CVVFA training weekend in June if we want to continue that program. If anyone has any suggestions, please feel free to offer them to me. I would like to expand this to other areas.

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 Keyser, WV for today's booster meeting. I would like to thank the Keyser Fire Department for hosting this booster meeting of the CVVFA. Since the convention in August, I have attended my own company meetings and trainings and also, my county association meetings. Also, I had the privilege and honor to attend the Pennsylvania State Convention that was held in Gettysburg in September this year. It was good seeing Steve Austin, Bob Cumberland, Steve Heffner, Walter Robertson, Wayne Baker, Ray Streets and Charlie Myers. A special thanks to you Charlie for all that you did and your generous hospitality. Good seeing everyone today. Take care and have a safe and happy holiday season and drive careful going home today.

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

CVVFA #4100840 death	539.67
General Account	8866.62
CVVFA HH bonds	4000.00
CVVFA #236	78711.24
Net Worth	92117.53

George thanked Keyser for hosting the meeting. He also stated that he has attended his fire company meetings and functions. He then read from the written treasurer's report. Two HH bonds were cashed in for \$2000 and the money placed in the checking account. The CD was renewed for 42 months with one withdraw at no penalty for \$78,711.24. Within the next two years the other 4 HH bonds will be cashed in.

Financial Secretary McBee was absent.

Recording Secretary Worthington reported that the minutes of the Convention were transcribed and distributed through the email system. I also send out copies to those who wish to have them sent USPS. 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 all the duties of this office. As reported at Convention, the recording machine has broken. It is difficult to transcribe the minutes, but we got them done. Today we are operating off of a very small digital recorder on loan to us. It does work well on reception but terrible to transcribe from. We will be looking into getting some kind of replacement for this.

Home Office Manager Heefner presented a written report. Officers, Members, and Guests, I would like to thank the officers and members of the Keyser VFD for hosting the October booster meeting here today. I hope your trip here was as enjoyable as mine, as the fall foliage was expected to be at their peak this weekend. After a successful convention in Berkley Springs, WV, I immediately started preparing for the next calendar year with the help of several officers of this association. I attended the PA Fire Expo in Pittsburg, PA, assisting with the CVVFA booth. Also, I attended the DVFA Conference in Dover, DE and the FASP Convention in Gettysburg, PA. I mailed 1300 postcards to members and member companies notifying every one of the dates for upcoming events. Host hotel information may be picked up today for the 108<sup>th</sup> Convention to be held in Newark, DE, hosted by the Aetna Hose, Hook and Ladder Co. Thanks to everyone for attending and have a safe drive home. If anyone did not receive an orange postcard, please see me at my table. I also have some handouts on host hotels to be used for the upcoming meetings.

Assistant Chaplain Wharry was not present; however he sent the following report. Thank you to the Keyser Volunteer Fire Department for hosting this Booster Meeting. Since the Convention I attended the viewing and participated in the funeral of Charles W. Wollaston. I attended the viewing of Patrick T. Tobin, Jr. (Father-in-law of PP Dean Simpson). Just learned that long time Delaware Member, John L. Mitchell, Sr. died. The viewing is this afternoon and if we don't get home in time, I will attend the funeral tomorrow. I have sent thinking of you cards when I found out about illnesses and Sympathy cards when notified. I am trying to get bids for new Thinking of You Cards, Get Well Cards and Sympathy cards since we are running out. I will attend the viewing of John L. Mitchell this afternoon. I will do better at the next booster meeting.

Attorney Howard Cohen was absent; however he sent the following report. Gene, I won't be in attendance at the Keyser Booster meeting due to other commitments, but look forward to seeing everyone at the January meeting in Halfway. I hope that everyone is well and in particular that Harry Alt is well on his way to fully recuperating.

Pennsylvania Delegate Charlie Myers talked about the good turnout at the Pennsylvania Convention. Next years Convention will be held at King of Prussia. He would like to thank Steve for the nice comments on the CVVFA website. Next quarterly meeting will be in January. They have been very busy working Fire Prevention and Fire Police over the last few weeks. The county fire police have started a new training program meeting monthly. President Daniels acknowledged both Charlie and Vivian on their respective awards presented to them at the annual state convention.

### **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 Keyser Fire Department 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 Keyser Fire Department, who keep associations such as ours alive and well. Thank you. I would first like to thank everyone for their prayers and emails regarding Harry Alt and his recent medical issues. It was heartbreaking to hear of someone so young and vital experiencing such problems but through the thoughts and prayers of the members of the CVVFA it seems though they were heard and it is good to hear that Harry is on the mend. I would next like to take the opportunity to thank the members of the CVVFA for electing me as a Pennsylvania Director. While some may say that I got hit by a fast moving train, when the dust settled, I realized that it is indeed an honor to not only be a member of this organization but to be an officer as well. Some have said that I have some big shoes to fill but when I looked at Steve Haines shoes on the way down, I realized that my job must be pretty small. No way I can fit into those shoes. Seriously, I will strive to attain the levels and goals that my predecessors from PA have done and it is indeed an honor to move into a chair held by such people as our ex-chief Judge Flickinger and his son, our current chief and personal friend Steve Flickinger. I hope that I can maintain the standards set forth by these individuals and continue to help in moving the CVVFA forward the premier volunteer fire association in the country. As I am sure you are aware, I was at the Annual Convention in Berkley Springs, remember that is where I caught the train, and since then I have attended all of my home company meetings and trainings. In addition I participated in an on-line survey conducted by our state fire marshal's office regarding the needs and future direction of the volunteer fire service. While it was a well done survey and the results were very interesting just how it will help the volunteer fire service in PA is yet to be determined. Again, thanks to the Keyser Fire Department members for the meal and preparations for our booster meeting and to President Daniels and the board and members of the CVVFA. Have a safe trip home and hope to see you in Halfway.

Pennsylvania Director Holtry submitted a written report. Mr. President, Fellow Officers, Members, and Guests, It is good to be in Keyser again, especially after receiving the bad and good news about Harry. That sure was a sad two weeks. First of all we had three deaths in the Vigilant Hose that were close to us all. Richard Davis one of our older members and fire police died. Then Mike Lynch the former Police Chief of Shippensburg died. Mike Wargo another member since high school died. The next week I had knee replacement surgery and was in the Harrisburg Hospital for four days. The next thing we get news of Harry. At least some news is good. Harry and I are recovering. My activities have been: at the convention I attended the auditing of the books. I attended all of the convention activities but Saturday. I attended all of my local Fire Police, county Fire Fighters and Fire Chiefs meetings. My address is Gerald L Holtry, 2376 Lindsay Lot Road, Shippensburg, PA 17257. Phone number is 717-532-9532. Email is [ged@pa.net](mailto:ged@pa.net).

Maryland Director Wayne Baker thanked Keyser for hosting the meeting and thanked all for their attendance. Wayne attended the Delaware conference and PA convention. I have delivered the convention sign to Delaware.

Maryland Director Bob Cumberland was not in attendance. Secretary Worthington read his written report. President Daniels, Officers, Directors, and Guests, I want to thank everyone for the support in reelecting me back for another term as Director for Maryland. President Daniels, I will help in any way I can to promote the Association and Responder Safety Institute, all that you need to do is just ask. Since the Convention I attended all my fire department meetings, and Carroll County Emergency Services Association meetings. I also attended the following State Conventions; Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania. As a member of the Maryland Fire Rescue Education Training Commission I attended the Mid-Atlantic Association of Fire Commissioner 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Annapolis, Md. As a board member to the Board of Visitors to the National Fire Academy I attended the Boards annual meeting and also attended the National Firefighters Memorial weekend programs. I helped Vice President Robertson man the Responder Safety booth at the Virginia State Firemen's Association in Hampton, VA. Vice President Robertson, Steve Austin, and myself staffed the booth at the West Virginia State Convention in Charlestown, WV. I also transported and manned the booth to Pittsburg, PA with Vice President Robertson, Director Austin, and other members of the association for the Fire Rescue conference. I worked on getting the association store up and running with the people at Emergency Training Associates in Taneytown, MD. I would like to thank Director Steve Austin for working on getting it operational on the web page and hope that everyone has checked it out. I would ask that the agreement be approved and signed by President Daniels so it can be returned to Lou Jordan. In September I worked on the Assistance to Firefighter Grants at Rockville. I attended and passed the ICS-300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents on October 7, 2008 at Westminster with Carroll County Police agencies.

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

Virginia Director Larry Smallwood was not in attendance.

Virginia Director Allen Brennan had a written report. Thank you to the Keyser Fire Department for hosting this meeting. In August I attended the CVVFA Convention activities held in Berkley Springs, WV. Also attended all activities of the VA State Firefighters Association held in Hampton, VA. I attended the funeral of former VSFA Executive Committeeman Dan Seal in Luray, VA. In September I attended the National Volunteer Fire Council fall meeting in Grand Rapids, MI. In October I attended the dedication of two new fire stations and rescue squad stations for the Spotsylvania Volunteer Fire Department, Spotsylvania Fire and Rescue and Spotsylvania Rescue Squad. I attended fire company meetings and made several public appearances with the career department for fire prevention.

Delaware Director Harry Balthis stated sorry he has not been involved as he would have liked to. As the year moves forward, I will be much more active. No further report.

Delaware Director Austin had no report at this time, stated his business would be brought forward later in the meeting.

Past President Flickinger thanked everyone for their support last year and asked everyone to keep providing their continued support of the new administration.

## **Committees –**

Archives – no report

Auditing – no report

Budget & Finance – Chairman Dove reported that we are operating within the budget and will be preparing the new budget in January.

Business & Ops Plan – no report

Constitution & ByLaws – no report

Convention – PP Flickinger reported the previous committee was still in tact. He said they would meet again before the May booster meeting to finalize all convention information. He would like to take over the parade plaques and would like to use a new company near him so he did not have to travel as far. Currently we pay \$55 per plaque, and the new company will duplicate a plaque with a colored logo for \$20 per plaque. President Daniels asked him to bring that up during new business. Steve Austin stated the hosting company is preparing for the convention. He discussed where all meetings will be held during the convention and where the memorial service will be held. Picnic will be on Thursday night, and Presidents Council meeting on Friday. Banquet will also be on Friday, with a dance following. We look forward to working with the CVVFA convention committee to make this convention for our President outstanding. Question was asked about the parade, additional info forthcoming. The goal is to say that I am glad I went to convention. A comment was made by Ray Mowen reference the flowers given to the families.

Credentials – no report

Emergency Responder Safety Institute – Steve Austin said that there are classes going on in Michigan this weekend. Next week, Jack will be teaching in the upper part of Michigan. They have been very busy. They have been awarded a new \$177k fire grant for this upcoming year. There will be a national meeting to discuss the past ten years. We are looking into having some of our best practices into national standards. We received a \$50K grant to continue respondersafety.com. Around 1/1/09, a new campaign will be launched for the safety vests. They will also be making a new video this upcoming year, with the help of StoneHouse Media. Steve further discussed the apparatus striping and some future videos. Also working on public service announcements, and waiting on the money for it. The end result will be that CVVFA has its' own PSA's. Question was asked about the coloring for the apparatus striping. Our goal is to have fire apparatus striping the same allowing recognition by the general public when seen on the highway.

Web Page – We are advertising programs that no one shows up for and we need to come up with a way to stop it. We are having teachers (who teach for free) and there are no classes for them. Please be sure to have your email address on the list so you can be emailed with the CVVFA Express (not to be confused with the breaking news alerts). The web store is now open. Bob Cumberland has done a tremendous amount of work to get the web store up and running. Information is updated on the website at least one time per week, sometimes several times per week. Steve continued with his demonstration of the web site depicting several events. If you would desire to have something posted, just let me know.

Fire Person of the Year – no report

Fire Prevention – no report

Legislative – Chairman Bob Cumberland was not in attendance.

Chaplain – not in attendance, no report provided.

Resolutions – not in attendance

Scholarship – not in attendance  
Sergeant at Arms – no report  
Training – no report

### **Unfinished business –**

The FASNY membership status is pending. Secretary Worthington and President Daniels have filled out all of the paperwork. Annual dues are \$20, and will be considered a volunteer fire organization. Our mailing address of the home officer manager will be used.

Changing of Booster meetings from Sunday to Saturday was discussed at convention. President Daniels would prefer to leave the meetings on Sundays. **Motion** was made to continue to hold the meetings on Sunday as currently held, seconded, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Reputational Seminar reported by Steve Austin is coming along nicely. The dates selected are December 8 & 9 at the National Fire Academy for the continuation phase. There is a very limited budget for this seminar. Some outside services have agreed to help. Oklahoma State University will be publishing the final document at no cost to the Association. If you are interested in participating, please see Steve Austin.

Scholarship publicity brochures for colleges were discussed at convention by Director Brunner. Rich had nothing further to report at this time.

Concern from last meeting in regards to missing badges, at this time the only badge missing is the President's badge. Steve Heefner will get a new one.

### **New business**

PP Flickinger further spoke on the parade trophies, **Motion** to move the parade plaque business to Greats River View Plaques in Newport, seconded by Robert Sweetman, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, motion passed. Steve will write a letter to the old company of our decision and thanking them.

Steve Heefner spoke about our application for membership. He would like to propose a newer style. Discussion ensued by others, the committee will further investigate and make proposal later.

Steve Heefner further spoke in reference to accepting credit cards as a means of paying dues. Is it possible, and can we do it through the store? Need to check with Bob Cumberland in regards to the possibilities and the cost of using the credit cards through the store. Steve is open for suggestions. Discussion ensued with comments by others with action at next meeting.

Steve Austin spoke about the free subscriptions of the PA Fireman Booklet will soon come to an end. Ernie is willing to continue to send for \$2 per year to all member companies (approximately 100). **Motion** to accept the generous offer for the member companies to get the book at \$2 per year and that a letter is sent to each company that the CVVFA is paying for the subscription by Steve Austin, seconded by Walter Robertson, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

### **Good of the Association -**

Ray Mowen spoke about some historical ribbons and badges from the early conventions. Ray also spoke about a book on the formation of the CVVFA he discovered. He also gave an update on the medical condition of PP Diehl.

Steve Austin reported that Guy Flory is in possession of the original sheet music from 1914 convention parade. A PDF file will be listed on the web page of the CVVFA march. The Citizens Fire Company band will be working on learning the CVVFA march for the Convention parade next year.

A question was posed to Steve Austin as to how he legally directed traffic in Gettysburg. Steve stated that he was there at the request of the Gettysburg Fire Police. He said he filled out paperwork and the police department approved them and swore them in.

President Daniels spoke of the pushcards in regards to the high visibility garments. He said that Ernie and his staff put out over 140,000 of the pushcards all over the United States.

President Daniels asked for a round of applause for the Keyser Fire Department.

Ray Mowen gave the benediction, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Worthington  
Recording Secretary