

**Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
 Convention August 1-4, 2007
 Charley Rouss Fire Company, Winchester, VA
 Proceedings and Minutes**

President Marshall Younker called the convention to order at 9am. He asked Chaplain Barnhart to offer the invocation for the convention. Charlie asked all to stand as he offered the invocation to the convention. President Younker then asked for the presentation of the colors to be given by VFW Post 2123 from Winchester under the command of Commander Clem. This was followed by the pledge to the flag. Marshall asked for the welcome by the host company, this was done by President Vernon Clark and Fire Chief Frank Wright. Marshall presented the Association resolution for the host company and thanked them for being our host this week..

The President then made the following special appointments for the convention.

Sergeants-at-Arms -
 Wayne Baker - chair
 Walter Robertson
 Robert Sweetman

Election Committee -
 Harry Alt – Judge
 Bob Cumberland - Teller
 Jeff Ringer - Teller
 Installing Officer – Steve Austin

Recording secretary Gene Worthington took roll call as follows:

TITLE	NAME	OCT	BOARD	MARCH	MAY	CONV	BOARD
President	Marshall Younker II	1	1	1	1	1	1
1st Vice President	Steven Flickinger	1	1	1	1	1	1
2nd Vice President	Jerry Daniels	1	1	1	1	1	1
3rd Vice President	Walter Robertson	1	1	1	1	1	1
4th Vice President	Greg Yost	1	1	1	1	1	1
Treasurer	George Dove	1	1	1	1	1	1
Financial Secretary	Stephen McBee	1	1	1	1	1	1
Recording Secretary	Gene Worthington	1	1	1	1	1	1
Home Office Manager	Stephen Heefner	1	1	1	1	1	1
Publicity Manager	Robert Timko		1	1		1	1
Chaplain	Charles Barnhart					1	
Assistant Chaplain	James Wharry						
Attorney	Howard Cohen		1				1
Pennsylvania Delegate	Charlie Myers	1		1		1	
Director, Pennsylvania	Gerald Holtry	1	1	1		1	1
Director, Pennsylvania	Steven Haines	1	1	1	1	1	1
Director, Maryland	Robert Cumberland		1	1	1	1	1
Director, Maryland	Wayne Baker	1	1			1	1
Director, West Virginia	John Ashcraft		1				
Director, West Virginia	Harry Alt	1	1	1	1	1	1

Director, Delaware	Steve Austin		1	1	1	1	1
Director, Delaware	Robert Hahn	1	1				
Director, Virginia	Lee Holler	1	1			1	1
Director, Virginia	Allen Brennan			1	1	1	1
	Totals	16	20	17	14	21	18
Past Presidents		10	10	9	10	15	10
Maryland Fire Depts		10	0	10	7	18	6
Delaware Fire Depts		6	0	7	4	7	0
Virginia Fire Depts		5	0	4	12	17	2
West Virginia Fire Depts		5	0	7	10	10	2
Pennsylvania Fire Depts		26	0	30	10	26	4
	Grand Totals	78	30	84	67	114	42

Recording Secretary Worthington then read the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting held August 1, 2007.

President Younker called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Opening prayer was given by Chaplain Wynn of the Frederick County Fire & Rescue Association followed by the pledge to the flag. Roll call was taken with 18 Officers in attendance, those missing were Chaplains Barnhart and Wharry, Attorney Cohen, PA state delegate Myers, and Directors Ashcraft and Hahn. There were 7 Past Presidents in attendance.

The Officers in attendance gave oral comments reporting on their activities and other informational matters. Most of these comments will be repeated during the business meeting at convention under their respective reports. George Dove provided some special comments reference VP Flickinger's father who served as our President in 1976 and hoped his son would someday become President. Director Austin gave special thanks to Dr. Carter and Jack Pelitier for their efforts with responder safety as they were in attendance.

*Audit chairman Daniels presented the audit report for the committee. Marshall asked for concerns from the audit. Hearing none, **MOTION** was made to accept the audit report as presented in printed copy by Flickinger, seconded by Cumberland, further discussion by PP Austin explaining that all the books and tax records on the grant materials were forwarded for review to the CPA with favorable comments, paid a fee of \$3000 out of the grant funds, verbal vote taken, passed.*

*Copies of the proposed budget were passed out for review. Changes were discussed and made in the appropriate line items. After a short discussion, **MOTION** was made to accept the budget as presented with written copy to be presented at convention by Dove, seconded by Robertson, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, passed.*

VP Flickinger spoke about committee listing for next year. Steve will be working on the committees this week. He also spoke about the article from Dr. Carter in the PA Fireman.

Bob Timko suggested that the host company for convention contact the local Chamber of Commerce for possible ads for the book at next convention.

George Dove introduced President Vernon Clark and thanked him for the work done in support of the convention. Mr. Clark gave a welcome to all and further comments. This was followed by a handclap from the group.

Bob Cumberland spoke about his presentation given at the Lancaster County convention on safety vests. Their training academy has offered to host a booster meeting and would like to have a highway safety training course.

Steve Heefner talked about the purchase of Mason Dixon Fire Equipment by Fire Store. This may affect our transportation of the booth to the shows. Steve emphasized that is for information purposes only at this time. Steve Austin talked about the cost savings that has been received over the years from Mason Dixon and has been very much appreciated.

Marshall brought closing remarks by thanking the convention committee, especially Mr. Clark and George for everything they have done for convention and everyone else that contributed in the planning process. His success this year was contributed to all within the association. Marshall talked about his experience at the CFSI dinner in DC. Again thanks to everybody, it just made the job much easier. He personally thanked Dr. Carter for his editorial on youth in the fire service using his nephew Nathan as an example. He then spoke about the age of the delegates who attend convention, looking for some youth to become involved.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm by MOTION.

President Younker asked for a motion to accept the Board of Directors minutes, **MOTION** to accept by Robertson, seconded by Donald Strock, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, carried.

President Younker asked for a motion to approve the May booster meetings that have already been distributed, **MOTION** to accept as printed by Robertson, seconded by Alt, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, carried.

Secretary Worthington reported that we did not have any communications to read at this time.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

President's Report – Marshall Younker

Good morning everybody, welcome fellow Officers, Members and Guests. I like to start off by thanking our chairman George Dove and his home station and everybody from the Rouss firehouse for holding the convention this year. Special thanks to President Clark for giving us the go ahead and Chief Wright for giving us the city. Since our last meeting in May, I have been contacted by several companies who expressed interest in CVVFA and made a few presentations with our wonderful promo video. I know we have taken in at least one member company. I assisted with the booth in Lancaster Expo in Harrisburg as well as Baltimore. In closing, again George and your crew, thanks for having us, hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable time here in the area at the convention. I would like to thank everyone again for what they have done during the year to make my time a success and make everything running smoothly, without you guys it wouldn't work. I hope each of you is happy of where we have made it to up to this point to date and are ready to step in and keep Steve moving in the coming year.

First Vice President's Report – Steve Flickinger

Mr. President, fellow Officers, members and guest, I welcome you to our 106th annual convention, being hosted by the Charlie Rouss Fire Company, here in Winchester, VA. Our hosts and our Association have planned for a tremendous convention so please plan to attend our meetings, memorial service and social events that are being offered these next few days. Thank

you George and your committee for all your great work. Since our last convention in Greencastle, I have attended all of our past booster meetings, the annual Board of Directors meeting, and the five states Presidents Council meeting. At this time I would like to thank all of our hosts for supporting these functions. I also had the privilege to work the Responder Safety Institute highway safety booth at the Harrisburg Fire Expo. It's amazing how many people stopped by our booth to find out what our goal is for educating the emergency services on highway safety and also the many people who stopped just to say thank you for the service we are providing. Thanks to Steve Austin for allowing me the opportunity to serve down there. Being elected to my 14th year as Fire Chief for the Citizens FC #1 of Newport. I have attended and headed my local in-house training sessions 26 weeks out of the year. I also attended various county meetings at which I try to report CVVFA news. My county's grant funding for a countywide safety vest program is 99% complete. Hopefully by our next booster meeting we will accomplish this goal. I would like to thank our President Marshall for a great year of leadership for our Association. Congratulations Marshall. Also thank you to everyone involved in any way for making CVVFA a leading national organization for the betterment of our emergency responders. In closing, I would like to announce of my intention to run for the office of President of this organization for the coming year. Thank you.

Second Vice President's Report – Jerry Daniels

Mr. President, Fellow Officers, Members and Guests, once again, I would like to welcome everyone here to Winchester and I would like to thank the Charley Rouss Fire Company for hosting our convention this year. I hope everyone here has enjoyable time at convention and hopefully it will be a very productive time. It's hard to believe that a year has passed and here we are again at another convention. I think it has been a very memorable year, there has been a lot of exciting things happening that you will hear more about today. I'm glad to be a part of this organization and we are moving forward and making a statement to a lot of firefighters and communities out there across the United States not just locally. Since our last booster meeting in Verona, I have attended many of the business meetings from Aetna, a lot of county meetings, fire chiefs, volunteer fire association meetings, as well as fire police meetings across Delaware. I have been involved to some degree with the new citizens Fire Corps grant at Goshen where we are trying to get the citizens involved in helping out the firefighters. At Goshen this year, they are having a county fair and the citizens will be assisting with parking the cars. Thanks to President Marshall for an outstanding year and I think he did a very good job at the congressional services dinner when he spoke to the crowd. In closing, I would like to thank everyone for coming today. I hope you have a good time here in Winchester and we look forward to working with everyone next year. Thanks Charley Rouss Fire Company for hosting the convention. Thanks you everyone.

Third Vice President's Report – Walter Robertson

Since the booster meeting in May, I have attended all my company, county and state meetings and have spoken about CVVFA at all these meetings. Also manned the Responder Safety booth at FDIC, Fire Expo and MSFA convention. Thanks to Charley Rouss for a successful convention and hope all has a good time. Attached is my itinerary.
March 20th, 22nd, 25th, 2007 taught an EVOC class at Stuarts Draft Rescue
Attended Virginia State Firefighters Assn. Executive Board meeting in Hampton, VA.
March 31st, 2007

April 2nd, 3rd, 8th, 2007 Taught an EVOC class at McDowell VFD, in McDowell, VA.
Attended Presidents Council Meeting in Fredericksburg, VA, April 14th, 2007
Attended FDIC in Indianapolis, IN. on April 18th-21st, 2007
Booster meeting held in Verona May 5th & 6th, 2007
Helped with cooking Chicken at Wilson VFC, Lyndhurst, Va. May 12th, 2007
Worked Responder safety Booth at Harrisburg, Pa Fire Expo May 17th-19th, 2007
Attended monthly meeting at Wilson VFC, Lyndhurst, Va. May 10th, 2007
Attended Augusta County Officers meeting in Verona, Va. May 22nd, 2007
Responder Safety Booth at Maryland State Fire Conference June 17th-19th, 2007
Attended Public Safety Awards in Richmond, Va. June 26th, 2007
Attended monthly meeting at Preston L Yancey VFC, in Fishersville, VA July 5th, 2007
Attended monthly meeting at Wilson VFC, Lyndhurst, Va. July 8th, 2007
Attended Nelson County Meeting in Lovingston, Va. July 17th, 2007
Attended Augusta County Officers meeting in Verona Va., July 24th, 2007
Attended Cumberland Valley Firefighters Convention in Winchester, Va., August 1st-4th 2007

Fourth Vice President's Report – Greg Yost

Good morning, like to welcome everybody again, thanks to Charley Rouss Fire Company for hosting us, looks like a lot of good things planned for the next couple of days and should be a good time. Since our last meeting, I have attended my home company meeting and county association meetings. I also attended the Washington County Fire Police and Chiefs meetings promoting our training weekend. I helped in the Responder Safety booth at the MSFA convention and the recent Fire Expo in Baltimore. About a year ago, I thought I was thrown on the train and now I think I was thrown under the train instead of on it. As you remember I created a little excitement leaving the parade having laid 1600' of LDH hose on I81 causing quite a backup and about a total damage of close to \$20K to vehicles. Recently I had the privilege of running a call in the middle of the night and I backed our utility into a tree stump. After replacing the bumper I backed it into a fence post. We had an incident on Main St. in Hancock, traffic stopped at both ends, and was letting traffic flow one lane at a time. During this incident a police officer backed into my knee causing injury. About six weeks ago, I was driving the ambulance, cleaning up after the carnival. We made a transport to the hospital, while talking to the medic, an x-ray tech walked out with a wooden backboard and placed it in a rack, however the board fell and broke my right toe. It's time to get on the train and not under the train. However, it has not been all bad, lots of good times. Being able to attend the CFSI seminars and dinner was definitely one of them. Watching Marshall accept the award was awesome for CVVFA. Having dinner with him, and watching him squirm was priceless. Everyone should be proud of his acceptance speech and represented us well. I worked with the booth twice since June. As I stood there and listened to some of the most knowledgeable individuals speak about vests, standards, etc. I knew I had a lot to learn. Then there was the CVVFA training weekend, will talk about that later. In closing, thanks to everyone who helped me throughout the year.

Treasurer's Report – George J. Dove

Mr. President, fellow Officers, members, ladies and gentlemen, it is an honor and a pleasure to stand before you today knowing that in 1902 the first convention was held here on the fourth of July for the purpose of adopting a universal hose coupling for all towns in the valley. It's also a pleasure for me and the Charley Rouss Fire Company to be your host. I want

to say thank you to the Winchester Moose Lodge #1283 for hosting our events for the next two days. I attended all my fire company functions and all functions of this Association. I also was elected director of the firefighter activities of the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival to include the world's largest firefighters parade. It was a pleasure to have our President ride in our parade and also a pleasure to see Gene. I want to say thank you to Wayne Baler for pulling the trailer in the parade. I want to say to our incoming President Steve Flickinger, son of the late H. M. Flickinger that your dad spoke very highly of the love for his family and in 1976 was elected President of this Association in Martinsburg, WV. He told a few of us at the Sunday booster meeting in the old firehouse in Newport that he hoped that some day his son would follow in his foot steps and here you stand today soon to be. It's a pleasure to see the son of H. M. standing here today. May God bless you and your family.

ENDING BALANCES

General Account	17274.90
Death Benefit Account	539.67
CD	73586.91
HH bonds	6000.00
NET WORTH	97401.48

Financial Secretary's Report – Stephen C. McBee

Dues notices have gone out to over 300 members, so far about a third of them back. I also have presents for each of the state directors that they can start researching some more mail that came back. I will give these to the directors based on their state address hoping they can be tracked. As always, we are trying to update the address list and keeping it current as possible. Please remember if you know of a deceased member to make sure you notify the Chaplain ASAP and try to get word to me for determination if beneficial member or not. Other than that hope we have a good convention and appreciate Charley Rouss for hosting and the city of Winchester.

Recording Secretary's Report – Gene Worthington

Good morning, thanks to George and the Charley Rouss Fire Company for hosting the convention. Marshall, congratulations to you sir on a great year. All the minutes throughout the year have been transcribed, mailed and distributed. Today at the convention we are working with a new digital voice recorder along with the cassette tape recorder. This should allow us to download the voice data to a computer and present it on a CD for distribution. The secretary's office remains here to serve the Association.

Home Office Manager's Report – Stephen E. Heefner

Mr. President, Officers, members and guests, welcome everyone to Winchester, VA. and the 106th annual convention. Thanks to Treasurer George Dove and his committee for a job well done. This past year I attended all meetings, functions and activities as requested by this Association. I mailed out 3 three separate mailings this year keeping the members informed of events. I secured meeting locations and assisted with lodging for those members as needed. I enjoyed working with President Younker this year and look forward to assisting incoming President Steve Flickinger. If re-elected, I will continue to assist this Association in the coming year.

Publicity Manager's Report – Robert Timko

Good morning, on behalf of the committee I would like to thank you for the opportunity to be chairman again. This year as of yesterday, we have all the ads paid in full. We are slightly down in the book ads. I suggest that the host company contact the local chamber of commerce and try to get ads. We need the local business community to advertise. We did make a profit of approximately \$1400. I will be working with Steve again next year in getting the letter out in January with out advertising of the ads.

Chaplain's Report – Charles E. Barnhart, Jr.

Greetings to each one of you in the name of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. It's good to be with you here in Winchester as I had the opportunity in April to spend some time with the folks in Delaware for a special wedding. I am here to serve as I always have, also I am one of the MSFA chaplains and have done memorial services, funerals for those not only in Maryland but for those who have needed services. We will be updating the emergency call list this week so you will have all the information as to contacts. Also for the memorial service this morning, the flowers will be placed in the vase by Larry Smallwood, thanks to him for assisting. Chaplain Jimmy will not be with us due to recent knee surgery. Please keep him in your prayers, he is home on the mend. Also, after the memorial service this morning, I will be handing out resolutions of our deceased. The Chaplain's office is always available to serve and looking forward to being re-elected for another year. Thanks to Jimmy for doing the resolutions and the flower arrangements during his illness.

Attorney – Howard S. Cohen

Mr. President, Mr. Secretary, officers, members, and guests, thank you for being here, and thank you to the Rouss Fire Company and especially to George Dove and his committee, for hosting the CVVFA at our 106th annual convention. For the CVVFA, the year just past can rightly be described as a watershed. Many things – good things – continue to happen. The CVVFA was awarded the CFSI's first Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Safety Leadership Award in recognition of our tremendous outreach effort to reduce the incidence of emergency responder death and injury on the nation's highways and roadways. And there may be more awards in the offing. The CVVFA was just awarded a major Fire Act grant to continue to promote its lifesaving agenda. Our organization's education and training outreach programs continue to expand, and receive both broader recognition and acceptance.

On this point, as an anecdote, I helped staff our Responder Safety booth for a few hours just last week at the Firehouse Expo in Baltimore. I'd done this before, in past years. And yes, as in past years, there were some who strolled by the booth who weren't particularly interested in our message, and wouldn't even take one of our cards. But increasingly, there were many who told us they were well aware of the dangers on the roadways, had visited (and book marked) our website and trained on these issues, and appreciated our efforts. And there were folks from departments around the country who intelligently engaged our experts on the fine points of roadway safety strategic preplanning in order to better hone their safety programs.

This recognition and appreciation is great for the CVVFA. It's too bad, however, that it comes with a price. Increased recognition of the import of roadway and highway safety practices is happening because so many more incidents are occurring. Our colleagues, friends, brothers and sisters are simply being struck in unfathomable numbers. Was it mere coincidence that four Indiana state troopers were struck and injured in separate incidents in a 48-hour span just a week

ago? No, I don't think so. More likely it could be explained by the increasing insanity on our nation's roads, to which we, as emergency responders, need to pay attention – because our lives depend on it.

It'd be nice for our message to become moot – for either a technological solution to solve the struck by problem or for every driver to simply "move over and slow down," -- but that's not likely to happen anytime soon. So in the interim, we'll have to keep up our efforts.

What else we have to keep up is our organization. Now entering its 107th year, we've seen a great deal of growth and excitement especially over the past decade. Nevertheless, at many of our meetings, it's still the same faces. These dedicated few have maintained this organization and served as its backbone for many years. But the important work we're doing requires more. So from me, it's the same message as in years past – we need more members to help shoulder the load. As I've done before, I ask you to do what you can to recruit members to our organization, folks who can help share in our good work.

Delegate to Pennsylvania – Charlie Myers

Good morning and I would like to thank the Charley Rouss Fire Company and especially George for hosting the 106th annual CVVFA convention. I have attended all our meetings for PA, as well as my own county, company, fire police and many others. Our 128th annual convention this year will be September 19-22 in York, PA. The headquarters will be based at the Yorktowne Hotel. We look forward to see our out of state guests there and will be treating you to lunch on Thursday. Charley reviewed the schedule for convention.

President Marshall then called for a recess of the meeting. Guy Flory announced that he has chances to sell on the leather buckets with the benefits going to our Association. The meeting was called back to order after a 15-minute break. Steve Austin was asked to give a report on Responder Safety.

Steve started by asking for a moment of silence in recognition of two roadway deaths this week. Last Saturday morning a firefighter in Southern Illinois lost his life when struck by a Greyhound bus at the scene of a truck fire on an interstate highway. Yesterday a CHP officer lost his life in the performance of his duties. Steve updated all on the responder safety work with the use of a video presentation. He started by talking about the grants and Fire Corps training.

First was the Responder Safety grant, it maintains our web site, basically it is our window to the world. We have not had any additional funding since 2004 for this program whereby funding is running extremely low and we are presently dealing with that. Last year we were at Texas Fire Chiefs in Dallas, FDIC, CFSI in Washington, Fire Expo in Harrisburg, MSFA convention, South Carolina convention and just finished up last week at the Firehouse Expo. Steve thanked many people for their work and assistance at these displays.

Money is spent via a contract with Dr. Carter who maintains the web site, our web master, and all the good work that Howard Cohen does in research is sent to Harry and Jack Sullivan who post items daily. We have other services being provided to volunteer members and we include limited expense reimbursements. It also supports our free distribution of training materials, equipment and IT costs. We have monthly costs that require the internet services. This grant expires June 2008. If not all spent, money has to be returned, if no future funding is received, we will be out of business in the professional manner we do.

Fire Corps demonstration grant, our keynote speaker Dr. Fleming this afternoon, is heading that grant for us. He is the training chief at Goshen Fire Company. He will be updating

that program during his talk. Jon Jones is also working with this program in the development of the training manuals that we need to have to finish the project. These manuals will be called a toolbox which will be available to anyone in the county free of charge. There will be all kinds of information contained on how you can set up a Fire Corps training program for traffic control professionals within your department. We have a contract with the Goshen Fire Company and they are doing a wonderful job. All of our services are being provided by volunteers with limited expense recovery. Again, thank you to those going up to Goshen and helping with the program. We will have some folks in Florida this fall visiting with the Velusia County fire service in learning more about various traffic control units. This grant will expire on December 31. When that is done, it is done.

FireAct Firefighter Health and Safety Grant was discussed by review of pictures shown of recent traffic accidents. We will be teaching these venues across the country, specifically the National Unified Goals. Steve gave specific areas that are targeted at this time. Jon Jones has been contracted to develop the train the trainer program with hundreds of hours being developed. When those trainers complete the one day seminar, they will have a kit, toolbox allowing them to train others across this country. We will be using volunteers as much as possible to complete this grant, however it will be supplemented by contracts and expense reimbursement. This money expires in July 2008. It is a \$144K grant, the largest single grant received by CVVFA, which was competitive.

The Texas State Sheriffs program, that money did not materialize as promised. This program is dead on arrival.

We have been told that we will receive \$50K this October through the USFA. Steve asked for any questions on the subject matter covered. All funds is audited by our internal process and by an outside auditor who review each expense. Thanks to Joe for his outstanding work in maintaining our funds.

President Younker then proceeded with the Board of Directors reports.
Pennsylvania – Steven Haines

President Marshall Younker, Fellow Officers, Members and guests, welcome to the 106th annual convention of the CVVFA here in Winchester, VA. It is a pleasure to see everyone again. A special thank you to the Charley Rouss Fire Company, George Dove and his committee for hosting this year's convention. Well, another successful year has gone by for this Association and it has been a pleasure to serve as Director for the state of Pennsylvania. Since our last convention meeting, I have attended all of the Association meetings and booster meetings. Also, I have attended my own fire company meetings, our weekly training sessions and my county association meetings. I also helped with the highway safety booth in Harrisburg during the Fire Expo weekend in May. I would like to thank President Marshall Younker for a very successful year as President of this Association. I am looking forward to working with and assisting the new incoming President Steve Flickinger for the upcoming year. Again, many thanks to everyone who has made this year's convention a successful one. I wish everyone an enjoyable time and a safe trip home.

Pennsylvania – Gerald Holtry

Good morning, Mr. President, Officers, Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish to thank the Rouss Fire Company, George Dove and his committee of Winchester, VA for hosting the 106th convention, the home of the first convention. I am glad to be here where our PP's George Dove, Larry Smallwood and James Knicely and the late great entertainer Patsy Cline resided.

It's been 35 to 40 years since I've been here, the Rouss Fire Company had green fire engines. I would like to thank George Dove for this weekend and the parade chairman and hopefully our parade will be good. Some of the activities that I have attended are Shippensburg FP training meetings and calls, Cumberland County FP meetings, captains meetings, chiefs meetings and volunteer firefighter meetings, the Shippensburg Easter Egg hunt. I worked other activities within the area and fundraisers. I tried to make as many emergency calls as possible as I am recovering from recent knee surgery and am still hobbling around.

Maryland – Wayne Baker

Wayne thanked the Rouss Fire Company for hosting us and George Dove for having us down here. I attended most of the meetings this year, however we took some time for a vacation in Hawaii. Other than that, we will be back on track this year. Thank you.

Maryland – Bob Cumberland

First of all for those who have your convention book handy, my address is wrong. My new address is 222 Shipley Avenue, Westminster. Again, I would like to thank George Dove and the convention committee for hosting the 106th convention along with the Charley Rouss Fire Company. I helped sit up the schedule for the safety booth and I would just like to echo his comments without all your help and support we would not be able to get the word out, however we still have much work to be accomplished. Also thanks to Greg Yost in establishing the first training weekend for the CVVFA, I know he did a lot of hard work. I think for the first time, it was a success and should continue forth this year with another. This falls back to us the Directors in making sure we have people to attend the classes. President Younker, I would like to thank you for the great job in leading our Association forward in making it a nationally recognized organization. I look forward to working with the incoming Officers next year and I am here to assist each and every one of them in anything I can do and any of our member companies. Thank you very much.

President Younker announced that at this time we would break for the memorial service. He gave directions for the church. Everybody please head that way. After the memorial service, we will break for lunch and return here for the business meeting at 1pm. Meeting recessed.

Memorial services were held at the Market Street United Methodist Church. Chaplain Barnhart was assisted by Pastor Jean McDonald Walker, our host pastor. The organist was Mr. Bill Baber from the church who played the pipe organ wonderfully. The memorial message was titled "Every Exit An Entrance" was given by Charlie. Roll call of honored deceased CVVFA members consisted of:

Holmes D. Curl	South End VFD
Charles T. Cutter	Keyser VFC
Lester A. Downes, Jr.	Goodwill Fire Dept
David M. Funk	Chambersburg VFC
Donald H. Grove	Ryneal VFC
Mildred Martin	Honorary Member CVVFA
Robert P. McKay	Shawnee FD
Ray C. Myers	Rescue Hose #2
James E. Salley, Jr.	Taneytown VFC
Shirley Smallwood	Honorary Member CVVFA
Judy Fox Younker	Berkeley Springs VFC

At the end of the service, President Younker presented flowers to the families or representatives of the families. The service concluded with Charlie's singing of the Lords Prayer, just outstanding.

Vice President Flickinger called the convention back to order. He asked for Steve Austin to address the group. Steve introduced Jack Sullivan, director of training for some comments. Jack spoke about the high visibility garments. There is still a lot of mis-information and a number of people who do not understand the value or the design type that should be there for the type of high visibility gear we are pushing. Part of what we will be doing today is a fashion show, this will bring us up to speed on the different types of PPE garments we are encouraging folks to wear at the accident scenes. All of the vests have been designed and sewn according to the public safety vest standard ANSI 207. In the public safety vest you are going to find your utility belt readily accessible. We have a variety of different designs for display. The fashion show ensued displaying the various types of garments. Several folks made comments during the show on the various garments. Jack made some specific comments as to the safety features with these vests. Our models showed great talent with their respective stroll across the room.

At the conclusion of the show Steve recognized Tom Sebastian from Lakeland who addressed the convention. Tom made some comments then answered questions from the group. This was followed by a round of applause for his support to CVVFA. President Younker then continued with the Directors reports.

West Virginia - Harry C. Alt

Mr. President, Officers and Members, I want to thank Rouss Fire Company and specifically George Dove for hosting this convention. There are a number of people here in this room who have assisted in working with conventions, it is a lot of work, and again thanks both the company and George for their efforts. I have been pretty active in different organizations, have attended all booster meetings, Board of Directors, Presidents Council. Harry continued with a listing of the year activities. Harry assisted in delivering membership cards and locating addresses for several members. It has been a privilege to serve this Association and promote its programs. Thank you.

Virginia – Lee Holler

I would like to thank Rouss Fire Company for sponsoring the CVVFA annual convention this year, especially to George. I have attended the monthly meetings of the Frederick County Firefighters Association making sure they have all the information from CVVFA. I contacted some of the fire companies that had left us asking them to rejoin the Association. Due to health reasons, I could not travel too far from home and some meetings this year. Thanks to all you for appointing me as state director for Virginia.

Virginia – Allen Brennan

First of all, I would like to thank the Rouss Fire Company and George with all his people putting on convention this year, it's great to be back here. It's always a pleasure to come to Winchester. This past year I have attended life safety meetings for the Department of Homeland Security. Allen continued to speak on the activities attended during the year. Allen spoke about the Presidents Council hosted in Fredericksburg, hopefully all had a good time. Allen invited all to the Virginia convention in Hampton.

Delaware - Robert Hahn

Pappy was absent due to work conditions, however he submitted the following report. Sorry, I am unable to attend the convention this year due to a conflict with work schedule. Since last booster meeting, I have attended all my company meetings, county association meetings, county fire police meetings, and several other meetings throughout Delaware. I have assisted with CVVFA first responder training with Allen Baldwin. I have conducted 3 basic fire police courses in New Castle County. I have been encouraging highway safety throughout my travels. I was privileged to attend the signing of Delaware's move over law by Governor Minner. I also assisted in manning the booth sponsored by the CVVFA for highway safety at the MSFA convention in June. Again, my regrets of not attending, look forward to seeing all of you soon. Have a productive meeting and convention.

Delaware - Steve Austin

Thank you Mr. President, I have nothing further to report at this time. Steve continued by introducing Dr. Robert Fleming, Bob is an original member of the ERSI and helped us to get started way back when, seems like a long time ago. Bob is the chairman of the Board of Visitors for the National Fire Academy appointed by the President of the United States to provide advisory oversight to the academy. Bob has a long history of educational excellence and achievements. He has been involved in writing many strategic plans for fire departments across the country. He has been Chief of two fire departments, also served as the Assistant Chief for safety for the Goshen Fire Department. He is a great friend of many folks here. Anytime you need something done in the fire service, call Bob as he has the connections to deliver. Without further to do, our keynote speaker Dr. Robert Fleming.

Dr. Fleming brought greetings and thanked the group for the invitation to speak. He talked briefly about some history with CVVFA. It has been very exciting to see the growth of responder safety during those years. Steve contacted us about assisting with the Fire Corps program. Bob then spoke about some of his background that led into his current position. He continued by talking about the process to be used by Goshen Fire Company to perform the objectives of the grant. Bob spoke on the history of Goshen and some current stats on personnel. This was all done via a video presentation. Bob continued to talk about the timeline of the training class and the activities to date. He further explained the expectations from all parties and individuals involved. In September, there will be a DOT flagger course offered to all. Hopefully, graduation will be on September 29. Bob asked for questions at the conclusion of his talk which there were several.

President Younker thanked Dr. Fleming for his remarks and his personal involvement with the grant program. Marshall announced we would have a short recess of the convention.

President Younker recalled the business meeting back to order. Secretary Worthington read the following letters:

I will not be able to attend the convention, because I have to work. As per conversation with Steve Austin, at the Maryland convention, if I am nominated again this year, I will graciously accept the nomination for Delaware Director. Robert Hahn

The Officers and members of Aetna Hose, Hook and Ladder company, reposing special trust and confidence in the abilities and fidelity of our members Jerry Daniels, Steve Austin and Howard Cohen, endorse them for the Offices of 2nd Vice President, Director and Attorney, respectively. Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Company, Tim Harris, Secretary.

Marshall asked all making nominations to please give their name and department as this is being recorded. He then opened the floor for nominations of new Officers. Each office was

asked for nominations a minimum of three times. Nominations were made and seconded for each office. A **MOTION** was made to close the nomination for each respective office. Nominations are as follows:

President – Steve Flickinger nominated by Hugh Harris, seconded by Rich Bruner
First Vice President – Jerry Daniels nominated by Joe Bukowski, seconded by Hugh Harris
Second Vice President – Walter Robertson nominated by Allen Brennan, seconded by Lee Holler
Third Vice President – Greg Yost nominated by Stroch, seconded by Steve Haines
Fourth Vice President – Michael Sullivan nominated by letter from Berkeley Springs VFC, seconded by Hugh Harris
Treasurer – George Dove nominated by Guy Flory, seconded by Lee Holler
Financial Secretary – Steve McBee nominated by Steve Flickinger, seconded by Hugh Harris
Recording Secretary – Gene Worthington nominated by Robert Trace, seconded by Hugh Harris
Home Office Manager – Steve Heefner nominated by Steven Haines, seconded by Rich Bruner
Publicity Manager – Robert Timko nominated by Robert Trace, seconded by Walter Robertson
Chaplain – Charles Barnhart nominated by Steve Flickinger, seconded by Harry Alt
Assistant Chaplain – James Wharry nominated by Charles Barnhart, seconded by Joe Bukowski
Attorney – Howard Cohen nominated by Steve Austin, seconded by Walter Robertson
Delegate to PA – Charles Myers nominated by Robert Trace, seconded by Steve Haines
Director Pennsylvania – Steve Haines nominated by Steve Flickinger, seconded by Charles Myers
Director Maryland – Wayne Baker nominated by Charles Barnhart, seconded by Hugh Harris
Director West Virginia – Rodney Kelley nominated by letter from Berkeley Springs VFC, seconded by Greg Yost
Director West Virginia – Hugh Harris nominated by Harry Alt, seconded by Guy Flory
Director Virginia – Lee Holler nominated by Walter Robertson, seconded by Allen Brennan
Director Delaware – Robert Hahn nominated by Charles Barnhart, seconded by Charles Myers

President Younker announced that the voting would take place Friday morning for the office of Director West Virginia. We have two candidates Rodney Kelley and Hugh Harris. Ballots will be prepared by the election judges assisted by the secretary's office. Marshall then asked for committee reports. The following committees reported further business.

Auditing Committee – Jerry Daniels reported that last evening the committee reviewed all the books of this organization and found all records in order and accepted and are now passing on for approval from the floor, in addition the ERSI books were audited and tax returns filed.

Convention Committee – Steve Flickinger reported that a new chairman will be appointed next year and that we have been in contact with Berkeley Springs who will be hosting the convention.

Fire Person of the Year Committee – George Dove stated that the award would be given out at banquet.

Memorial Committee – Chaplain Charles E. Barnhart, Jr. spoke about the service this morning.

Publicity – Robert Romig presented the following written report. Just wanted to drop you a few lines to read at the convention meeting this coming week. I really miss being able to

attend and be part of the CVVFA. We don't have county associations or the like down here. There is a Florida State Firemen's Association, but is not very powerful. They have 12 directors positions open. The Florida Fire Chiefs seem to be the motivating party down here. I do belong to both of those. I miss sitting around in the evening when the girls come back from shopping and tell us about all the wonderful bargains they bought. I miss being able to be part of the Responder safety team. Hopefully by April 1, 2008, I will be on SS, collecting one of my pensions and only working part time for Mickey Mouse. I am driving bus right now for the little Mickey's and they are working our butts off, 55-60 hours a week. I wish Mr. Flickinger a good year, and hopefully I will see him at the DVFA conference parade again this year. I hope to be able to attend the convention when Jerry Daniels goes in or out. Please give my regards to all the gang at CVVFA and let me know when you are coming down to Florida and I will try to hook up with you all somehow. I once again will extend an offer to have a BOD meeting here in my community, just give me enough notice to make the arrangements. Hopefully, someone will keep John Fox from Mill Creek on the straight and narrow path. I know that no one from Five Points will be attending, as I was the only one who wanted to network with the different organizations. Most of the guys are just comfortable hanging around home and don't want to get out and meet other fire service members. Thank you Gene for sending me the minutes and hopefully someone will send me a program book so I can make sure Bob Timko is staying on the ball. Miss all you guys and gals and I'll be thinking of you this week. A friend in the fire service.

Resolutions Committee – Joe Bukowski congratulated Marshall on leading the CVVFA this year. It has been a privilege to help serve the Association under your administration. During this past year, cover letters and forms were sent to all state Directors for their requests for resolutions that will be presented at this 106th annual convention. Out of ten Directors, three responded. Copies were made and forwarded to the E. Wade Thomas Award Committee and to Recording Secretary Worthington who prepared and printed all resolutions, which also have a new look. With the new process of separating resolutions from what was the Fire Person of the Year, it is hoped that this will encourage Directors to now recognize individuals from their respective state who the CVVFA can bestow a resolution for service to their community and not be a contestant for the E. Wade Thomas Award, thank you President Younker and First Vice President Flickinger for endorsing this idea.

Topics Committee – Stephen P. Austin stated that Bill Webb would be the speaker Friday night at the banquet.

Web Page Committee – Stephen P. Austin stated there would be a new section added to the site, entitled Presidents column. We would like to have the President to talk about his agenda during the year. We still need people to contribute to the web site. There is a wealth of information currently there. Many times I receive a phone call requesting information when it is already on the site. Please use the web, we can make changes as necessary

President Younker then asked if there was any other business or reports from any of the committees that have just reported. He then asked for unfinished business. It was reported that all the Officers badges are in hand, thanks to Steve Heefner for completing this task. Marshall talked about the bears, asked Joe to update all on status. A final report has been given to Treasurer Dove and Steve Heefner.

Greg Yost reported on the training weekend. Overall, the "Helping Everyone Go Home Training Weekend" sponsored by CVVFA in conjunction with MFRI was OK. It was a struggle

at times and not as easy as I thought it would be to get commitments for classes. I want to thank Bob Cumberland, Knigsley Poole and Jeff Ringer for helping. Also, thanks to those of you I kept emailing, asking questions, suggestions and advice.

We started with a schedule of our Highway Incident Responder Safety class on both Friday and Saturday. Also on Friday, were a grants seminar and originally a NIMS class. This class had to be moved to Saturday due to a conflict in the instructor's schedule. On Saturday, we had scheduled an elevator rescue class and firefighter safety and survival. Some of the classes were cancelled due to various reasons. We had a total of 27 attendees. Due to low attendance I did go over the allotted \$500 budget. I had hoped the Plaza would give me a break on the unused rooms but they didn't. I would like to see the program continue, but do have some recommendations to make it better. MOTION to pay the extra expenses from the training weekend by Hugh Harris, seconded by Jerry Daniels, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, carried.

President Younker asked for new business. Nothing was brought forward so he asked for Good of the Association.

Gerald Holtry advised that the emergency call list provided by the Chaplain's office needs to be updated with some corrections made. Chaplain Barnhart will be undertaking that task on Friday morning after the election.

Mr. Strock asked a question about the election procedure.

George Dove spoke on the activities for the night and the logistics for the remaining activities for the convention. Marshall reminded all that the Presidents Council will start Friday morning at 9am, election will be open from 8:45 to 10am.

Guy Flory thanked all for their sponsorship of the trophies, all have been donated, first time in the ten year involvement with the parade. Chaplain Barnhart gave the closing prayer. Marshall closed the meeting at 15:45pm.

President Younker reconvened the convention Friday morning at 9am for the Presidents Council meeting. The invocation was given, followed by the pledge to the flag. Marshall made some opening remarks, welcomed all to the meeting. George Dove from the host company gave the opening welcome. Marshall reminded all that the election was open until 10am and then turned the meeting over to Steve Austin for his facilitation. No further minutes of that meeting were kept. All the respective states had an opportunity to speak about various subjects of their choice. Lunch was provided at noon for both the council members and the highway safety training students.

President Younker reconvened the convention at the conclusion of the Presidents Council meeting for any further announcements, election results or business that needed to be done. He asked for Chairman Harry Alt to give the election results. Harry stated your committee for elections has performed their duty with the following results: Two year Director for state of West Virginia, 45 members voted, 12 votes cast for Hugh Harris, 33 votes cast for Rodney Kelley. The election report was signed by Harry Alt, Judge, Bob Cumberland, Teller, Jeff Ringer, Teller and Ray Mowen, Clerk. Marshall asked Walter Robertson to speak about the window decal he had designed. Some discussion ensued about the sample. Walter will have the questions answered and report back at the October booster meeting. President Elect Flickinger spoke reference a proposal from Pennsylvania Fireman magazine. The proposal would create a promotional subscription for \$1 per unit for a year. The Officers recommended that we provide

the member companies with this subscription. After the first year, the member company will have the opportunity to renew at the regular rate. Our benefit is free advertising, articles submitted and CVVFA schedules. MOTION was made to accept the offer and provide a listing of names of our member companies belonging to CVVFA by Robert Trace, seconded by Guy Flory, further discussion, verbal vote taken, carried. Marshall reminded all about the banquet program for the evening. MOTION was made for the Secretary to cast the ballot for all unopposed offices by Howard Cohen, seconded by George Dove, verbal vote taken, carried. MOTION was made to destroy the election ballots by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Donald Strock, verbal vote taken, carried. There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned.

The banquet program was held Friday night, August 3, 2007, at the Winchester Moose Lodge. MC Steve Austin gave some opening remarks and asked the Chaplain for the invocation, this was followed by the pledge. Steve continued by asking President Younker to give the welcome. George Dove gave the host company welcome and reminded all of the parade tomorrow. Dinner was served.

Steve asked for the ladies and gents of the lodge to come forward to be recognized for their hospitality during the convention. He continued with the program by asking all the Past Presidents to rise and be recognized. Steve introduced Bill Webb, Executive Director of the CFSI who will be our main speaker. Mr. Webb thanked the CVVFA for the invitation and brought comments. The group thanked Mr. Webb for being the keynote speaker.

Steve asked Melissa Ringer, our scholarship winner for this year to come forward and give some comments. Melissa thanked the CVVFA for awarding her this scholarship. She is currently involved in a RN program in her second year. Congratulations Melissa.

Steve asked Secretary Worthington and President Younker to come forth and begin the awards ceremony. We started with the 50-year membership folks. As the names were read, the member or company representative accepted the resolution. Gene read the first resolution and stated the others had the same wording. Those receiving the 50 year recognition are as follows: Harry Burton, Kenneth Clouser, George King, Jr., Dale McCleaf, Hobart Snell, Richard Stallings, and Richard Walck. A special resolution was given to Mr. Tom Flaherty from Reflexite Corporation for his support to our Association. Mr. Jack Peletier was also given a resolution on behalf of the Association for his outstanding support over the many years. Next we had five members nominated for the E. Wade Thomas Fire Person of the Year. They were all presented resolutions on the nomination. They are as follows: Dawn Miller, Randy Henderson, Howard Cohen, Allen Baldwin. Howard Cohen was awarded the E. Wade Thomas Fire Person of the Year plaque by President Younker on behalf of the CVVFA membership. A rousing acknowledgment was given Howard. Howard addressed the group and stated he was very honored and humbled to receive this award.

The program continued with the leather bucket raffle conducted during the convention. Guy Flory thanked all for participating. Guy was recognized for his service to the CVVFA.

President Younker gave his final remarks. He again thanked the Charley Rouss Fire Company, George and committee for hosting the convention. He then brought other comments reference his terms while serving through the chairs. He was very emotional while speaking about the loss of his mother this past year. In closing, he wished all the new Officers the very best.

Steve called the names of the newly elected Officers to come forward for the swearing in ceremony. PP Austin gave the oath of office and presented the badges and pins for their respective positions. He asked any family members to assist with the pinning of the badges who would like. Several took advantage of the request. Many pictures were taken at this time.

Steve then introduced for the first time President Steve Flickinger. Steve congratulated all the newly elected Officers and stated that we are going to have a great year. He thanked George and the Charley Rouss Fire Company for being our host. He spoke about his father who served as our President in 1976. He also spoke about his nomination as VP. Steve had additional comments by thanking various individuals. He introduced his family members present. Steve presented Marshall with a resolution for his years of service.

Jerry Daniels presented President Flickinger with a shirt and safety vest. Other gifts were given to Steve by his family members. Steve congratulated the Newport Ladies Auxiliary on their 75th anniversary. Chaplain Barnhart gave the benediction. This was followed by the giving away of door prizes from the host company. The evening was adjourned.

Saturday morning we met at the hotel restaurant for the prayer breakfast. Some 30 were in attendance to enjoy the great hospitality and a message from the chaplain. Saturday afternoon, we all enjoyed the firefighter parade, the food at the fire station and the awarding of the trophies. This ended the convention for August 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Worthington, Recording Secretary