

**Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
Convention July 30 – August 2, 2008
Berkeley Springs Volunteer Fire Company, West Virginia
Proceedings and Minutes**

President Steve Flickinger called the convention to order at 9am bringing greetings, good morning fellow Officers and guests, welcome to the 107th annual convention of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association being held in the wonderful town of Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. I would like to thank everyone here today for their dedication and commitment to the CVVFA as we keep projecting ourselves on a national level in today's fire service. From programs like our scholarships, for helping our young people attend higher educational facilities, to hosting our Presidents Council meetings, for initiating the Reputational Risk Management Symposium meeting, our highly national "We've Got Your Back" highway safety program, to helping develop the national standard of highway safety vests, for presenting our local fire training seminars, down to preserving our rich history of the Association. All that I have mentioned and a lot of other work that goes on within this Association that I have not mentioned is because of You. Yes, all of you sitting here today and many more nationwide putting the dedication and commitment into the CVVFA making our Association a reckoning force in today's fire service nationwide and worldwide. I would like to extend an invitation for all attendees to this year's convention to participate in all our activities from our meetings, memorial service, picnic, training session, banquet, parade, and our family oriented social times. Thank you for attending.

I now call the 107th annual convention of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association to order. 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 Flickinger then asked for the presentation of the colors to be given by the Berkeley Springs American Legion Honor Guard. This was followed by the pledge to the flag. Steve asked for the welcome by the host company. President Dennis Kesecker brought greetings and welcomed all to the convention. President Flickinger thanked Dennis and the company membership for their support of our Association convention. Steve then introduced some guests with us, James Garcia who will give the keynote address later in the day. Steve also introduced Tom Cullen, President of the Pennsylvania Firemen's Association who brought greetings. Tom thanked Steve for his service to the CVVFA and welcomed all to the annual PA convention to be held in September.

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

Sergeants-at-Arms -
Wayne Baker - chair
Jeff Ringer
Robert Sweetman
Raymond Streets

Election Committee -
Harry Alt – Judge
Bob Trace – Teller
Rich Bruner – Teller

Installing Officer – Steve Austin

Recording secretary Gene Worthington took roll call as follows:

TITLE	NAME	OCT	BOARD	MARCH	MAY	BOARD	CONV
President	Steven Flickinger	1	1	1	1	1	1
1st Vice President	Jerry Daniels	1	1	1	1	1	1
2nd Vice President	Walter Robertson	1		1	1	1	1
3rd Vice President	Greg Yost	1	1	1	1	1	1
4th Vice President	Michael Sullivan	1	1			1	1
Treasurer	George Dove	1	1	1	1	1	1
Financial Secretary	Stephen McBee	1	1		1	1	1
Recording Secretary	Gene Worthington	1		1	1	1	1
Home Office Manager	Stephen Heefner	1	1	1	1	1	1
Publicity Manager	Robert Timko		1			1	1
Chaplain	Charles Barnhart					1	1
Assistant Chaplain	James Wharry					1	1
Attorney	Howard Cohen		1				1
Pennsylvania Delegate	Charlie Myers	1	1	1	1		1
Director, Pennsylvania	Gerald Holtry	1	1	1	1	1	1
Director, Pennsylvania	Steven Haines	1	1	1	1	1	1
Director, Maryland	Robert Cumberland	1	1		1	1	
Director, Maryland	Wayne Baker	1	1		1	1	1
Director, West Virginia	Rodney Kelley	1	1			1	1
Director, West Virginia	Harry Alt	1	1	1	1		
Director, Delaware	Steve Austin	1	1	1	1	1	1
Director, Delaware	Robert Hahn						
Director, Virginia	Lee Holler	1	1				
Director, Virginia	Allen Brennan	1	1			1	1
Past President	Marshall Younker						
	Totals	19	19	12	15	19	20
Past Presidents		12	8	7	10	9	12
Maryland Fire Depts		11		6	13		13
Delaware Fire Depts		5		4	8		14
Virginia Fire Depts		15		5	3		17
West Virginia Fire Depts		17		1	2		9
Pennsylvania Fire Depts		28		25	23		28
	Grand Totals	107	27	60	74	28	113

Recording Secretary Worthington then read the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting held July 30, 2008.

President Flickinger called the meeting to order at 7pm. Opening prayer was given by Chaplain Barnhart. Roll call was taken with 19 Officers and 9 Past Presidents in attendance. Director Alt was absent due to a death in the family. The welcome was given by Rodney Kelley from the host company. Rodney spoke on the logistics for convention. Guests included Chief Steiner and President Kesecker from Berkeley Springs VFC.

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.

Director Austin announced that CVVFA was awarded the annual Chief Billy Goldfeder Fire Service Safety Organization of the Year presented by the Safety Health & Survival Section of the IAFC, sponsored by VFIS.

Bob Cumberland reported on the special committee appointed to review the proposal presented at the last Board meeting by Lou Jordan in reference to promoting products of the CVVFA. There will be more on this at convention.

Bob also reported on some concern reference a state Director representing one state and living another.

President Flickinger then asked for discussion on some unfinished business from his administration. First being the status of the bears used in a fund raising project some years back. It was reported that before the conclusion of the convention, this matter should be concluded with a final report.

Next, was discussion concerning the appointment of assistant chaplains from the representative states. Chaplain Barnhart expressed his concern that these appointments were not necessary at this time. Some discussion ensued about the lack of a chaplain at the booster meetings. Charlie asked all too again review the emergency call list for notifications. The by-laws allow for the option by the President to appoint persons if needed.

Motion to leave the elected Chaplains as status quo by Charlie Barnhart, seconded by VP Robertson, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, passed.

Director Austin reported on the reputational management summit is attracting much attention and that we may need some additional funding up to \$2,000 to cover expenses to further expand the program.

Motion that we support the request for up to \$2,000 to bring the necessary persons to the next meeting to move this project forward by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Steve Austin, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, passed.

Steve continued his discussion on the sustainability of the Association in the coming years. We need to look at our IRS tax code status of 501C4 presently, possibly filing papers for changing to C3, he recommends we proceed to move forward with a detailed application, or alternative to set up a separate Foundation. President Flickinger asked the budget committee and ERSI to work together on this matter and report back on their progress at the next meeting.

Director Holtry asked a question about the grant money, if any of that could be used to offset some costs from the summit, discussion ensued, mostly explaining reasoning that it couldn't.

Steve McBee was asked about the delinquent memberships and their status. It was his desire to have them remain on the rolls until the end of this calendar year due to some of the correspondence sent out. 52 members have not paid their dues since 2006.

Motion that we allow them to stay on the rolls till the end of the calendar year as requested, and try to collect the outstanding dues with our elected Officers assisting by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Walter Robertson, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, passed.

President Flickinger asked for the status on membership to FASNY. Secretary Worthington advised of his contact with them about an associated membership with no response

to date. This matter will be discussed with the New York delegation on Friday at the Council meeting. We will also discuss the credit union issue at the same time.

New business,

Steve Heefner reported on the condition of the flag pots used during convention and the damage to the banner. Steve was able to get prices for these repairs and further discussed the matter with the Treasurer. It was decided that the funding was available and that the purchase and repairs should be done before convention allowing their usage. This was done at a cost of \$38 each for the flag stands. Steve asked for these items to be added to the inventory of the Association. The President will include this matter for convention business thus allowing for the expense to come under convention expenses.

A question was asked about the donations made to the elected Officers for covering their expenses of their respected office.

Motion was made stating that the donations remain the same as last year by Wayne Baker, seconded by George Dove, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, passed.

Motion was made to pay the convention expenses by George Dove, seconded by Allen Brennan, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, passed.

PP Brennan spoke on an email message sent out by the NVFC reference wording changes in the PSOB program, this will be discussed more in detail at the Council meeting on Friday by the NVFC representative.

Bob Cumberland reported on some federal legislation, specifically the right to know infectious disease program which is up for review, again, more on this Friday.

Steve Heefner invited all to the hospitality room located on the second floor of the hotel. Expenses are being shared by 3 of our member companies. Please enjoy yourself responsibly.

Chaplain Wharry asked for all to look for family members attending the memorial service and introduce them to him allowing for the Association resolutions be given to them. The service will start at 11am.

Bob Timko reported on the convention book, stated that we need to sell more ads.

The audit committee reported on their audit of the books. VP Daniels stated the committee has reviewed the books from the Association and the ERSI account and found them to be in proper order.

Motion to accept their review by Charlie Barnhart, seconded by VP Robertson, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, passed.

The President asked for a report from the Youth Leadership committee and their status of making a presentation at the banquet. The chairman was not present and no one from the committee could answer. VP Sullivan will contact the chair and report later.

President Flickinger reported that he did not receive the President's badge last year. It is possible that it is missing. He asked the Home Office Manager to replace it if not found.

Motion was made for adjournment at 8:50pm.

President Flickinger asked for a motion to accept the Board of Directors minutes, **MOTION** to accept by Walter Robertson, seconded by Raymond Streets, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, carried.

President Flickinger asked for a motion to approve the May booster meetings that have already been distributed.

MOTION to accept as printed by Steve Haines, seconded by Guy Flory, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, carried.

Secretary Worthington reported on the communications received.

Please be advised that Mr. Diehl is in Heart Land in Keyser and loves to have visitors. His address has changed to Robert Diehl, 15406 Hawk Street, Rawlings, MD 21557. I want to thank all who have paid a visit to my Uncle Bob. Warmest regards, Linda Lease.

Gene reported on a phone call from Hugh Harris stating that he would be unable to attend the convention, however wished all well. Hugh has a new mailing address: HC 33 Box 3226, Petersburg, WV 26847. His phone number is 304-257-1351.

Also received an email message from Bob Romig which reads as follows:

Gene, just wanted to drop you a few lines to read at the convention next week. Sure do wish I could be attending the convention, but the travel expense is a little steep. Miss seeing all you guys and gals and having the good times that I remember from my last visit to that area when Hancock hosted. Congratulations on the website. It looks great and now I can keep up with everything. Thanks to Gene for including me in the proof reading of minutes. Thanks to Steve Austin for keeping me in the loop by being part of the Responder Safety Institute and allowing me to attend the NUGS training last October here in Orlando. I really would like to see if we could get some classes started down here.

To President Elect Daniels, best of luck in the coming year and I will be in Newark next year to honor your end of term of office. Hopefully, I will see some of you at the DVFA conference in September in Dover. If any of you are in the area down my way, please contact me and maybe we can get together for a drink or something. Hope that the convention is a great success and I will be looking forward to seeing the parade results and minutes on the website. Yours truly, Bob Romig.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

President's Report – Steve Flickinger

I gave my report earlier during the opening and at the Board meeting last night. I will have additional comments at the banquet tomorrow night.

First Vice President's Report – Jerry Daniels

Mr. President, Fellow Officers, Members and Guests, Thanks to Berkley Springs Volunteer Fire Company for hosting this year's convention here in Berkley Springs. Welcome to everyone. I hope everyone enjoys their visit here for the next few days. This has been a very busy and productive year. Congratulations to President Flickinger for his leadership and for having a good year. Since the convention last August in Winchester, VA I have attended all our booster meetings. I have attended all my company's Board of Directors and company business meetings since our booster meeting in New Bloomfield, PA this May. I have attended county meetings of the Fire Chief's and Volunteer Fire Fighters Association of New Castle County. Other meetings attended include Fire Police of New Castle and Kent Counties as well as the Delaware State Fire Police Association. I also participated in providing traffic services for community organizations as requested. Some these activities included services for the City of Newark for the Fourth of July fireworks celebration. I've been involved with the Emergency Responder Highway Safety course instruction provided in Montrose, CO, Bucks County, PA, as well as at the Firehouse Expo held last week in Baltimore, MD. The Emergency Responder Safety Institute committee also made appearances at the Harrisburg Fire Expo and Fire House

Expo in Baltimore with the highway safety booth. Walter Robinson and I manned the Emergency Responder display booth this year in Myrtle Beach, SC at the South Carolina Fire and Rescue Convention. This was our third year at this event and our organization's message about the Federal Rule and the wearing of high visibility garments when on the highway was received with much interest. We have made application to return for the 2009 convention. In closing, I'd like to thank the Berkley Springs Volunteer Fire Company for hosting this year's convention. I hope everyone has a good time these next few days and that the convention will be a rewarding experience. A listing of activities for the year was attached to the report.

Second Vice President's Report – Walter Robinson

Mr. President, Fellow Officers, Members and Guests, I want to thank Berkeley Springs for hosting the convention this year. I have attended many meetings and worked with the Responder Safety booth at several events this year. I will mail Gene my final report of activities for the year.

Augusta County Officers meeting in Verona at the government center August 28, 2007

Wilson VFC auxiliary meeting, Lyndhurst, Va. September 4, 2007

Wilson VFC monthly meeting, Lyndhurst, Va. September 9, 2007

Augusta County Officers meeting in Verona at the government center September 23, 2007

McDowell VFC meeting in McDowell, Va. October 8, 2007

Highland County VFC meeting In Monterey, Va. October 9, 2007

Wilson VFC, Lyndhurst, Va. Barbecue Chicken October 13, 2007

Wilson VFC monthly meeting, Lyndhurst, Va. October 14, 2007

Nelson County Officers Meeting in Lovington, Va. October 16, 2007

CVVFA Booster Meeting in Berkeley Springs W. Va. October 21, 2007

VSFA Executive Committee meeting in Charlottesville, Va. October 27, 2007

Buena Vista helping with EVOG class October 20, 2007

Augusta County Officers meeting in Verona at the government center October 23, 2007

Wilson VFC yard sale inn Lyndhurst, Va. November 3, 2007

EVOG CLASS in Stuarts Draft, Va. November 27 & 29 December 2, 2007

Wilson VFC auxiliary meeting in Lyndhurst, Va. December 4, 2007

Wilson VFC monthly meeting, Lyndhurst, Va. December 9, 2007

Wilson VFC auxiliary meeting, Lyndhurst, Va. January 8, 2008

Wilson VFC monthly meeting, Lyndhurst, Va. January 13, 2008

Augusta County Officers meeting in Verona at the government center January 22, 2008

Wilson VFC auxiliary meeting, Lyndhurst, Va. February 5, 2008

Wilson VFC monthly meeting, Lyndhurst, Va. February 10, 2008

Virginia State Chiefs Conference in Va. Beach, Va. February 22-23, 2008

Wilson VFC auxiliary meeting February 4, 2008

Wilson VFC monthly meeting February 9, 2008

Attended Rep Bob Goodlatte meeting Shenandoah Valley Airport February 10, 2008

Attended Governor Tim Kaines meeting in Staunton, Va. February 10, 2008

Attended Rockbridge County meeting in Buena Vista, Va. March 11, 2008

Attended Cumberland Valley training class & meeting in Manheim, Pa. March 14-16, 2008

Augusta County Officers meeting in Verona, Va. County government center March 25, 2008

Wilson VFC auxiliary meeting April 1, 2008

VSFA Ex. Comm. Meeting in Hampton, Va. April 5, 2008

Worked Responder Safety Booth FDIC in Indianapolis, Indiana, April 9-12, 2008

Attended Presidents Council meeting in Hudson, NY April 18-19, 2008
Taught an EVOC class at Stuarts Draft Rescue April 27-28, 2008
Attended CVVFA Booster meeting in New Bloomfield, Pa. May 4, 2008
Worked Responder Safety Booth at Fire Expo Harrisburg, Pa. May 16-18, 2008
Augusta County Officers meeting, government center Verona, Va., May 27, 2008
Went to Swoope VFC talked with them about joining ASSN. May 28, 2008
Wilson VFC auxiliary meeting June 3, 2008
Wilson VFC monthly meeting June 8, 2008
BBQ Chicken Wilson VFC June 14, 2008
Worked Responder Safety Booth Maryland State Fire Convention June 15-18, 2008
Attended Stakeholders meeting in Bedford, Va. June 26, 2008
Attended Training at the government center in Verona taught by Tim Holman June 28-29, 2008
Wilson VFC auxiliary meeting July 1, 2008
Wilson VFC monthly meeting July 13, 2008
Worked Responder Safety Booth South Carolina convention July 15-19, 2008
Attended Cumberland Valley Firefighters Convention July 30-August 2, 2008

Third Vice President's Report – Greg Yost

Welcome to Berkley Springs for what will be another great convention. Thanks to Berkley Springs Fire Co. for hosting the convention. I know they have put a lot of work into it. Since our last meeting, I have attended all my company meetings and functions and county association meetings. I coordinated the CVVFA Training Weekend held at Halfway Fire Station, the last weekend in June. I will report further on that under the appropriate committee report. This train seems to be moving faster and faster. It doesn't seem that long ago that we were in Winchester. I would like to thank President Steve for his leadership and continuing success of the CVVFA. Also, thanks to the other officers and members for working hard for the CVVFA and our missions. In addition to attending all CVVFA meetings for the year, I was privileged to attend the Reputation Management Seminar in Philadelphia and the CFSI Dinner in Washington, DC. I also worked the Responder Safety Institute booth at the recent Firehouse Expo in Baltimore. I look forward to helping continue the success of the CVVFA in anyway I can. My cell phone number has been changed from printed listing in program book. It is 240-329-6202.

Fourth Vice President's Report – Michael Sullivan

Fellow Officers, Members, and Guests, Again I would like to welcome you to Berkley Springs for the 107th Convention. I hope to see you all at the festivities that are to come. Also again I would like to apologize for missing most of the booster meetings due to my work. Throughout the year I have attended several of my companies meetings and actively working with the convention committee to be able to pull this off. I took a very active part in the parade for Saturday which I hope turns out to be a great success. Like always I have still been working on recruitment of new individual members and company members with some success. If anyone has any questions about anything feel free to ask anyone wearing a host badge and they will be sure to help as much as possible.

Treasurer's Report – George J. Dove

Mr. President, Fellow Officers, Ladies and Gentleman, I wish to thank the Berkley Springs Volunteer Fire Company, as well as the American Legion, for hosting this convention. I attended all functions of my fire company booster meetings and President's meeting in Hudson, New York. I welcomed our President Steve Flickinger to the Shenandoah Apple Blossom

Festival as Director and many of our Association Fire Company's to the 86th Firefighters Parade in Winchester, VA. Treasurer's Report reads as follows, but is not complete, as our year does not end until August 31, 2008.

ENDING BALANCES

General Account	10738.21
Death Benefit Account	539.67
CD	76767.56
HH bonds	6000.00
NET WORTH	94045.44

As we leave here to go home, may we leave here with a smile on our face and remember the good times we had together at this convention. May peace be with you all as we leave here today.

Financial Secretary's Report – Stephen C. McBee

Steve had nothing further to report than already given at the Board of Directors meeting last evening.

Recording Secretary's Report – Gene Worthington

Good morning to all and welcome to the annual convention. The Secretary's office has completed all tasks assigned to it during the year, notably all minutes and correspondence distributed to the membership. I am requesting to further update the mailing lists, if you are not receiving mail from me, either by postage or e-mail, please add your name to the list or if there are any corrections from the printing in the convention book, please let me know. The Office has completed all resolutions to be presented at convention along with the agenda to assist the President. I also would like to thank Berkeley Springs VFC for hosting the convention.

Home Office Manager's Report – Stephen E. Heefner

Officers, Members, and Guests, Welcome to the 107th Annual Convention of the CVVFA and to the Town of Bath (Berkeley Springs), home of the Berkeley Springs VFC. During the past year I attended all scheduled meetings and represented the CVVFA at many special events. I mailed a fall postcard listing all events and a spring newsletter dedicated to the 107th Annual Convention Events. I returned all monies which I received to our Treasurer. Also I worked very closely with the Financial Secretary regarding address changes and deceased members. This has been a successful year for this organization. Thanks to everyone no matter how small a part you played.

Publicity Manager's Report – Robert Timko

I would like to thank everybody for their sponsorship ads for the convention book. I need to make one little comment. I would suggest you work with some of the junior firefighters, they can make some terrific ads on the computer. Again, I am going to stress to go outside and get one or two people to buy an ad for the book. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

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

Greetings to each one of you on this day in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is always good to be here with you and to continue serving as your Chaplain. I want to bring an item up under new business when that part of the meeting comes up. I am adamant about changing the booster meetings from Sunday to Saturday and I am going to ask for consideration for that to be done at some point and time. This is something that I have been trying to get accomplished for several years and I will be able to attend the booster meetings and serve my congregation on Sunday morning. I ask that you would please think about that. The

Memorial Service today will be in a beautiful Roman Catholic Church and I feel like The Pope this morning. Please come to the Memorial Service this morning, it will be a very nice event and certainly give thanks to God for the opportunity that you have given to me and to continue to serve. Thank you.

Assistant Chaplain – James J. Wharry

Although not being able to attend the Booster Meetings, I have had a busy year. I was unable to attend the Booster meetings because of not being able to get coverage for my job and my Church, the Ministry Leader for the CD Ministry. I have been unable to get an adult trained for that coverage. All of my volunteers are teenagers. I attended viewings for deceased members of the CVVFA in Delaware and assisted the Chaplain in plans for the Memorial Service. I sent out get-well and Sympathy cards for the Association as requested. I look forward to a good Convention. I made arrangements to travel with President Daniels next year.

Attorney – Howard S. Cohen

Dear Officers, Members, and Guests, Welcome, and thank you to the Berkeley Springs Volunteer Fire Company for hosting this 107th annual convention of the CVVFA. At the outset, I wanted to again thank the officers and members for awarding me the E. Wade Thomas Memorial member of the year award last year. That was a very meaningful and touching gesture. Also, on a personal note, I wanted to note that I turned 21 during the course of attending my very first CVVFA convention in 1989 in Chambersburg, and 19 years later, in just a few weeks, I'll hit that magic 40 mark.

This has been another active year, and another good year for the Association which has really been reinvigorated over the past few years with all the activity around our Emergency Responder Safety Institute project and ResponderSafety.com website. Congratulations are in order to Steve Austin in particular, who recently spearheaded the transition of the ResponderSafety.com website to a new host that gives us substantially more technical capacity, as well as for refurbishing the CVVFA.org website.

The effort that we spearheaded nearly ten years ago has continued to promote to emergency responders nationwide the importance of vigilance during highway and roadway operations. Through our educational efforts promoting responder visibility, safe parking and blocking techniques, and "watching your back," I know that we've helped prevent needless deaths and injuries. Still, far too many struck-by incidents continue to occur, so clearly our mission remains.

During the past year, I have continued almost daily reporting of struck-by incidents for posting to ResponderSafety.com, and produced an extensive report of proceedings of the Association's Reputational Management Seminar conducted at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia. Fortunately there haven't been any significant legal issues or challenges this past year, and we'll continue to hope that things stay that way. Please enjoy this convention and at its conclusion have a safe journey home.

Delegate to Pennsylvania – Charlie Myers

First of all I would like to thank Berkley Springs for hosting this convention and the American Legion for giving us these very nice facilities to have the meeting at. As for the delegates to the State, on July 18th and 19th we had our quarterly meeting in Gettysburg with a very good turn out and as you heard our convention will be September 24th – September 27th. It will be the 129th Annual Convention and it will be at Gettysburg. I would like for out of state coordinators from Delaware, Maryland and so on to send me a list of who is coming so I can preregister you on Wednesday and get all of the paperwork done. Bob Cumberland told me that

probably on Thursday will be the day that President Jerry and myself, the out of state coordinator will be taking our out of state guests out for lunch. Also, next year you can look for changes in our organization on probably the way that the meeting is handled, with some extra training. The awards committee is going to be split up and next year's convention will be a big impression and I know they also have a very good program also scheduled at this time. One other thing I would like to announce is that on November 24th will be the 18th PA Fire and Emergency Services Dinner.

Pennsylvania State Director – Steven Haines

President Flickinger, Fellow Officers, Members, and Guests – Welcome to Berkley Springs for the 107th Annual CVVFA Convention. A special thank you to the Berkley Springs Volunteer Fire Company for hosting this year's convention. Well Steve your year as President of this Association is coming to a close. Congratulations on a successful year. Hopefully you have accomplished your goals for this Association. I know one of your goals was to have the 5 point Highway Safety Vests for each fire company in Perry County. Mission accomplished. Since our last booster meeting, I have attended my own fire company meetings and our own in house fire training. Also, I have attended my own county Association meetings. Jerry, looking forward to working with you and continue to have another successful year for this Association. Good seeing everyone and I hope that you all will have a fun filled week at this convention. Take care and have a safe trip home.

Pennsylvania State Director – Gerald Holtry

Mr. President, Fellow Officers, Members, Guests, and Chief – Here we are once again in Berkley Springs, West Virginia, celebrating the end of another successful year. I wish to thank Berkley Springs Fire Company, and town, for hosting this the 107th Convention of the CVVFA, the Berkley Springs American Legion for providing a fine place to meet and do business. To the Father and Members of the St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church for the use of their church. Chaplain Barnhart for the moving message and memorial service. The Great Cacapon Fire Department for the Thursday meal, to the Homestead Restaurant – Best Western Hotel which we presented on their first weekend open. Hopefully the weather will be fine for the parade on Saturday. Some of my activities for the year were I attended all the booster meetings, and the January Director's meeting in Halfway, MD. I attended the training weekend at Halfway sponsored by the CVVFA, June 27th and 28th. There were not many attending, these were 3 good classes. I attended my county firefighters meeting, fire police meetings, county and local fire police captain meetings, and fire chief meetings.

Maryland State Director – Wayne A. Baker

I want to thank Berkley Springs for having us up here to begin with. Everything else, it was a busy year for myself. There is a new school going in Frederick County and I was busy with that. I didn't get much time but I did make the all the meetings and I did make it to the Apple Blossom parade to see George. That is just about it, I hope to get the school done and be back on track again. Thanks to everyone for the support and hope that will continue this coming year.

Maryland State Director – Bob Cumberland

Bob was not present on Thursday morning due to the conflict with the Maryland Fire Rescue Education Training Commission meeting at which he was attending. He provided the following written report. President Flickinger, Officers, Directors, and Guests, I want to thank the Berkeley Springs Volunteer Fire Department for hosting the 107th annual convention. I want to thank everyone for your support as the Maryland Director to the Cumberland Valley

Volunteer Firemen's Association. I have attended my county association meetings, my fire department meetings for the past year. I attended the Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention. As member on the Board of Visitors to the National Fire Academy I attended three board meetings in January, April, and July. Our next meeting will be in October, the week of the Fallen Firefighter Memorial weekend which is October 4th and 5th in Emmitsburg.

I worked with AFG program in April, May and July in peer reviews and continue to tech review the AFG grants up to this past week, and will be working on them in the future.

I have worked with the Emergency Responder Safety Institute booth at Fire Expo in Harrisburg, PA., at the Maryland State Firemen's Conference and Firehouse Expo in Baltimore. I will be helping at the conference in Hampton Roads for the Virginia Firefighters Association convention on August 13th – 15th; I want to thank everyone for their help in manning the booth at Fire Expo in Harrisburg, PA., MSFA Conference/Convention, and Fire House Expo in Baltimore. I also want to thank Jerry Daniels, Walter Robinson and Steve Austin for their support in working with the booth at most of the shows that we have attended. I will continue working with and supporting the safety program for the responders on the highway.

I had the chance to deliver the 50 year Resolution to Kenneth Clouser, a member of Hanover Fire Department and Past Chief of the Pleasant Hill Volunteer Fire Department in Pennsylvania. Working with Bob Timko, we made a presentation on the National Volunteer Fire Council and Responder Safety Institute to the students in the VIP program at the National Fire Academy.

President Flickinger, I would like to thank you for the great job you did this past year in leading our Association forward. I look forward to working with the incoming officers next year and will support them and doing what I can to help them, all they need to do is call, as I am as close as the telephone. I want to thank everyone for their continued support of the Association, and I will continue to help each one of the new officers of the Association and any of the member departments that may need assistance.

West Virginia State Director - Rodney Kelley

I would like to open with thanks and welcome to Berkley Springs for the 107th Annual CVVFA Association meeting. I hope you enjoy your visit to Berkley Springs. During the past year I have attended my company meetings and have worked with the members of our fire companies to plan this convention. I also have also been appointed to the duty of Treasurer for our fire company and have been working on ordering a new engine as we secured a grant this past year. Thank you.

West Virginia State Director – Harry Alt

Harry was absent from the meeting on Thursday as he was attending a funeral service for a family member. He provided the following written report. Mr. President, Officers, Members and Guests. It has been a privilege to serve this past year as Director of this Association. I have attended all the Booster meetings as well as the Board of Directors meeting in January at Halfway. I wish to thank all those departments for their continued support of this Association. To Berkeley Springs a special thanks for hosting this year's convention. For those who have never been involved in hosting a convention you do not know the amount of energy and work done to prepare for it. During the year I have attended a number of funerals and memorial services for those who have answered the final call. This includes the past president of our county association who passed away in July. I have also attended the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial program in Emmitsburg. I again served as Chairman of the State Safety Seminar in Jackson's Mill and would like to thank the members of this Association for their assistance in that program.

As Chairman of the Scholarship committee we were again able to select two individuals to aid in their education. This Association has now provided assistance to 25 individuals in their college and educational endeavors. This Association has accomplished many endeavors over the years in training, educational opportunities, and firefighter safety. In order for this to continue it is my opinion that positions such as scholarship chairman should be open to younger members for the experience and opportunity to prepare to take over the leadership down the road. Again thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Virginia State Director – Lee Holler

Lee was absent from the convention due to illness. We all join together in wishing him good health for the coming year and look forward to seeing him in October.

Virginia State Director – Allen Brennan

Good morning. I would like to thank Berkley Springs for hosting our convention this year. We certainly are going to have a good time. During this past year I have attended all of the functions of the CVVFA Convention held in Winchester, also the Presidents Council meetings of all the officers held in Winchester. A month after I left here, I went to the State Firefighters Association Convention in Hampton, VA. I attended all of the functions down there. In October I attended the dedication for the regional fire training facility for the City of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania County and King George County. I also attended the booster meeting for the CVVFA held in Berkley Springs. I attended the executive committee of the Virginia State Firefighters held in Charlesville. In January I attended the Board of Directors meeting for the CVVFA and I installed the Officers of the Chancellor Volunteer Fire and Rescue. I attended my installation of the Fredericksburg Volunteer Fire Company and Ladies Auxiliary. In April we went to the National Volunteer Fire Council Meeting in Arlington, VA and I also attended the Congressional Fire Service Institute Dinner in Washington, DC. In the month of April I had the pleasure of going to the fireman's home for the Presidents Council meeting in the State of New York and we toured the home and museum and I tell you it was a beautiful place to see. In June, at the request of the President of the State Firefighters Association of Virginia I represented the State of Virginia at the Maryland State Fireman's Convention held in Ocean City. I attended all the business meetings of my fire company held over the last year. I was unable to attend the National Volunteer Fire Council fall meeting in Rhode Island due to family sickness. I also was not able to attend the Spring Executive Committee meeting in Hampton because I was at the National Volunteer Fire Council spring meeting in Arlington. I was also unable to attend some of the booster meetings of the CVVFA. I hope everyone has had a good year and I am looking forward to the coming year.

Delaware State Director – Robert Hahn

Pappy was not present for the convention.

Delaware State Director – Steve Austin

I just received this email a few minutes ago. I was going to speak about it. Rod Ammon, who is a good friend of this Association lost his dad last week about the same time the McBee family lost their mother. I bring it forth to you because we had a discussion last night about sustainability of our Association and partnerships with many non-traditional businesses and organizations that support the CVVFA. For those of you that recall, he produced the first promotional DVD, "We Are the Men and Women of the CVVFA". It was about a 6 or 7 minute presentation. When Gene was President he said we needed a DVD to tell our story and we had a situation like we normally do, where is the money going to come from. Those can cost anywhere from \$100 for a second or to up to \$10,000. Rod Ammon donated the DVD to us and

that was the beginning of our relationship with Stone House Media and we have done a lot of business with them. They are a vendor for us on our federal contract and produced us some short videos that you will get to see today. One of them starts with PP Joe Bukowski as a perpetrator that attacks a police officer and another one on firefighting we did just up in Harrisburg with the Harrisburg PD. They treated us very well. As Howard mentioned a while ago about the website, we decided we needed to do something very dramatic about changing our website and we put it out on bids because it was a lot of money and we did not know if the federal grant money would pay for that and because it was so much money we put it out on bid. We had three bidders, the first of which was \$29,000, which was the most expensive bid from Rod Ammon and Stone House Media, way out of our budget. After the bidding process closed, he called us up and said I am donating that to the CVVFA. And I can tell you that from working on the other side of this with him how much time and effort it took for a \$29,000 donation. Carrying on from the directors meeting last night, this is a type of relationship that we need to continue to build with very small businesses. This is a very small business. It is not a multi million dollar corporation and multi million dollar corporations have supported us in the past. I would ask each of you in your communities when you go home to think about how we can sustain the programs of the CVVFA not only through dues only, not on fundraisers alone, not on federal grants alone, not on depending on our good friends at the large insurance companies who have helped us over the years, we appreciate every bit of that. We encourage all types of development, but in order for us to be successful we need people like Rod Ammon, Stone House Media, and many others who believe in what we do, that have a partnership in progress with us, and allow us to continue in doing the things that are good for the betterment of the fire service. Thank you Mr. President.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives and Historical Committee – Guy Flory

We need more filing cabinets.

Audit Committee – Jerry Daniels

I have nothing additional other than we did audit the books last night of the Association and also Emergency Responder Safety Institute Committee and we did find all financial records were in proper order. Thank you.

Budget and Finance – George Dove

No report other than what you have already heard.

Business & Ops Plan – Greg Yost

No report on that.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee – Bob Cumberland, not in attendance, Howard Cohen spoke briefly. I will keep it very brief. First, there are no bylaws changes pending that I know of. There was a question posed by email last week as to the potential election of an officer from a state, representing a state from a state from which that person does not reside and whether there was anything that expressly or otherwise precluded that. A number of us tossed around that question and I think we reached the decision that none of us saw anything that particularly bars that but we ask that the Association members use common sense. We wouldn't want someone from Singapore or Australia to represent Virginia. Now if it were someone to represent Delaware from say nearby Maryland or PA, we would not see any problem with that.

Convention Committee – Robert Trace

We recommended that we go into the next year with the same format we are using for the parade this year, plaques and cash first and second prize. And also for the convention book, that the host company get all of the activities and stuff to us so we can get it printed in the convention book in time. Thank you.

Credentials Committee – Jeff Ringer

To the best of my knowledge we are OK.

Emergency Responder – Steve Austin

No report at this time, will hold off on it.

Fireman of the Year Committee – George Dove

No report, we are ready for the presentation at the banquet Friday night, the plaque will arrive tomorrow morning.

Fire Prevention and Education Committee – Greg Yost

The Second Annual CVVFA Training was held at the Halfway Fire Station at the end of June. Allen Baldwin taught the new “Watch Out Behind You” class on Friday, June 27th attended by 10 personnel. Saturday, the 28th, we had a “Drive to Survive” class. This was attended by 7 personnel. The afternoon class put on by Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute was on Firefighter Safety and Survival and Physical Fitness also had 7 people in attendance. All the classes were very good and received. It was successful despite the low turnout. Certificates are being prepared for those attending the Drive to Survive class. I will be making certificates for all attendees. Due to the generosity of the instructors, MFRI and the Halfway Volunteer Fire Company, this event did not cost CVVFA anything. We gained a few members and renewed some old memberships. On the Fire Prevention front, the committee has talked all year along about some type of display at this convention. This year is a start and hopefully it will be expanded upon. With the cooperation of the Hancock Fire Company, the equipment in the back is loaned to us for display. There is about \$40,000 worth of Fire Prevention equipment back there. Now, Hancock Fire Company is not rich, it was all purchased with grant funds. I wrote one grant which purchased the robots and other equipment. Last years AFG grant was under budget. When that happens you can spend \$5000 on whatever you want and anything above that has to be spent on Fire Prevention. That money purchased the Modeltech Safety House and computer display. In addition to us using the equipment, we are making it available to our neighboring companies. I am sure if any CVVFA member company wants to use it, they can. We just wanted examples of what is available and how to get the funding for it. I will work with any fire company on grant applications if requested.

A question was asked about the training classes for next year. Greg responded that it is his desire to continue and is open to suggestions.

Publicity Committee – Bob Timko

Nothing further to add.

Recruitment and Retention Committee – Allen Brennan

No report at this time.

Resolution Committee – Joe Bukowski

Resolutions requested by the State Directors have been prepared. Thanks to Secretary Worthington for preparing and printing them. Resolutions were also printed for this years 50 year members along with a few others to be presented at this annual convention.

Scholarship Committee – Joe Bukowski

Nothing to add at this time.

President Flickinger announced that at this time we would break for the memorial service. He gave directions to 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.

The annual memorial service was held at the Saint Vincent De Paul Roman Catholic Church. The organist was Mrs. Shirley Hillgren from the church who played wonderfully. The service started with singing and readings by all in attendance. The memorial message was titled "Things That Cannot Be Taken Away" was given by Charlie. Roll call of honored deceased CVVFA members consisted of:

Marshall E. "Ed" Bricker	Rescue Hose Company #1
Raymond F. "Rocky" Eusden	
Fred W. Fahrney	Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway
John W. Johnson	Applewood Fire Department
Burnell R. Keagy	Alpha Fire Company
Stanley W. King	Taneytown Volunteer Fire Company
Theodore Legge	Rouss Fire Company
Edward J. Pechin	Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder
Herbert Rensch	Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
John J. Rouzer	Fayetteville Volunteer Fire Department
George W. Stenger	McConnellsburg Volunteer Fire Department
Gareth B. "Gary" Stitely	Union Bridge Volunteer Fire Company
Newel A. Shireman	Liberty Fire Company
Bernard C. Stotler	Berkeley Springs Volunteer Fire Company
Rudolf M. Wertime	Rescue Hose Company #1
"Aunt" Gwen Windle	Aetna Hose Hook & Ladder

President Flickinger read the names as Assistant Chaplain Wharry placed the memorial flowers in the vase. At the end of the service, President Flickinger presented flowers to the families or representatives of the families. The service concluded with Charlie's singing of the Lords Prayer, just outstanding as always. Our Directors served as escorts for those family members in attendance.

President Flickinger called the convention back to order. He asked for Steve Austin to address the group. Steve introduced James Garcia. He was invited because he has a unique understanding of the issues that we work. He is a survivor from being struck on the highway while working for an EMS Service in South Carolina.

Mr. Garcia introduced himself as a paramedic from South Carolina. He spoke of his accident while working on the highway and how the officer blamed him for his accident because he was a pedestrian walking on the highway. He discussed his role in the Special Hazard Emergency Response Law, meaning that you had to slow down when you saw an emergency scene and that the emergency response units had the right to take over and control the scene. He spoke of many states with incidents that have enacted Emergency Response Laws. All incidents that he spoke of happened in a six month to one year period. He discussed that the Federal Government declined to look into safety response issues because of the cost and that they stated that each state should be responsible for its own transportation regulations. However, it

encouraged DOT and Federal Highway to initiate Intelligent Vehicle Systems and the Fire Service Emergency Vehicle Initiative came out of it. He discussed being a part of the Federal Initiatives. He took what he learned from all the states and the federal initiatives to help make a better law in South Carolina. He asked for everyone to look at the Responder Safety Institute website for great resources of training on video. He talked about the CVVFA and other organizations coming together in 2004 to come out with the United States Fire Administrations Emergency Vehicle Safety Initiative, stating that injuries are part of the business but not acceptable and what can be done in regards to training and safety. He also spoke in regards to move over laws and public education of the laws and that Maryland does not have a move over law. He also feels that the signs on the highways that flash accidents ahead or Amber Alerts should when not in use, be used to promote the safety education on the highways. Please see the Move Over America (moveoveramerica.com) website. He encourages each state to work with their local DOT so you can properly educate the public – it all depends on public relations and spreading the word, making sure that everyone, the public and the authorities, know of all state laws. He stresses good publicity before bad publicity because of an accident. He introduced changes to the Move Over Law in South Carolina this year, however, it got stuck in the house committee. He will continue to work on these laws and he does not see an end to the education. He thanked everyone for listening and for their commitment.

Past President Austin thanked Mr. Garcia for his remarks and presented him with a high visibility vest for his upcoming trip to Cambodia. Steve made some additional comments reference the talk given by Mr. Garcia. The President also thanked him for his remarks. Steve then said committee reports would continue.

Scholarship Committee - Harry Alt

Thank you Mr. President. To begin with it is a privilege to serve this Association and assist the committee members in getting a scholarship recipient this year. We had a number of applications to go through again. Just a brief historical note, back in the early to mid 80's in Williamsport when we first presented the concept of the Association giving a scholarship, it met with mixed feelings. There were a number of members that did not think it was a good idea because it would break the Association. We brought it up, we continued on to the booster meeting, and we brought it up again and it finally got passed. Along the way we enlisted some additional support, JR Haines was involved, Todd Frankenberry and a number of others were active and pretty well known with this Association and we got them involved in supporting us and we got it passed. The first year we did not have any scholarship applications, but since 1989, 19 years ago, this Association, counting this one this year, this will be the 25th scholarship given out. Meaning we have helped roughly 25 individuals, a couple of them the same ones, help them obtain their education in emergency services and fire safety, medical, and nursing along the way. It's a big benefit to this Association to work with this, to continue it, and I am glad to be part of it. The recipients were announced at the May meeting. For the JR Haines Memorial Scholarship it was Ryan Miller from Waynesboro, PA who will be attending the Community College of Alleghany County. For the Butts Memorial Scholarship, it was Justin Siron of Virginia, who will be attending Jefferson College. Both individuals were notified some time ago that they did receive a scholarship and I have no idea if they will be attending the convention. They were both advised that the information was online and they could get it to register. Again, it is a pleasure to serve the Association. Over the past 20 years there have been two chairman, I believe Joe Bukowski was chairman, and I have served as chairman for several years also. Thank you.

President Flickinger then stated there would be one more speaker. He again turned it over to Steven Austin to speak about several topics and his committee reports.

Thank you Mr. President. What we are going to do this afternoon and I think everybody that has been coming to the meetings for a while knows that we are improving our website. I would like to do a couple of things. One piece of business I would like to review with you are the grants that we have outstanding as we do every at conference and convention. Let anyone who has any questions at all about the grants and how we are administering them and so forth, ask us. As you know this morning the audit committee approved the auditor report so we have that done by a CPA and reviewed again by our audit committee. There are a lot of checks and balances about that. We will answer any questions about that whatsoever when we get done talking about that. We want to go over a few things on the web page and then what we will do is encourage you to look at some things on the website that you might not know about. For instance how many of you know all of that information that Jim talked about this morning except the specific accidents, is on ResponderSafety.com. Has anybody ever looked and seen it on there? We have a whole section devoted to nothing but move over laws. And not only do we have the move over laws and a chart to show you the status in many, many states, we also have news articles like Jim showed you in a separate news section. If you are into talking to your legislators about this, we have a chart there you can print out to show what other states are doing, news about this, the charts even show you if it is police, fire, or EMS, and towing and transportation or none of the above. It shows that states that do not have the laws. There are other areas on ResponderSaftey.com that you may not have clicked on. Some of the tabs that you may not have clicked on, there is really good information there. Also to be sure that you get breaking news alert from us. Everybody that is online here, is there anybody online here that does not receive breaking news alerts from Respondersafety.com. We got 100%, that is good. Because if you are online and you are not getting breaking news alerts, you are missing out on a lot of information that we are making available to the rest of the world. As of this morning, we have 3524 persons, it goes up and down every day, on our breaking news alert network. We have new software called Constant Contact that allows us to search and can show you within the last 24 hours where people clicked on ResponderSafety.com. We have people from Europe, people from the Middle East, people from all over the place who click on that and read the stuff that is on our website. I think that is really cool. Now, I would like to take a couple of minutes to show you about CVVFA.org which you know has been redesigned. And I want to ask a question, if you are online, are you getting the Cumberland Valley Express, our electronic newsletter? How many people got it this week, in Latin? We are going to make sure that we are going to get you on there. If you are not on our newsletter, what we want you to do is either get online and sign up for it, it is free, or see me and we will sign you up for it before you leave here. We want to be sure the next time we send out a newsletter you get one of those. This is part of the future. Not all of us are online and not all of us are going to be online, but more and more of us, especially young people that we are trying to attract are reading things on the internet. We want to get this information into their hands and have them have all of the same information that we give out at the meeting. We try to make those, we can't do much on breaking news alerts because they are tragic news, but when we send something out from the Association, we try to make them light and we try to make them informative and try to let you know about the next meeting or something good that has happened to the Association or one of our families that seek some outreach. You saw me take a lot of pictures today, you can expect to see them on the

website. We are trying to get the word out as much as we possibly can about the CVVFA. We have a tremendous amount of history on our web page now, it's all downloadable stuff. We even have the original minute book in the archives. We duplicated all the pages. We have newspaper articles back from the early 1900's. If you are in fire service history, you want to look at the CVVFA.org archives. Anybody that needs any tutoring on this, let me know here at convention and I will be happy to assist you. Steve continued his talk about some of the other pictures and articles from conventions of yesteryear.

He spoke about the grants. We just closed a 2005 Cooperative Agreement from the United States Fire Administration in the amount of \$119,000. There are no cooperative grants from the federal government at this time, however we are awaiting a \$50,000 grant from FEMA. This grant will support the cost of the website and going to some of the shows, as well as providing some educational programs. CVVFA has been contacted by the Fire Administration for a \$45,000 grant to help develop a public service announcement, particularly on the Slow Down, Move Over Law. We are currently waiting on the fire prevention safety grant application, the grant is around \$144,000. Hopefully it will all be cleared out by October. Also, we are in the process of Phase II of our fire grant in the amount of \$166,000 to continue offering our courses across the country. There is no guarantee that we will get any of this money, however, we are certainly hoping we will get them. The last grant was unexpected, it is a grant from the Sheriff's Association of the State of Texas. He discussed on how difficult it has been to work with the police officers on this grant. There is about \$10,000 left of the \$50,000 grant and will not be renewed. Steve asked if there were any questions in regards to any of the grants, and said he and/or others would be willing to discuss the grant money individually with anyone.

Steve then showed some items and the videos on the website about public safety vests and on the Slow Down, Move Over Law. He then showed where it could be found on ResponderSafety.com. He showed also where they were on the CVVFA website, however, they cannot be downloaded from there. You can also view them on YouTube. James Garcia stated that these are good videos to watch and take the tapes to the local television stations for the empty space in the night and in the morning, and ask them to please play the PSA during the down time. Steve continued discussing the various sections on the web. He then discussed the push cards and stated that they had sent out approximately 100,000 of them since June. He read an email from New York requesting the push cards. He also read an email thanking the CVVFA for sending photos for an article written in regards to the fire safety vests. Steve then discussed some other items and special events on the calendar in regards to the CVVFA.org website. This is your website and there for your enjoyment.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

President Flickinger stated that we would now go into the election. He asked for a **Motion** to open the nominations which was given by Steve McBee and seconded by Steven Haines. Nominations were made as follows.

President – Jerry Daniels nominated by Joe Bukowski, seconded by Robert Sweetman

First Vice President – Walter Robertson nominated by Charlie Myers, seconded by Allen Brennan

Second Vice President – Greg Yost nominated by Allen Brennan, seconded by Walter Robertson

Third Vice President – Michael Sullivan nominated by Charlie Barnhart, seconded by Harry Alt

Fourth Vice President – Steven Haines nominated by Robert Trace, seconded by Gerald Holtry

Treasurer – George Dove nominated by Walter Robertson, seconded by Steven Haines

Financial Secretary – Steve McBee nominated by Jerry Daniels, seconded by Allen Brennan
Recording Secretary – Gene Worthington nominated by Robert Trace, seconded by Dean Simpson
Home Office Manager – Steve Heefner nominated by Allen Brennan, seconded by Charlie Myers
Publicity Manager – Robert Timko nominated by Guy Flory, seconded by Steve Haines
Chaplain – Charles Barnhart nominated by Wayne Baker, seconded by Dean Simpson
Assistant Chaplain – James Wharry nominated by Robert Sweetman, seconded by Allen Bennis
Attorney – Howard Cohen nominated by Harry Carter, seconded by Robert Sweetman
Delegate to PA – Charles Myers nominated by Robert Trace, seconded by Steve Haines
Director Pennsylvania (2010) – Gerald Holtry nominated by Steve Heefner, seconded by Charles Myers
Director Pennsylvania (2009) – Rich Bruner nominated by Steve Haines, seconded by Dean Simpson
Director Maryland (2010) – Bob Cumberland nominated by Charles Barnhart, seconded by Robert Sweetman
Director West Virginia (2010) – Harry Alt nominated by Steve McBee, seconded by Harry Carter
Director Virginia (2010) – Allen Brennan nominated by Dean Simpson, seconded by Robert Sweetman
Director Delaware (2010) – Steve Austin nominated by Harry Carter, seconded by Charles Myers

MOTION was made to close the nominations by Harry Alt, seconded by George Dove

MOTION was made for the Secretary to cast the ballot since all offices were unopposed by Charlie Myers, seconded by George Dove, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, passed.

President Flickinger stated there was no further old business since this was completed last night at the Board meeting. The only outstanding issue was the Jordan proposal on merchandising for the Association.

MOTION was made to accept Jordan's proposal on merchandising CVVFA items by Wayne Baker, seconded by Robert Trace, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, passed.

Guy Flory announced that he had collected \$181 towards the Louise Dell Memorial trophy to be presented at the parade. Steve thanked all for their generosity.

President Flickinger then opened the floor for new business. Chaplain Barnhart said that he had the resolutions and flowers for those not in attendance at the memorial service, and asked that the Directors of the respective states take them. He asked, again, if the booster meetings could be changed from Sunday to Saturday and asked if anyone had any input in regards to that. There was no discussion from the body, therefore President Flickinger delayed the proposal to the Board of Directors meeting, and Chaplain Barnhart said he would delay changing until after the 2009 Convention. A statement was made that some people work on Saturdays, and talked about how it is a 2 day event booster meeting, because of training on Saturday and booster meeting on Sunday. He also said that it might go to a 3 day, because of the growth of the CVVFA. Chaplain Barnhart said the reason he is bringing this up is because there is no Chaplain attending the booster meetings at this time. Howard Cohen said there would have to be a by-law change to accommodate the proposal. President Flickinger said again this will be addressed at the next booster meeting and a decision will be made from there. The next booster meeting will be in October, and will be sent to you with the year's list of activities. Chaplain Barnhart then

said he hopes everyone enjoyed the Memorial Service, and to speak with him if there were any questions or comments.

President Flickinger again asked if anyone had anymore new business. Howard Cohen has produced extensive summaries of proceedings on the Reputational Management Seminar. He said Steve Austin knew more about it. Steve said that a date will be set and the people who are interested in being there will be contacted, and the report will be sent out once all that is determined. Steve Heefner asked if Steve Austin could go back to the ResponderSafety.com website and go to the gallery section. He showed everyone the second phase of scene safety and members of the CVVFA that are participating in the second phase. Steve Austin spoke about the standardization of the colors being used on apparatus striping and they are being required on all new apparatus after 2009. He said that without any training, and anything, the public will be able to notice the coloring and know there is fire equipment ahead.

President Flickinger asked if there were was any other new business. Gene Worthington commented that Level VFC purchased a new piece of apparatus that has the reflective striping coming in late August and that Harford County, Maryland has purchased 600 safety vests. With no other new business, President Flickinger asked for the Good of the Association.

Rich Brunner said that there were colleges asking about the scholarships offered by the CVVFA. He said several colleges did not realize that the CVVFA offered any scholarships. He had a thought to create some publicity posters advertising the CVVFA and the scholarships offered to be placed in colleges to get the word out. President Flickinger deferred the topic to committee for further study.

President Flickinger invited everyone to attend the picnic and directions were given to get to the picnic area. Picnic begins at 5:30pm. President Flickinger asked for volunteers to stay and reset the room for the President's Council meeting tomorrow. There were three resolutions from the memorial service presented and given out to the appropriate state directors. Assistant Chaplain Wharry gave the closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm and will reconvene at 9am Friday morning.

President Flickinger reconvened the convention Friday morning at 9am for the Presidents Council meeting. Chaplain Barnhart gave the invocation, followed by the pledge to the flag. Chief JJ Steiner from the host company gave the opening welcome. President Flickinger offered the welcome on behalf of the CVVFA. All officers were introduced and all others attending introduced themselves. The meeting was turned over to Steve Austin for his facilitation. No further minutes of the meeting were kept. The states of West Virginia, Virginia, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts and South Carolina gave respective comments. Lunch was provided at noon for both the council members and the highway safety training students.

President Flickinger reconvened the CVVFA convention back to order for some additional business to be conducted. It was announced that the October booster meeting would be held in Keyser, WVA. Secretary Worthington reported that he was in receipt of two resignations by state Directors. Delaware State Director Robert Hahn and Virginia State Director Lee Holler requested that their positions be filled with new folks. After reviewing the by-laws and in concert with the Directors Harry Balthis of Delaware and Larry Smallwood of Virginia would be asked to fill the vacant positions.

MOTION was made to accept the names after they both agreed to fill the vacancies for the remaining term of the Director position which will be at next convention by Bob

Cumberland, seconded by Allen Brennan, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, passed unanimously.

The President reminded the Officers to bring their badges with them to the banquet tonight and hearing no other business to be conducted asked for adjournment.

MOTION was made for adjournment by all, meeting ended at 14:20pm.

The banquet program was held Friday evening, August 1, 2008, at the American Legion in Berkeley Springs. President Flickinger gave some opening remarks and asked the Chaplain for the invocation, this was followed by the pledge. Steve continued by asking President Kesecker to give the welcome on behalf of the host company. Mr. Kesecker commented that it was a pleasure to be the host and thanked his committee for their work throughout the year to have made this possible. Steve then presented our host the complimentary check and a resolution from the Association in our appreciation. Dinner was served.

Steve asked for the ladies and gents of the legion to come forward to be recognized for their hospitality during the convention. Rachael and her gals were most supportive the entire convention and we thank them again. He continued with the program by asking Steve Austin to introduce our keynote speaker for the evening. Steve introduced Jim Burns of New York and made some comments stating that Mr. Burns is a good guy, here tonight representing FASNY, recently retired from the state of New York and has a strong background in the volunteer service.

Mr. Burns addressed the group. He stated that he had been a volunteer firefighter since 1961. He continued his remarks with an overview on the history of the New York fire service and more specifically the Firemen's Home in Albany. At their first national convention with 55 delegates in attendance, they formed the Association of New York. They adopted a resolution that limited the organization to volunteers. The Firemen's Home was started in 1888 and construction for the facility started a couple years later. In 1903 an endowment fund was established and the home is still managed today from that fund. The museum was started in 1925 on the grounds adjacent to the home. Later a hospital wing would be built and in 1940 a ladies auxiliary would be formed. The home has had several expansions and upgrades over the years. Presently only a small portion of the original facility remains as a complete new structure has been built.

President Flickinger thanked Mr. Burns for his comments and stated that everyone should make a trip to the home and museum. Steve then asked Harry Alt for the announcement of the scholarship winners. Harry stated that we had a great number of applicants, it was a difficult decision, however an enjoyable one. Harry announced that Ryan Miller of Rescue Hose in Greencastle would be the recipient of the Kenneth E. Butts Memorial Scholarship. He then announced that Justin Siron of Highland Rescue Squad in Doe Hill would be the other scholar winner. Steve thanked Harry and the committee for their dedication over the years with this program.

The President asked Steve Austin to come forward for the awarding of the Youth Leadership Award. After some comments by Steve about the specifics of the Chief Gary "Happy Jack" Easton Youth Leadership, he stated that we had two awardees this first inaugural year, that being Nathan Bowers from Berkeley Springs and Drew HeHaven from Halfway. Special thanks from CVVFA go to Kevin Greenlee for sponsoring the awardees with a new leather helmet. The President presented resolutions to them.

President Steve then asked Secretary Worthington to read the resolutions for our 50 year life members. Resolutions and the gold member cards were presented for the following:

Maurice L. Bossom	Brushtown Fire Company
Bruce W. Clark	Westphal Hose
Chester S. Cornwell	Fairfield Community FD
Henry F. Delauney	Antietam Fire
Norma Y. Gsell	Rescue Hose Company
Ervin J. Jenkins, Jr.	Independent Fire Company
James R. Reid, Jr.	Funkstown FD
Richard A. Smith	Pioneer Hook & Ladder
Galen P. Staver	Cumberland Valley

President Flickinger asked for Steve Austin to return to the podium for the awarding of the E. Wade Thomas Fire Person of the Year. Steve spoke on the background and worthiness of this year's awardee, that being Ernie Rojahn of the Pennsylvania Fireman. Ernie is a great supporter of the CVVFA. Ernie has 50 plus years with the fire service and a retiree from Lancaster County. Ernie is always there to advertise our meetings and training classes and has provided 120,000 of the ResponderSafety push cards. Congratulations Ernie.

Other resolutions were read by Secretary Worthington and presented by the President to Kevin Greenlee, Bob Romig and G. Mitchell Robb for their contributions throughout the year.

President Flickinger made his closing comments by stating the old adage "that time flies by" is certainly coming true tonight. It seems like yesterday that I was standing before this same body giving an acceptance speech on becoming the 107th President of this great organization The Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association. What a great year I have experienced in this organization. From attending and representing CVVFA at the PA Firemen's Institute training and dinner at Camp Hill, traveling to Philadelphia to attend the CVVFA sponsored Reputational Risk Symposium, attending the Halfway, MD fire company annual banquet and helping to install their current officers, also attending Hancock, MD Fire Company annual banquet to install their current officers and attending banquets in Liverpool and New Bloomfield, traveling to Hudson, New York to attend the President's Council meeting hosted by FASNY. By the way if anybody here wants to see a first class fire museum and Firemen's home, Hudson is the place to go. I would like to say a big thank you to FASNY for being involved with our Association. My next stop was participating in the Apple Blossom parade in Winchester, VA. I have been involved in a lot of parades in my life but that was the biggest to date. Thanks to George Dove for the special invitation. Least not to forget our booster meetings and Board of Directors meeting held in Berkeley Springs, Lancaster County fire training center, New Bloomfield and Halfway and finally working our highway safety booth at Fire Expo in Harrisburg. As you can see it's been a busy year and I guess that's why time flew by. One project I am extremely proud to accomplish is the highway safety vest grant program that myself and Chief Mike Minnich of Shermandale FC initiated to provide all twelve fire companies, then ambulance leagues, and the Perry County Sheriff's Department with five point breakaway highway safety vests. With the ground work of the CVVFA on this national project, Perry County became in compliance with federal standards. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Officers and committee members of this past year with everyone doing their best in their continuing to strive forward as one of the leading organizations in the fire service today. I would like to also take this opportunity to thank some special people that I owe a big thank you

for helping me through this year as President. Secretary Gene Worthington for e-mailing agendas for meetings and updating important info, Home Office Manager Steve Heefner for keeping me informed about booster meetings and convention info. Vice Presidents Jerry Daniels, Walter Robertson, Greg Yost and Mike Sullivan for stepping up to the plate and attending events that I couldn't attend. A special thank you to Jerry Daniels for going through the chairs to becoming our 108th President. I will be here to help in any way. Committee Chair and Director Steve Austin, as I mentioned last year I consider Steve as our number one national figure in the fire service today, without his commitment and dedication, our Association would not be where it is today as a leading fire service figure. Please stand up and give your support to our number one man, thank you Steve. Another person I'd like to thank is from my own company, Assistant Chief Dick Amsler. His unselfish willingness to fill in for me when I'm attending CVVFA events really puts me at ease when I'm out of town. Thanks Dick for all your help and support. Also thank you to all my friends from Newport for all your support throughout this past year, it was greatly appreciated. A big thank you to my family for your support this past year. I know our parents Judge and Polly are looking down and smiling seeing that we are still a strong and close knit family, who are very supportive of each other, thank you all. A very special thank you goes to my wife Peg for all her support and commitment to my endeavors to the fire service. I am blessed with 30 years of marriage and our wonderful daughter Megan and all the wonderful times in our lives, Peg and Megan, thank you and I love you. Finally, with all the support of everyone sitting here tonight, let the CVVFA continue to be a front runner and leader in the emergency services to come. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President this past year.

Steve then asked for installing Officer PP Austin to come forward to introduce the new Officers and administer the oath of office to them. Steve asked for all the Past Presidents in attendance to be recognized, a group picture was taken. He asked them to present the newly elected Officers with their respective badges. The names were read, the oath was given and congratulations was offered to all.

Immediate Past President Flickinger presented the gavel to President Jerry Daniels and provided some encouraging words of wisdom about the gavel. Jerry was also given his badge and pocket insert designating him as President of the CVVFA along with the customary ResponderSafety golf shirt. Jerry then read a resolution for Steve in recognizing his term as President.

Peg Flickinger asked to speak at the podium and made remarks about the family atmosphere of the booster meetings, congratulated Steve on his term and proceeded with the annual awarding of the crown to Jerry for his wife to wear this year signifying the first lady.

President Daniels offered congratulations to the new Officers, that he needed their support, looking forward to the new year working together to make this an exceptional year, keep the train moving and at the same time we need help from our younger members. The committees will remain the same as last year, will add some new folks later. Thanks to Berkeley Springs VFC for hosting the convention, it has been well organized with great hospitality.

The 50/50 ticket was awarded along with other door prizes. Rodney Kelley gave an update on the parade along with directions of the route. The parade starts at noon and the prizes will be given out at 2:30pm.

President Daniels announced that the next booster meeting would be held in Keyser, WVA on the weekend of October 18 & 19, 2008. A reminder was made of the prayer breakfast at the hotel restaurant on Saturday morning starting at 7:30am, open invitation for all to attend.

Chaplain Barnhart gave the benediction. President Daniels announced adjournment of the 107th annual convention.

Saturday morning we met at the hotel restaurant for the prayer breakfast. Some 20 folks were in attendance to enjoy the great hospitality and a message from the Chaplain. Saturday afternoon, we all enjoyed the firefighter's parade, the food at the fair grounds and the awarding of the trophies. This ended the convention for August 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Worthington, Recording Secretary