

**Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
 Convention July 30 – August 2, 2014
 Chambersburg Fire Department PA
 Proceedings and Minutes**

President James Watson called the 113th annual convention to order at 9:05am. He asked for the invocation from Chaplain Barnhart. The Chaplain offered the prayer giving thanks for those in attendance and the Officers of the Association for a successful year. President Watson asked for the colors to be presented by the Chambersburg Fire Department Honor Guard with vocalist Bailey Orange singing the anthem. After the colors were presented, President Watson led the group in the pledge to our flag. The Honor Guard retired, Jim thanked our vocalist and everyone was seated. He then introduced Dick Hershey to give the welcome from the host company.

Dick made some brief comments concerning the activities for the day and thanked his committee for their hosting of convention, was glad the day has come. Jim then introduced Mayor Brown from Chambersburg for some comments and welcome. The Mayor brought the welcome, spoke on the history of the CVVFA, and gave thanks for what we do.

The President introduced our special guests, Sandra Cullen and her husband from PA, Les Warrick from DE.

Jim then appointed the following special committees for convention.

Sergeants-at-Arms -

Wayne Baker - chair
 Robert Sweetman

Election Committee -

Charlie Myers– Judge
 Frank Underwood- Teller
 Dave Hoover – Teller
 Jerry Daniels - Clerk

Installing Officer – Steve Austin

Recording Secretary Gene Worthington took roll call as follows: We had 101 representatives in attendance for convention.

TITLE	NAME	OCT	BOARD	MARCH	MAY	BOARD	CONV
President	James Watson	1	1	1	1	1	1
1st Vice President	Walter Robertson	1	1	1	1	1	1
2nd Vice President	Hoby Howell	1	1		1	1	1
3rd Vice President	Bill Keller	1	1	1	1	1	1
4th Vice President	Rich Brunner	1			1	1	1
Treasurer	George Dove	1	1	1		1	1
Financial Secretary	Stephen McBee	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	Bob Timko		1			1	1
Chaplain	Charles Barnhart						1
Assistant Chaplain	James Wharry	1	1	1	1	1	1
Attorney	Howard Cohen		1				1
Pennsylvania Delegate	Charlie Myers	1	1	1		1	1
Director, Pennsylvania (2015)	Donna Welsh	1	1	1	1	1	1
Director, Pennsylvania (2014)	Mike Whitzel	1	1	1	1		
Director, Maryland (2015)	Dave Lewis	1	1			1	1

Director, Maryland (2014)	Robert Cumberland	1		1		1	1
Director, West Virginia (2015)	Dustin Amtower						
Director, West Virginia (2014)	Mike Sullivan						
Director, Delaware (2015)	Harry Balthis	1	1	1	1	1	1
Director, Delaware (2014)	Steve Austin	1			1	1	1
Director, Virginia (2015)	Steve Switzer	1	1	1	1	1	1
Director, Virginia (2014)	Allen Brennan		1	1	1	1	1
Director, New York	Dave Jacobowitz	1				1	1
Past President	Steven Haines	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Totals	20	18	16	16	21	23
Past Presidents		13	11	14	10	13	15
Maryland Fire Depts		12	0	11	8	0	9
Delaware Fire Depts		5	0	10	7	0	12
Virginia Fire Depts		7	0	8	53	0	9
West Virginia Fire Depts		1	0	1	1	0	1
Pennsylvania Fire Depts		27	0	33	14		31
Others		1	0	0	0	1	1
	Grand Totals	86	29	93	109	35	101

Recording Secretary Worthington then read the minutes from the Board of Directors meeting held July 30, 2014. *“The meeting was called to order by President Watson at 7:10, Assistant Chaplain led the group in prayer followed by the pledge. The welcome was given by Chief William FitzGerald. Roll call was taken of the Officers and Past Presidents. There were no communications for reading.*

Financial Secretary McBee provided comments regarding the update to the membership list.

Director Bob Cumberland thanked all for the prayers during his recovery from knee surgery. He also spoke on his appointment at the NFA. Congratulations to the Washington County cadet program for their NVFC award.

Director Welsh brought greetings and provided some comments.

COMMITTEE

Auditing – Jerry Daniels

The committee has reviewed the books for the year. Also the auditor has reviewed same and found in proper order. Motion to accept the auditing report by Keller, seconded by Howell, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Constitution & ByLaws – Bob Cumberland

The committee is requesting a change to the life membership from 50 to 25 years. This will be brought up during convention business for action.

Convention – Steve Flickinger

Steve reported on the finances with a profit to date, outstanding parade sponsors are 2, will contact them tomorrow. He then asked Dick Hershey to give some additional comments. Dick gave some additional logistics, have 112 pre-registered apparatus for the parade, thanks to his committee, looking forward to a good convention.

Memorial – Charlie Barnhart

Charlie stated dress will be casual for the service, looking forward to a good turnout. Saturday morning prayer breakfast at 8 at the Chambersburg diner.

Publicity – Bob Timko

Bob spoke about the convention book, thanks to the local folks for the additional ads. Unfortunately, we received some ads after the deadline and were not able to place in the book. The vendor had to outsource the book for binding due to the size.

Resolutions – Jerry Daniels

Jerry reported all requests for resolutions were forwarded to the Secretary.

Home Office Manager – Steve Heefner

Steve commented on the challenge in reserving the hotel rooms, reservations for 53 guests.

President Watson advised that our host will be providing lunch after the memorial service in lieu of on your own.

New Business

Motion was made to pay the convention expenses by Dave Lewis, seconded by Dave Jacobwitz, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

VP Howell asked for prayers for his family as he was just advised of a medical emergency in the immediate family.

Motion was made for adjournment at 7:35pm by Dave Lewis, seconded by Steve Austin.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Worthington

Recording Secretary

President Watson asked for a motion to accept the Board of Directors minutes, **MOTION** to accept by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Dave Lewis, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, motion carried.

President Watson asked for a motion to approve the May booster meeting minutes that had already been posted on the web. **MOTION** to accept as posted by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Dave Lewis, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, motion carried.

Secretary Worthington stated we did not have any correspondence to be read at this time.

There were no fire prevention queens in attendance.

Jim asked for the report of the Chaplain. Charlie gave his welcome, thanked all for the cards sent to him after his fall damaging his shoulder. I am back to normal activity after my broken wing. We have sent out cards, thanks to Jimmy, good to see Bob Cumberland back with us with a new knee. Also we want to extend our prayers to Greg Yost on the loss of his daughter. We also want to remember Hoby's daughter-in-law who had heart surgery yesterday, doing much better this morning. The memorial service is just up the street, dress is casual, feel free to join us in worship. The prayer breakfast list will be going around this afternoon, will be at 8am Saturday morning at the Chambersburg Diner. Please remember the Delaware City Chief, possible stroke. I was also asked for a special request from Psalm 109, which he read. We have a great service planned and look forward to you joining us, thank you.

Jim introduced Jack Hurley, another guest PA Fire Police.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

President's Report – James Watson

I would like to thank the Greater Chambersburg Area Firemen's Officers, members and convention committee for hosting the 113th annual CVVFA convention. In the past year I have traveled 7,035 miles while attending 72 events representing the CVVFA and ResponderSafety. We owe Candice McDonald, Claudia Garner and Erin Drumheller a round of applause for all their hard work with Reputation Management. Once again the CVVFA is taking the lead in promoting this important initiative to our national fire service members and leaders. A sincere thank you is owed to PP Greg Yost for his

tireless dedication to ResponderSafety. He always makes sure that the equipment makes it to the next place and helps set up the display for us giving us great exposure to event attendees. I want to thank my Officers for their support this year. It has been a pleasure to work with each and every one of them and I look forward to continuing that relationship. It was my honor to serve the CVVFA as its President. Last but not least, I owe a huge thank you to my fire company family, Delaware City, for all of their support and encouragement as I undertook this endeavor.

First Vice President's Report – Walter Robertson

I want to thank everyone in Chambersburg for hosting the convention. Since the meeting at my fire company, Wilson in Lyndurst, VA, I have been busy. I have attended all my fire company meetings and fundraising activities, county meeting. Taught EVOC classes at 5 different departments in the area, also I have attended different fire department carnivals and parades. On a sad note, I have attended funerals for members of a couple of different companies. Again, I thank Chambersburg for hosting the convention and everyone has a safe trip home.

Second Vice President's Report – Hoby Howell

We would like to thank the New Franklin FC here in Chambersburg for your hospitality in hosting our 113th annual CVVFA convention here this week at your facility. We appreciate your dedication to your community and our Association. Since my last booster meeting, I've attended my regularly scheduled fire company meetings, drills at Fallston, MSFA. Attended Harford/Cecil meetings, missed our last couple of meetings due to work. Attended MSFA and handed out the Smith N. Stathem Memorial Safety Award. I would also like to take this time to thank President Watson for his year's service, thanks again.

Third Vice President's Report – Bill Keller

I would like to thank the Greater Chambersburg Area Firemen for hosting the CVVFA 113th annual convention. They have done a great job of setting everything up for this year's convention. Over the past year, I have attended booster meetings. I attended the Board meeting in January. I have been busy teaching fire and EMS classes since the last convention. I have taught Truck Company Operations, ICS, NIMS 300 & 400, EMT recert, live fire burn, Fire Officer I and II, EVOC, CPR instructor and EMTB. I attended the National Traffic Management train the trainer course held at the NFA in June. I have enjoyed being able to help the CVVFA this past year. The Association really has done a great job this year as always, helping keep the fire service safe and educated. A big thank you for President Watson who has done an outstanding job this year as our leader and to all of the other Officers and Directors, you all have been great to work with. I look forward to working with the incoming President and Officers for the coming year.

Fourth Vice President's Report – Rich Brunner

Good afternoon President Watson, Officers, members and guests, welcome to the CVVFA annual meeting. A special thanks to the Chambersburg and Fayetteville fire companies for hosting the convention this week and preparing the food that you have enjoyed. As usual the hospitality of our hosts is second to none and very indicative of the member companies of the CVVFA. I am glad to be here after a hectic few months within our fire company dealing with grants and purchasing a new engine. Since our last meeting I have attended all of our company meetings, training and functions. I have also attended training for Emergency Coordinators presented by Perry County Emergency Services and continue to work with our county EMS coordinator. I have also attended an EVOC class to re-certify to drive our apparatus. However, once again the state requirements are becoming overwhelming and I fear that they will push the volunteer service in PA out of existence, Again, thanks to all involved for making today's meeting a success and wish everyone a safe trip home.

Treasurer's Report – George J. Dove

George provided the following account balances:

ENDING BALANCES

General Account	25114.44
Death Benefit Account	300.00

CD 90681.07
NET WORTH 116095.51

I also want to thank Chambersburg, the last time I was on these grounds was in 1967.

Financial Secretary's Report – Stephen C. McBee

Good evening to everyone attending the CVVFA convention. I have been updating my membership lists for individuals and companies when notified. We still need help tracking down members that have moved and left no forwarding address. I am guessing some of them are deceased and no family was aware of their membership. I thank the membership for allowing me to serve as Financial Secretary over the years. If you haven't received any information, either by e-mail or the US Postal Service, please see me during the convention to update your contact information.

Recording Secretary's Report – Gene Worthington

Good morning, Mr. President, members and guests, I would like to say thanks to our host Chambersburg for the convention. It is obvious that much planning has gone into this convention which we appreciate. The office remains active as the booster meeting minutes were transcribed and distributed. Personally, I have attended most of my county and state meetings along with some training sessions. The agenda was forwarded onto the President. As always the office stands ready to support the Association.

Home Office Manager's Report – Stephen E. Heefner

Mr. President, Officers, members and guests, welcome to the 113th annual convention. Most of you here today have heard of Lon Chaney "Man of a thousand faces," well I know Dick Hershey, man of a thousand jobs. Several years ago, while Dick was working in Hagerstown at one of his jobs, he contacted me about hosting another convention in Chambersburg. Our first meeting was held in Halfway where I first met Chief FitzGerald and a new fire service relationship was formed. Several meetings were held and a date was selected and the Greater Chambersburg Firemen's Association started making plans. Thanks to the entire committee for bringing us here today. Please enjoy yourselves and visit often. This is a special homecoming for me as Chambersburg was the host city when I was President in 2000-2001. Throughout the year, I attended all CVVFA meetings, distributed all correspondence received by my office, produced and mailed approximately 800 post cards and convention newsletters to our members and member companies. I am currently accepting booster meeting and convention locations for the upcoming year beginning with March and May 2015 booster meetings and 2017 convention and beyond. Please visit our hospitality at the Country Inn & Suites. Once again, I will accept another year as HMO if elected. May everyone travel home safe and hope to see you in October.

Publicity Manager's Report – Robert Timko

Thanks to Chief FitzGerald and his committee for soliciting ads for the book. I do want to challenge all to get one ad, increases the profit. Hopefully everyone is happy with the book, do apologize for mistakes, they did have to outsource the binding of the book. We do apologize for ads not making the book due to the timeline for submission.

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

Nothing additional to report, leaving for the service.

Assistant Chaplain – James J. Wharry

Since the last meeting, I have sent cards when requested and attended my own company meetings. It has been another year when we had cards for members reported as being sick or injured to pass around at meetings for all to sign. I have a supply of cards for the convention. Please let me know of any illnesses or injuries. It has been good to hear of people who received and appreciated these cards. Thank you to the Chambersburg FD for hosting this convention. Please contact me if you need a sympathy card or thinking of you card sent for one of our members.

Attorney – Howard S. Cohen

Mr. President, Mr. Secretary, officers, members, and guests, welcome to, and thanks for attending, this exciting convention. And thank you to the Chambersburg area fire companies for hosting the CVVFA's 113th annual convention that brings the CVVFA back to its 1901 founding roots. This convention also marks my 25th year of CVVFA membership – which also started here in Chambersburg –

and 20th year as its attorney. Many years have passed since I joined in 1989. Reminding me of my age, the CVVFA has some members who weren't even born when I joined. As the years pass and I move to a new phase in my professional career, some of my CVVFA activities must slow down, too. Over the next few months, I'll be transitioning the daily struck-by searches I've contributed to our ResponderSafety website for over a decade – but which long ago become too much for me to handle on a daily basis – to some new system to which others will also contribute. Over the past few months I've comprehensively reviewed our bylaws, which haven't been significantly altered since the overhaul 20 years ago that prospectively did away with new beneficial memberships. From this review, I've come up with many suggestions – some radical – that I've presented to our bylaws committee for future consideration. Back in the mid-1990s, with the CVVFA's membership and scope of activities in decline, a number of us thought the CVVFA wasn't going to survive to see its 100th year. That trend reversed, and the Association's ResponderSafety and Reputation Management efforts have won it well-deserved recognition, a sterling reputation, and a new generation of leaders to move it forward. So, in the longer run, I look forward to seeing the new directions our developing crop of leaders takes the CVVFA in the years ahead, and in the shorter run I look forward to enjoying with you all the rest of this fine convention.

President Watson introduced Tom Savage and John Weeks as guests from the PA Federation.

Delegate to Pennsylvania – Charlie Myers

Our state convention will be held September 24 to 27 in Meadville. The memorial service will be in the morning this year. Charlie requested the out of state coordinators to give him a list of names who will be attending the PA convention. We are looking for a nice delegation of guests.

Board of Directors

Pennsylvania State Director – Donna Welsh

Members and Guests, I would like to thank Chambersburg for hosting the convention and all the time spent preparing. The year has passed by quickly and I have met some great people as I traveled to different fire stations. I attended the president's council meeting in Delaware and gained a lot of useful knowledge that I took back to my station for fire prevention week. It was great to hear the discussion on what others are doing for recruitment and retention. I was also able to ride to the ocean for a couple of hours so that added to the value of the trip. I attended the booster meeting in Virginia and experienced what a real road trip was thanks to the Steve's and the others in the vans. Back home I have attended my department meetings, took some continuing education and worked on department grants as well as attended the County LEPC meetings that I am the chairman of. I continue to invite people to become a member of this great organization. It has been a great year and I am looking forward to next year. Take care, enjoy yourself and have a safe trip home.

Pennsylvania State Director – Mike Whitzel

Mike was absent, sent this report. Officers, Members, Guest, welcome to the 113th annual convention. I would like to thank the Chambersburg Fire Company for hosting the convention this year. The Officers, Members, and Guests are looking forward to the hospitality from the Chambersburg Fire Company in this year's convention. I have been attending my Fire Company's meetings, trainings, fundraising, fire prevention programs. I attend 5 Municipality meetings each month to report on the Company's activities. (calls, training, etc.) I worked the booth on Sunday with Greg at the Fire Expo in Harrisburg. I attended the PA Wild land Fire Warden's training weekend at the Susquehanna College in Selinsgrove PA in June. I took the FI-110 Wild Fire Observations & Origin Scene Protection. It was great to train with Fire Wardens across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In July I had the opportunity to attend PA Weekend at the National Fire Academy. I took an executive skills series class: Exercising leadership within communities. This has been one of my best learning experiences at the National Fire Academy. I've been promoting the Cumberland Valley Firemen's Association every chance get. I steer them to the learning net, Facebook and Website. I also let them know what the value of becoming a member of our association is. The past couple of months I been traveling for the Harley-Davidson Motor Company. I have not been to many meetings and activities other than my Company. I will not be at the

convention on Wednesday or Thursday. I will be there on Friday for the banquet. I am very interested in running for the PA Directors position. My term is up this year. This would be an honor and a privilege to hold this position. Thank you for your time and understanding, I can't make the meeting on Wednesday and Thursday. I have items that are due at the end of the month. I will be staying in Chambersburg Friday to Sunday.

Maryland State Director – Dave Lewis

Let me begin by thanking the Greater Chambersburg Firemen's Association for hosting this year's convention and extend my personal congratulations to President Jim Watson on a successful year as President of the CVVFA. I thank everyone for having the confidence in me last year in my election as one of the two Maryland's Directors and hope that I have met your expectations. I send my best wishes to my fellow Director Bob Cumberland as he continues his recovery and hope that he is able to join us for this convention. Over the past year, I have been busy attending to my assigned duties with the CVVFA, the NVFC, my state association (MSFA), my county association, and my home fire company (Odenton Volunteer Fire Company). Someone asked me what I was doing with my free time now that I completed my term of office as President of the MSFA and I can only respond, "What free time?" It seems like there always is something else to do when you dedicate yourself to the fire service. From the state of Maryland, I bring you greetings from President Dave Keller and Vice Presidents Johnnie Roth and Mike Davis, who will be here to join us on Friday for the Presidents Council meeting. We recently held our annual Convention and Conference in Ocean City in June and I thank those out-of-state guests that joined us during that week. It is always a pleasure to have our out-of-state partners join us for the convention and we also enjoy reciprocating by attending your conventions. Each visit across the borders gives us an opportunity to share ideas and programs to help advance the volunteer emergency services organizations in our respective states. The Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA) was fortunate to have received a \$2.2M grant under the SAFER program to enhance our recruitment and retention program. We partnered with our Maryland Fire Chiefs Association (MFCA) to provide one solid movement in the R&R area across the state. We hope to model off the successes of several of our surrounding states who have also received SAFER grant funding. I would recommend that we set some time aside at a future meeting to talk about successes and programs that each state has been able to implement so that this information is widely shared among the members of this organization. During my tenure as faculty with the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI), I had the opportunity to develop a Volunteer Company Leadership and Administration class to assist member companies in addressing the needs of their membership in moving their organization's forward. Our state association identified LEADERSHIP as the number one challenge to the success of a volunteer fire company. This program has been in the field now for a year and additional course offerings are being presented across the state. Feedback has been very positive and many believe that this will greatly enhance the quality of leadership in some of our member companies who take advantage of this training. I am certain that MFRI would grant permission to share this training program with any of our partner states that would like to take advantage of this program. I had the opportunity to serve on the peer review panels for both SAFER and AFG this past year. These programs provide excellent funding opportunities for departments to meet the demands for additional personnel (mostly volunteer, but some paid staffing) as well as updating equipment/apparatus needs. I encourage every department to consider applying for these funds but take the time to submit a complete application. Many of those that we had the opportunity to review suffer from a weak justification and were denied grant funding. If anyone needs some extra help, please don't hesitate to ask for my assistance. I would anticipate that the AFG application period will open sometime in late September as the fall workshops are already being scheduled. I also represent the MSFA as one of the state directors to the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC). I participated in the Board meetings in early May as well as the Training Summit in June. The next meetings will be held in Lafayette, LA, in September. The NVFC has developed a tremendous amount of resources to assist volunteer departments and I would encourage everyone here to take advantage of those resources. Additionally, the NVFC leads the nation's volunteer fire service in representation on a national level. Together, we successfully engaged in getting a positive decision to

exempt the volunteer fire service from the provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). We also recently lobbied to achieve a reversal on a decision to suspend the Federal Excess Property Program (FEPP) that would have severely limited access to excess vehicles and equipment to volunteer fire departments. I also have been supporting the CVVFA's Responder Safety Program as the Continuing Education Manager. We are continuing to make progress towards offering a secondary reporting capability within the on-line learning network that will allow departments to track the progress of their members. I participated in Maryland's Highway Safety Summit in February of this year and had the opportunity to address traffic safety concerns as they affect the operations of our emergency response personnel while working on the roadways. I also had the opportunity to attend FDIC in April and work the booth to discuss our training opportunities with fire service personnel from across the country. I thank Steve Austin for making this opportunity available to me and I hope to continue my support to this important extension to the learning network. I also had the opportunity to attend the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Train-the-Trainer at the National Fire Academy in June and look forward to reaching out to our state's emergency responders with this vital safety information. I look forward to a successful convention and again express my thanks to the Greater Chambersburg Firemen's Association for being our host this week. If I can be of assistance to any of you, please don't hesitate to call me.

Maryland State Director – Bob Cumberland

President Watson, Officers, Directors, and Guests, I want to thank everyone for all the cards, thoughts and prayers while I was down with my health problems. I want to congratulate President Watson and the other officers for a successful year as leaders of the CVVFA. I want to thank the Chambersburg Area Firefighters for hosting 113th annual convention and President's Council meeting. My activities were limited this past year because of health problems, but they have improved and look forward to being more active this coming year and helping the Officers of CVVFA and the Responder Safety program any way I can. I was reappointed to the Board of Visitors to the National Fire Academy for another 3 years representing the association by Administrator Craig Fugate. That means my term will last until September 30, 2016. The board's next meeting will be held on September 19th to 21st, 2014 at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Md. I want to congratulate Washington County Fire & Rescue Association (MD) for receiving Junior Firefighter Program of the Year Award, from the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) for their High School Fire and Rescue Academy firefighter programs, which were made possible through the support of Tyco. The award was presented during a special banquet at the NVFC's spring meeting on May 2 in Alexandria, VA. For the months of May & June we have received \$32.85 for membership renewals or new applications and this is where we are making the most money from the store, not on the sale of the association merchandise. Bob continued to report on a new training program from the NFA on management. Again, thanks for all the cards during my illness.

West Virginia Director – Dustin Amtower - absent

West Virginia Director – Michael Sullivan - absent

Virginia Director – Steve Sweitzer

I cannot believe it has been a whole year since convention last year when I was elected the Director from VA. Seems like it was just yesterday when that took place. Where has the year gone. I would like to thank the Chambersburg area for hosting the convention this year. I have attended meetings and work sessions of my home department. I look forward to working with everyone in the coming year.

Virginia Director – Allen Brennan

Thanks to our host, it is a pleasure to be here. VA convention will be held August 13-16 in Hampton. Thanks to the President for a good year, looking forward to next year. My activities include:

7-31 to 8-3-13 - attended the CVVFA Convention in Shippensburg, PA.

8-14/15/16/17 - attended the VSFA Conference in Hampton, VA and all activities.

11- 9 – attended the VSFA Executive Committee meeting in Charlottesville, VA.

12- 7 – attended a Conference Committee meeting about the upcoming VSFA Conference for 2014.

Attended the Auxiliary to the VSFA Fall Zone Meeting held in Bridgewater, VA.

7-12-14 – attended the CVVFA Board of Directors meeting held in Halfway, MD.

1-25 – attended the Chancellor Volunteer Fire & Rescue Installation banquet in Fredericksburg, VA and installed their officers .

3-16 – attended CVVFA Booster meeting held at the fire department in McConnellsburg, PA.

4-11/12 – attended the State Auxiliary Zone Meeting held at the Riner Fire Dept. in Riner, VA.

5-2/3 – attended the National Volunteer Fire Council Spring meeting held in Alexandria, VA.

5-4 – attended the CVVFA Booster meeting held in Chambersburg, PA.

6-15/16/17/18 – attended the Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention held in Ocean City, MD.

I have attended all of my company meetings and have been working with other members getting our new support unit ready for use.

Delaware Director – Harry Balthis

I would like to thank Chambersburg FD for hosting the convention. During this past year, I have attended all the booster meetings and Directors meeting, as well as some of my home fire company meetings and functions. I attended the Presidents Council meeting in Seaford and the Delaware conference and PA convention. I served on the scholarship committee.

Delaware Director – Steve Austin

My focus has been for several years in encouraging new leaders for the CVVFA and recruiting new members. I have been only partially successful in reaching this goal. Recruiting is the responsibility of every member of this association not just a handful of us. Developing new leadership falls in the same category. Memberships and emerging leaders are identified one at a time by a face to face meeting with prospects. This association has a lot to offer. Please consider we do not have a sufficient number of young people engaged at this point to carry the CVVFA in to the future. I made these comments publically for the first time several years ago at our booster meeting in Keyser. Some things have changed for the better but we have a long way to go. I respectfully request that each of you consider your role and your responsibility and assist in the important endeavor of replacing ourselves.

New York Director – Dave Jacobwitz

Thanks to Chambersburg for hosting convention as others have said. I want to thank President Jim for last year's leadership with great communications. Here is an update of some of our actions.

Recruitment and Retention:

1. **RecruitNY 2014** - we had over 580 departments registered that participated during the scheduled weekend of April 26-27. Last year the number was around 600. Besides fire departments, we had partners such as grocery stores and quick stops providing posters and other resources to get the word out. Even Mercy Flight has gotten involved providing fly-ins to create interest to visit the fire stations.

2. **Youth School Toolkit** - Working on the creation of a toolkit that can be used as a recruitment tool when taken to a high school. It will consist of a video, power point and face to face conversation that almost any fire department can use by just adding their local flavor to the program.

3. **FASNY Website** - We are re-designing the FASNY homepage which will allow us to provide quicker and easier use. Included will be a map of the state and counties. A possible candidate wanting to join their local department can just click on their county and then their town or village to find the name and telephone number of the local department.

4. **SAFER grant** - The FASNY Help scholarships have provided over 200 scholarships each over the last six semesters. This grant has provided over 12,000 new firefighters to the cause.

Legislative Actions

1. **LOSAP Tax Exemption:** We are happy to report that yesterday Governor Cuomo approved the New York State Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget, which includes legislation exempting proceeds from Length of Service Awards Programs (LOSAP) from NYS personal income taxes. This has been a priority for FASNY and its membership for quite some time. Last fall, after legislation passed both houses in Albany, the Governor vetoed the bill expressing his desire for the issue to be part of the budget negotiation process. Thanks to the hard work by the DKC Government Affairs Team, this critical piece of legislation

was finally included in the State budget. Credit is also due to the more than 700 FASNY members who responded to our call to action and sent 1400 individual letters to their elected representatives urging their support. This was a comprehensive effort which illustrated that when the members of the fire service come together and advocate for a cause, we can have a real impact.

2. **2.1 million dollars appropriation** for purchase of Codes Books by NYS Department of State.

Awaiting for the Governor to sign:

1. **Sex Offender**- prohibits people registered under the sex offender registration act from being a volunteer firefighter.
2. **Job Protection** - Authorizes leave for volunteer fire department members or volunteer ambulance squad members for states of emergency
3. **VFBL Out of Jurisdiction Coverage** - Provides coverage for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers when they are injured in the line of duty

Legislative Outreach Sessions FASNY legislative reps are attending sectional meetings across the state to provide information and background on proposed legislative proposals to both invited elected representatives and members.

PERSONAL TRAINING:

I had the honor to represent FASNY, the CVVFA and the NVFC at the **Tampa2 program** which was convened to review the 16 Life Safety Initiatives. It provided a plethora of considerations toward the existing 16 initiatives, and if some needed to be updated or replaced. I am awaiting the written outcomes that come out of this thought provoking couple of days. I also had the luck to attend and represent the FASNY/CVVFA/NVFC at a national forum put on by the Safety, Health and Survival Section of the IAFC the following day after the Tampa2 program ended. The forum was for interested groups that have an interest in **firefighter physicals** to address the challenges to the safety and health of all firefighters. The goals of the discussions included:

1. Identifying barriers to accomplishing the goal of ensuring a physical for every firefighter at no cost to them or their department.
2. Finding strategies to eliminating these identified barriers and;
3. Selecting stakeholders to work on eliminating these identified barriers.

Attended the **NVFC Training Summit** in Myrtle Beach, SC June 20-21, 2014

I also assisted setting up the **CVVFA booth at the Firehouse Expo** in Baltimore July 16-19, 2014.

Past President – Steven Haines

Good morning everyone, again thanks to Chambersburg for hosting this convention, thanks to Dick Hershey for a job well done and to you Mr. President for a successful year. Good to see everyone and enjoy the activities this week, have a safe trip home.

President Watson adjourned the meeting for the memorial service.

RECESS

Memorial Service

The annual memorial service was held at the Otterbein-Fayetteville United Methodist Church. Chaplain Barnhart led the group with singing and readings by all in attendance. The memorial message was titled “God’s Amazing Grace” and was given by Charlie. Roll call of honored deceased CVVFA members was read by President Watson as the chaplains placed flowers in their memory.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

**CUMBERLAND VALLEY FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
MEMORIAL SERVICE**

THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2014

OTTERBEIN-FAYETTEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FAYETTEVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Organ Prelude

Welcome and Statement of Purpose

*The Opening Hymn – 98 - *“To God Be the Glory”*

*Invocation – CCVFA Chaplain – Deacon Charles Barnhart, Jr.

**Deacon* – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation. He comforts us in all our sorrows with the consolation we ourselves received from God.

***CONGREGATION** – *“Thanks be to God!”*

**Deacon* – When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall be certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

A LITANY OF FAITH AND HOPE

D – Our commonwealth is in heaven,

**C – AND FROM IT WE AWAIT A SAVIOR, THE LORD
JESUS CHRIST.**

D – Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

C – THE LIGHT NO DARKNESS CAN OVERCOME.

D – Stay with us Lord, and remind us of your promise.

**C – THAT WHERE WE ARE, THERE YOU ARE ALSO TO
BE FOUND.**

D – Let your Light scatter the darkness of our mourning.

**C – AND ILLUMINE OUR LIVES WITH YOUR HOPE AND
PRESENCE.**

D – The Lord be with you!

C - And also with you

***Let us Pray (together)**

Almighty God, those who die in the Lord still live with you in joy and blessedness. We give you heartfelt thanks for the grace you have bestowed upon your servants who have finished their labors. May we, with all who have died in the true faith, have perfect fulfillment and joy in your eternal and everlasting glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Scripture Readings

The Old Testament – *Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*

The Psalm – *Psalm 23 – (Spoken)*

The New Testament – *I Corinthians 15:51-57*

*The Holy Gospel – *Saint John 14:1-6*

The Memorial Message *“God’s Amazing Grace!”*
Deacon Charles E. Barnhart, Jr. - Chaplain

*The Hymn of the Day – 378 - *“Amazing Grace”*

Roll Call of Honored Deceased CVVFA Members

*Prayers of the People

Each petition by the Chaplain will end in *“Lord in your Mercy”*
The Congregation will respond – *“Hear Our Prayer”*

“The Lord’s Prayer” - (Sung) – Deacon Charles Barnhart, Jr.

*The Benediction & Sung Response

*The Closing Hymn – 672 - *“God Be With You!”*

*The Postlude

** = Congregation Standing*

President Watson called the convention back to order at 12:50 after lunch was served by our host company. Allen Baldwin had asked for some time to speak on a mutual aid response proposal. Allen addressed the group about his concerns and offered to chair a mutual aid response committee that would be charged with providing a central location of information with folks available to assist with special large events that require additional manpower. This would consist of mutual aid agreements in place to share this type of information. This would also include major emergency events such as our recent coal storage facility.

President Watson asked for those in attendance to take this back to their respective companies and look for committee members interested. In fact this is our heritage, what the Association was founded on mutual aid for the area.

President Watson asked PP Austin to introduce our keynote speaker Chief Anthony Correia of New Jersey. Chief Correia is a 37 year member of the fire service being raised through the ranks both volunteer and career. He recently retired and desired to assist the CVVFA. He is active in many state and national programs. Today he will present a perspective dear to us fire service reputation management and how to make sure your department is not one of those in an investigation for poor behavior. Let's make welcome Tony, followed by applause.

Chief Correia started his comments by stating what an honor it is to discuss fire service reputation here where it is a part of your Association. He presented a power point show and talked about the slides. Social media has made this issue prevalent to us. The goal is to move forward with behavioral controls and ethics at all levels. My opinion is that reputational management has not taken hold as it should to date. Hopefully, CVVFA will put as much emphasis on this as ResponderSafety. So, how did we get here, if we allow this problem to continue, we lose. Tony commented on some personal experiences during his career. Times are changing and we have to raise the bar of our expectations. It all starts with recruitment, tell them our expectations upfront, explain the organization's mission, don't take everybody. Consider having an oath for each new member, it is our culture and expected behavior based on our history. Don't blame all the problems on all of the young kids, too easy for us to say, they need to be engaged which is our responsibility. We need to look at our business practices, we are multi-million dollar enterprises. Have we taken the change and adopted sound business practices, you are a non-profit business with public funds. Look for partners out there that can help you with the business operation. Several colleges have classes on administration. Look for help from the community, do we have mutual aid for the administration, we need those partners. How do we improve our ethics, will take time, need to be committed, persistent, continue to have the right environment. Look for the opportunity.

President Watson announced that we would now go into the election.

MOTION to open nominations for the Association Officers from the floor by Dave Jacobowitz, seconded by Dave Lewis, no further discussion, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

President – Walter Robertson nominated by Bill Mortimer, seconded by George Dove, motion to close nominations by Bill Keller, seconded by George Dove

First Vice President – Hoby Howell nominated by Dave Lewis, seconded by Steven Haines, motion to close nominations by George Dove, seconded by Bill Mortimer

Second Vice President – Bill Keller nominated by Walter Robertson, seconded by Steve Sweitzer, motion to close nominations by Steven Haines, seconded by Dave Lewis

Third Vice President – Rich Brunner nominated by Steve Flickinger, seconded by Steven Haines, motion to close nominations by Walter Robertson, seconded by Bill Keller

Fourth Vice President – Richard Toulson nominated by Steve Austin, seconded by Robert Sweetman, motion to close nominations by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Dave Lewis

Treasurer – George Dove nominated by Walter Robertson, seconded by Bill Mortimer, motion to close nominations by Steven Haines, seconded by Bob Cumberland

Financial Secretary – Steve McBee nominated by Steve Flickinger, seconded by Steven Haines, motion to close nominations by Donna Welsh, seconded by Bob Cumberland

Recording Secretary – Gene Worthington nominated by Dave Lewis, seconded by Bob Cumberland, motion to close nominations by Walter Robertson, seconded by Steven Haines
Home Office Manager – Steve Heefner nominated by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Robert Sweetman, motion to close nominations by Steven Haines, seconded by Dave Lewis
Publicity Manager – Robert Timko nominated by Dave Lewis, seconded by Bill Mortimer, motion to close nominations by Walter Robertson, seconded by Hoby Howell
Chaplain – Charles Barnhart nominated by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Robert Sweetman, motion to close nominations by Donna Welsh, seconded by Walter Robertson
Assistant Chaplain – James Wharry nominated by Robert Sweetman, seconded by Jerry Daniels, motion to close nominations by Bill Keller, seconded by Dave Lewis
Attorney – Howard Cohen nominated by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Robert Sweetman, motion to close nominations by Dave Lewis, seconded by Walter Robertson
Delegate to PA – Charles Myers nominated by Gerald Holtry, seconded by Dave Lewis, motion to close nominations by Walter Robertson, seconded by Steven Haines
Director Pennsylvania (2016) – Mike Whitzel nominated by Steve Flickinger, seconded by Donna Welsh, motion to close nominations by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Walter Robertson
Director Maryland (2016) – Bob Cumberland nominated by Dave Lewis, seconded by Hoby Howell, motion to close nominations by Walter Robertson, seconded by Bill Keller
Director West Virginia (2016) – Randy James nominated by Bill Keller, seconded by Steve McBee, letter was submitted on his behalf, motion to close nominations by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Robert Sweetman
Director Virginia (2016) – Allen Brennan nominated by Bob Cumberland, seconded by Robert Sweetman, motion to close nominations by Walter Robertson, seconded by Bill Mortimer
Director Delaware (2016) – Steve Austin nominated by Harry Balthis, seconded by Jerry Daniels, motion to close nominations by Hoby Howell, seconded by Robert Sweetman

MOTION was made to close the nominations by Dave Lewis, seconded by Jerry Daniels, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Point of order was given by the attorney reference the WV Director Randy James, unable to attend due to work conflict and letter was submitted, therefore no action is required.

MOTION was made for the Secretary to cast the ballot for uncontested offices by Robert Sweetman, seconded by Dave Lewis, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

President Watson congratulated all of the new Officers for being elected.

PP Steve Austin asked for point of order, request some time for a special presentation from Jeff and Claudia Garner on a new initiative Honor Guard Academy. Claudia presented a regionalized concept for honor guard of the CVVFA. Time and resources are a critical part. CVVFA would serve as an umbrella organization to oversee the program, set up a train the trainer to properly conduct an honor guard. She gave some info on the national program out of Florida. She provided a time schedule to implement the program via hand out materials.

President Watson stated that we have discussed this before, however no action was taken. We will discuss more in the proper order of business. Q&A ensued with both Jeff and Claudia providing comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Archives and Historical Committee – Guy Flory

Nothing to report

Audit Committee – Jerry Daniels

As you heard the minutes from the Board meeting last night, the committee met last night and conducted the audit. We also had a report from the CPA firm indicating that everything is fine during the review and up to date. I would like to commend our Treasurer in preparing the records professionally that we received and all the service he does.

Budget and Finance – George Dove

No report

Business & Ops Plan – Greg Yost

Greg is doing a live stream feed out whereby folks could watch the proceedings on-line.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee – Bob Cumberland

Bob presented a by-law amendment under membership section 4, any member in good standing and has been a member for (50) consecutive years becomes a life member, the change would be to lower the number of years from (50) to (25). Therefore this amendment will be formally introduced under the proper order of business.

Convention Committee – Steve Flickinger

Nothing further to report

Credentials Committee –

The secretary took the roll earlier.

Fire Person of the Year Committee – George Dove

Everything is in proper order, ready for the presentation at banquet.

Fire Prevention and Education Committee – Erin Drumheller

Erin was absent.

Legislative – Bob Cumberland

Some interesting info I received on PSOB payments, highlighted timelines for approval. He then spoke about the federal funding programs in Congress. Two other things of interest making ambulances safer in crashes as to patients and providers were discussed.

President Jack of the PA Fire Police Association spoke about the PSOB program as it relates to fire police. He spoke about the denials recently from the feds. He gave some specifics on letters written reference the regulations. I am open to suggestions from anyone who can help.

Memorial – Charlie Barnhart

Nothing further to report

Parliamentarian – Howard Cohen

Nothing further to report

Public Relations – Rich Toulson

Absent

Publicity Committee – Bob Timko

Bob was not present during this time of the meeting

Recruitment and Retention Committee – Allen Brennan

No report at this time.

Reputation/Management – Claudia Garner

Claudia gave an update on their activities over the past six months, very busy, several publications, upcoming webinar and many out of state speaking engagements. Candice added some additional comments on Tampa II. She then gave some stats from the website. Our number one problem is theft, two is fraud, three is alcohol related. However, we are seeing more positive postings.

Resolutions Committee – Jerry Daniels

Nothing additional

Scholarship Committee – Harry Balthis

This year CVVFA received 12 applications for scholarships this year. We awarded 3 to the following students: Kyle Melton JR Haines memorial for \$1,000. Kyle is a member of Middletown FC#1. He attends the University of New Haven, studying fire science fire administration. Kyle is a repeat recipient of this scholarship. Brook Shoop received the Kenneth Butts \$1,000 scholarship. Brook lives in New Bloomfield, PA and plans to attend Penn State this fall to study pre-medicine. Lena Illig received the \$500 CVVFA scholarship. Lena is from Anchorage, AK and attends the University of Alaska with a course study in criminal justice/emergency services. The committee recommends our new third scholarship be named Harry C. Alt memorial scholarship which will require a vote in the proper

order of business. These recipients are invited to the banquet and we need to pay for their tickets, also needs to be discussed.

Sergeant at Arms – Wayne Baker

Nothing to add

Sign Trailer – Wayne Baker

The trailer will be leaving for Delaware after convention.

Training Weekend – Grey Yost

Like last year, we are co-sponsoring with Williamsport and the Washington County Association a training day on September 20, a day with Dennis Rubin. Topics will include firefighter safety. CVVFA members are free to attend. A flyer will be sent out later.

Youth Leadership – Erin Drumheller

President Watson informed us that the committee had selected a nominee this year for the award to be presented at banquet.

President Watson asked Steve Austin to give his reports, oversight of what we are doing. Steve introduced Rod from Stone House media for comments. Ron gave a quick recap of the video productions and on-line training modules. Next, Greg Yost gave an overview on the finances for ERSI. We are currently in the transition phase of our checking account. He also gave a report on our ITERIS contract. On a side note, I want to personally thank everyone for their cards, prayers, calls, etc. on the loss of my daughter, the worst thing I have ever encountered.

We are pleased to have Jack Sullivan with us today. Jack spoke about his activities for the Association. Our biggest program is the Learning Network currently being rolled out. We now have ten modules with five underway: emergency lighting, special circumstances related directly to vehicle fires, move it/work it, DUI checkpoints, uninvolved persons at incident scenes meaning those persons who gather at our emergencies. Jack gave an overview on his training travels all across the country. He then spoke about his involvement with the MUTCD and he remains a technical advisor to that group. We are now partnering with the Federal Highway Administration and presenting train the trainer classes. I have done some magazine articles, web addresses, twitter, facebook postings.

It is obvious that Jack is extremely busy carrying the CVVFA message and represents us in the most professional manner.

Steve then thanked Howard for his everyday work researching the struck by incidents. He also thanked Harry for being our editor and his continued work on our behalf. Steve concluded his comments on ERSI with the film shooting promo.

We are having the strategic planning workshop on October 18, urging all Officers, PP's, committee chairs attend that. We will have a facilitator to keep us on track. Steve then reviewed our grants and contracts that we have pending and on-going.

He continued to speak on our print media, thanks to Ernie and the PA Firemen for their continued assistance. As for social media, making some changes to the web look, twitter and facebook postings, hope this will attract some of our younger providers.

When we go to the re-design of the web page, additions will be a pay-pal account for payments of dues and store purchases, classified adding for member companies. The content will remain same, just in different locations.

I have had meetings with CFSI reference our application to be submitted for the December meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Promotional package and agreement with booster meeting partners - Heefner

Greg Yost is assisting with the agreement.

Classified ads for the web site – Bruner

This was reported on earlier.

Sales Tax exemption for PA – Directors

Mike is currently working on.

Long Range Planning meeting – Watson

Jim advised this meeting will be held on October 18, same weekend as the booster meeting. Additional arrangements will be forthcoming. **CONFIRMED THE LOCATION TO BE AT THE MFRI NORTHEAST REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER.**

Museum - Heefner

Steve stated a matter of coordinating some dates for the move.

Challenge coin sales – Hoby Howell

Coins are here for sale.

Youth Leadership convention – Drumheller

Candice needs time to set up her presentation, will give after new business.

Greg spoke on the baseball game tickets at Oriole park, gave some dates, would like some consensus by the attendees.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion that we name our third scholarship award the Harry C. Alt memorial scholarship by Harry Balthis, seconded by Bill Keller, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Motion to accept the honor guard concept that was previously discussed in length by Bill Mortimer, Jerry from New Jersey seconded, verbal vote taken, motion passed. The committee will consist of Claudia Garner, chair, Dave Lewis, Greg Yost, Hoby Howell, Bill Keller, Rich James.

Motion to accept the reading of the by-law amendment to change the life membership requirements from 50 years of service to 25 by Robert Sweetman, seconded by Steve Switzer, clarification that this will pose the first reading, verbal vote taken, motion passed, final vote at next convention.

Motion that the scholarship awardees banquet tickets will be paid by the CVVFA by Rich Brunner, seconded by Robert Sweetman, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

Candice made a presentation on a youth leadership convention proposal, registration to take place at the picnic, received a free t shirt, conduct some types of games, Friday would have some class time on history, speaker, issues, safety message, reputation management, social media, networking lunch, host company tour. Question was asked about the age group of these junior firefighters. Motion made to allow Candice to move forward with the concept as presented by Dave Lewis, seconded by Bill Mortimer, verbal vote taken, motion passed.

President Watson offered some comments on the picnic tonight and additional logistics for Friday. He then introduced Mike McMichael who will be the chair of next year's convention host Delaware City. PP Austin announced that we would be conducting a gravesite ceremony at General Boyd's grave, our founding father.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Nothing

Chaplain Barnhart gave the closing benediction for the day, will reconvene at the President's Council Friday morning. Motion made to adjourn meeting at 16:23pm.

President Watson reconvened the convention Friday morning at 9am for the Presidents Council meeting. Chaplain Charlie gave the invocation, followed by the pledge to the flag. President Watson offered the welcome on behalf of the CVVFA and asked for any announcements to be made. He then introduced Chief Mark Trace from Franklin Fire Company who brought greetings. Jim asked our vendors in attendance to introduce themselves and speak briefly. The meeting was turned over to Steve Austin to facilitate the meeting. Steve brought greetings on the 29th meeting, introduced our charter members and

thanked them for their continued support. It is great to see our delegations here. He asked Mike Jacoby to speak about a potential problem of sharing information EO 13650. Thanks Mike for the info, a Q&A followed his comments. Steve then asked Harvey Eisner from Firehouse to speak. Harvey advised the group that he will be leaving his position as of this morning. The group acknowledged Harvey for all his accomplishments over the years. Kim O'Malley from NFPA brought comments about the happenings for fire prevention week this year. The theme this year is "Working smoke alarms save lives, test yours every month." Wayne Powell, Executive Director of the National Fire Heritage Center brought greetings and some testimony from the National Fire Marshal's Conference recently held in Florida. He also updated us on the activities from the Center. Steve started the business part of the meeting and no further minutes were recorded from the meeting.

President Watson thanked all of the participants for the informing meeting. Jim asked if the Council would like to continue conducting two meetings per year or go to a single meeting at convention. He asked Dick Hershey to the podium, presented him with a check for hosting the meeting. The banquet is here tonight starting at 6:30, doors will open at 5. The meeting was adjourned to reconvene at the banquet.

Many took advantage of some fine hospitality back at the hotel.

The banquet program was held Friday evening, August 1, 2014, at the Franklin FC banquet facility. PP Steve Austin, serving as the MC, welcomed all to the annual awards banquet and installation. He gave some history and then asked for the Chambersburg FD honor guard to present the colors and piped in by Jeff Herbert, DC Battalion Chief retired. Craig Shellhouse gave the invocation followed by the pledge lead by President Watson. The colors were retired. He then introduced Chief FitzGerald for the welcome. The Chief thanked numerous people from Chambersburg FD for their contributions in hosting this convention with special thanks to Dick Hershey, chairman. It looks like the parade will have 122 units in-line. He introduced Chief Mark Trace from Franklin who also brought a welcome. President Watson presented our host a resolution from CVVFA along with the customary check. Steve introduced the head table guests. Dinner was served by the fire company membership.

MC Steve Austin called the banquet program back to order and asked the group to show our appreciation for the dinner. Chairman Hershey addressed the group bringing greetings and thanked his committee along with some of our CVVFA members. Dick individually called on his committee and spoke about their specific roles. He also thanked the companies serving as our hosts.

Steve again thanked the chairman and introduced our keynote speaker Mike Marotte, historian for the Chambersburg FD. Mike spoke on the history of the fire department dating back to 1780. His comments were accompanied by old pictures shown. What a wealth of history he brought in the message, every company should have such a person.

MC Austin thanked our guest speaker for his comments and the history in this nation took place right here in PA.

Steve then asked the Secretary to present some resolutions for 50 years of service. Gene read the list as President Watson made the presentations to a representative to accept. Unfortunately, none of our senior members were present to receive. We also have some resolutions as requested for special recognitions to include our four Vice Presidents Robertson, Howell, Keller and Brunner. Our next resolution was presented to the Delaware Fire School on the date of their 50th anniversary. Tom Savage was recognized next by the President. Up next Erin Drumheller, Candice McDonald and Claudia Garner were recognized for their work with Reputation Management.

Steve asked Harry Balthis, chairman of the scholarship committee, to present the awards given this year. Harry introduced our awardees. He asked Rich Brunner to present the Butts Scholarship to Brook who will be attending Penn State, she was present to receive the award.

Continuing with our awards ceremony, the next award presented was the Youth Leadership Award given in the memory of Gary "Happy Jack" Easton. Chairperson Erin Drumheller introduced the award and read some inserts from the nomination letter. The award was given to Will for his outstanding

resume within the fire service. Will was present and acknowledged the presentation, he was surrounded by members of his company.

The program continued with the presentation of the E. Wade Thomas Member of the Year award. Steve gave some background on Mr. Thomas and then asked Chairman George Dove to make this award this evening. Secretary Worthington read the resolution to honor James Wharry, our recipient, for his continued work in the chaplain's office. Pictures were taken of all our awardees.

President Watson presented plaques to his home company Delaware City Chief and VP for their great support these past years. He also presented Greg Yost a plaque for his tireless efforts with ResponderSafety and CVVFA for everything done over the years by transporting our equipment while even enduring a family tragedy you wanted to continue to help. My final award is presented to Steven Austin for your dedication to the CVVFA and the US fire service. This guy is always on the road, on the computer, always working with different organizations, a special presentation thanking you for everything you do for the CVVFA. Chief FitzGerald, would you come forward, thanks for your support of this convention, as you heard Tuesday, he is retiring. Therefore, on behalf of the CVVFA, we would like to present you with a token of our appreciation for everything you have done. It says "for grateful appreciation for your services from the Officers and members of the CVVFA presented August 1, 2014."

Chief expressed his thanks for the presentation.

Jim started his comments, where did the year go, seems just like yesterday I took the oath of office to become the President of CVVFA. Last year I traveled over 7,000 miles to 72 events representing this organization. Over the last several years, we started tracking and with the Reputation Management classes on the road to several venues. We had great successful reviews from everyone who took the class. Thank you Candice, Claudia and Erin for doing the classes. We have more classes already scheduled for this year and into next year and there people calling constantly asking for the class, has been great for the CVVFA. Also, this same group of people will be starting the new cadet convention for next year when we meet in Delaware City. This program here is to brief the young people involved with this. We are going to have cadets or young persons at convention along with the regular convention to drum up more support, so bring your young folks along next year for introduction into the fire service. We are looking to start an honor guard to assist with funerals within the 5 state area. Thank you to Jeffrey and Claudia for heading this program up, we have discussed, looking forward to setting down and further advancing this once we get the details in place. A special thank you goes to the Officers and members of the Delaware City VFC for all their support and friendship over the years. I want to thank the CVVFA Officers for all their support, thanks to longtime friend Ray for being here. I proudly represent Delaware and look forward to continuing to do for a longtime to come. I want to thank my parents for starting me in the fire service and giving me the sense of community service. I appreciate the support of my family, he introduced them. Special thanks to my wife Deb for the last 32 years, you come from a fire service family and it has been great no matter where I go, no matter what I need, you are always there for me. That is all I have.

MC Austin commented Jimmie, you have laid down a marker for the Officers to follow in the coming years. Now it is time for the installation of Officers. Steve then announced all of the Officers for the installation. All gathered in the front of the room for the oath given by PP Steve Austin. Steve offered some words of encouragement and then gave the oath. All Officers were declared duly installed and offered congratulations. PP Watson and PP Baker presented the badges and pictures were taken.

PP Watson presented Walter with the gavel along with congratulations. President Robertson then presented PP Watson with the resolution and the pocket badge marking his year as President. Jack Sullivan was introduced and thanked for his ongoing training classes. President Robertson started his remarks, appreciate the opportunity to be President of this fine organization for the second time. We are going to continue working with ResponderSafety and the other initiatives we approved this week. I definitely would like to see more young folks in our group, therefore I challenge all of you to get the young folks involved, bring them to a meeting and see what it is all about.

Steve introduced Chairman Hershey again for some closing comments.

Walter asked for a delegation of Delaware City to come forward, he presented them the convention traveling plaque for the coming year. Specific information was given on the parade.

Chaplain Barnhart was asked to give the closing prayer. Charlie offered some comments, spoke about the prayer breakfast Saturday morning, gave the benediction. The President announced since there being no further business to come before the CVVFA, I would like to have our younger member Garner to close the convention by the gavel.

Saturday morning we met at the restaurant for the prayer breakfast. Some 35 folks were in attendance to enjoy the great hospitality and a message from the Chaplain. Following breakfast, we all gathered at the parking lot for the lineup of the parade. The parade kicked off at noon downtown to the school and was followed by the awarding of the trophies. This ended the convention for August, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Worthington, Recording Secretary