



# MARYLAND FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

*representing the Maryland Emergency Services Officers with Progression While Maintaining Tradition*

Executive Board Meeting Notes

Date: Thursday, July 24, 2008

Location: Fisherman's Inn – Kent Island, MD

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**Announcements:** President Smarte has prepared several letters to go out to the State. Copies attached.

**Officer's Reports:** President Smarte stated that he attended the MD Fallen FF Memorial Service in Annapolis. He also stated that he has attended several miscellaneous events during the month of July.

President Smarte has appointed the following new committees:

Budget Committee – President David Smarte, Jackie Olson, Past President Roger Steger, Jeff Thompson.

Asset Audit Committee – to be comprised of the three current Presidents, the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer and two Past Presidents.

Alert Network Audit Committee – Vice President Rick Blair, Roger Steger, Past President Terry Thompson. They are to review SOPs.

Sponsorship Committee – Roger Steger, Calvin Stack, Harve Woods, Hugh Owens.

Vice President Jeff Thompson stated that he attended the MD Fallen FF Memorial Service in Annapolis. Attended the Kent County Fire Chief's meeting. Attended the funerals for Chief Size and Chief Mooney.

Vice President Rick Blair stated he attended the MSFA Executive Board meeting as well as the MSFA Convention. He also attends the Calvert County 911 Drill.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Legislative:** Harve Woods stated the Sessions have ended for Summer Recess. He attended the State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) meeting in Hanover, MD. The Governor announced the issuance of State Grant towards the Interoperability Program (700 Band).

**MSFA:** No report.

**Audit:** Jackie Olsen reported the audit was still in progress. David See has not taken over the Treasurer spot yet. He will once the audit has been completed. Jackie and Roger are working to complete the audit. There are several missing receipts. To maintain expenses, Purchase Orders (PO) will now be required for

monies expended. If you need to spend MFCA funds, a PO number will be issued by the Treasurer prior to making the expenditure.

- Fundraising: Started on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Income will be reported on a weekly basis and distributed via email.
- Safety and Training: No report.
- Convention: No report other than all went well.
- Ladies Auxiliary: No report.
- Membership: Ocean City went well. Several new members and renewals processed. The email listing has been updated based on information recently received from the mass mailing in early July as reported by Membership Secretary Kara Small.

The mass mailing consisted of the meeting announcement for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter meeting in August. Membership update forms were also included. Many were emailed. Where there were no email addresses, the US Mail was used. 605 letters were mailed out. 65 letters were returned. 5 had new mailing information. The rest had no forwarding information. Kara will try to update by other means. Otherwise, the names will be purged from the active to inactive listing, thus, saving mailing costs. We are trying to get to 100% electronic notification. Current email addresses are needed to accomplish.

Membership Secretary's Report  
 June 20, 2008  
 Submitted by Kara Small

The Maryland Fire Chiefs Association booth was open for two and a half days during the Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention June 18-20, 2008.

I would like to thank the following people for stepping up to the plate to support the setup, sales, solicitation of new members, and the break down of the booth: Robert Small, Jr., Christine Jackson, John and Nancy Hoglund, Jeanne Velasco, Rosie Beall, Rick Blair, Calvin Stack, Hugh Owens, Rick Hemphill, Skip Menzies, Syd Girven, Eddie Kidwell, James Snyder, David See, Joe Chornock, Dan Mautz, Bob McHenry, Ed "Harve" Woods, Jeff Thompson, John McDowell, and Calvin Stack.

Below is a detailed report of what we brought in from both sides of the booth. You can compare these totals to what we did in 2005 through 2008.

|                    | 2005      | 2006                               | 2007      | 2008      |
|--------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Sales</b>       | \$1890.50 | \$1983.00                          | \$865.00  | \$1424.00 |
| <b>Dues</b>        | \$1710.00 | \$1940.00                          | \$2020.00 | \$1700.00 |
| <b>Raffle</b>      | \$ 583.00 | \$ 356.00                          | \$149.00  | \$90.00   |
| <b>Cost</b>        | \$ 150.00 |                                    | \$ 36.00  |           |
| <b>Life Pins</b>   | \$ 15.00  | \$000.00                           | -----     | -----     |
| <b>Donations</b>   | \$ 35.00  | \$000.00                           | \$27.00   | \$0.00    |
| GPO                |           |                                    | \$357.76  |           |
| Distribution       |           |                                    |           |           |
| <b>Ad's</b>        |           |                                    | \$3275.00 |           |
| <b>Total</b>       | \$4233.50 | \$4279.00<br>- 100.00<br>\$4179.00 |           |           |
| <b>New Members</b> | 32        | 20                                 | 16        | 14        |

Thank you again for another successful convention year.

NFFF: The Emmittsburg, MD Weekend is in October. Kara Small sent out an email asking for help. Past President Robert Small and Terry Thompson are included in the Incident Action Plan which is being facilitated by Frederick County primarily. Robert to update all in September. President Smarte suggested that to reimburse for three (3) rooms to help to help with expenses. This would reduce the National Staffing & Command Sponsorship from 10 to 7. Kara is coordinating with Terry. Additionally, motion by Vice President Rick Blair to appropriate \$2,000 for general expenses for the help, to be spread evenly. This was amended to be increased to \$3,000 Receipts to be turned in within two (2) weeks of the October date to receive reimbursement. They shall be turned in to Robert Small / Kara Small to validate, assemble and determine distribution amounts.

MACO: To be held in Ocean City at the Convention Center, in the Sunset Room. Sponsored by Sprint.....combined effort by MFCA, MSFA and the Sheriff's Association. Jackie Olson to print out hand outs. The date is August 14, 2008 from 4pm to 6pm.

**Office of the State Fire Marshal – July 24, 2008 Report to the MFCA as prepared by the OSFM**

Good evening Mr. President members of the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association guests, it is an honor and privilege to present you with a brief update on the events and activities of the Office of the State Fire Marshal since the last meeting of the Association.

- ❖ **OSFM Staff Positions** – Currently, the OSFM has six vacant positions; five Deputy State Fire Marshals (DSFM's) and one Fire Safety Inspector. The OSFM is actively recruiting for the position of Deputy State Fire Marshal. With DSFM salary increase effective July 1, 2008, the OSFM expects to have more interest from qualified applicants.
- ❖ **Fire Deaths – Update** – The 2008 fire death total as of July 24, 2008, stands at 33. This compares with a total of 64 fire deaths during the same time period in 2007, which represents a decrease of 50 percent.

**The 2008 Fire Deaths by jurisdiction are as follows:**

Anne Arundel County – 1  
Baltimore City – 10  
Baltimore County – 7  
Calvert County -- 1  
Carroll County – 2  
Cecil County -- 1  
Charles County – 1  
Dorchester County – 2  
Montgomery County – 5  
Prince George's County – 3

- ❖ **Fire Sprinkler Update** – On Thursday, July 10, 2008, The Office of the State Fire Marshal assisted the MSFA Residential Fire Sprinkler Committee by meeting with officials from Calvert County. A presentation has been planned for the County Commissioners for September 9, 2008. Queen Anne's County passed legislation requiring fire sprinklers in all newly constructed homes supplied by public water with an effective date of August 10, 2008.

- ❖ **Fire Sprinkler Meeting with NFPA** – On Tuesday, May 20, 2008, The Fire Marshal Barnard, Chief Deputy Gentzel and Doug Alexander, Chairman of the MSFA Residential Fire Safety Committee met with NFPA President James Shannon to discuss the success of Maryland's Residential Fire Sprinkler Program. The meeting lasted nearly three hours and as a result, the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition, which NFPA is a member, will be funding a study of the Residential Fire Sprinkler Program in Prince George's County. Prince George's County has required fire sprinklers in all newly constructed dwelling units since January 1, 1992. Maryland has more communities covered by one and two family sprinkler requirements than any other state in the Nation.
- ❖ **Crowd Manager On Line Training Program** – A Crowd Manager on-line training is now available through the OSFM website. This program was a cooperative effort between the State, County, and Local Fire Marshal's. Many thanks to Matt Kelleher from Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service who did a fantastic job in developing and coordinating this effort.
- ❖ **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Life Safety Achievement Award** - The Residential Fire Safety Institute (RFSI) recognized fire departments that have zero structural fire deaths in a specific calendar year. The Life Safety Achievement Awards are intended to show appreciation and support for fire departments for their fire prevention and public education efforts. Application forms are available for downloading at ([www.firesafehome.org](http://www.firesafehome.org)). The forms must be signed by the fire chief and some type of fire prevention activity description must be included. Please remind the fire departments in your area to submit forms by July 31, 2008, in order to receive the award before Fire Prevention Week.
- ❖ **MFIRS** – Several fire departments and/or counties are not submitting MFIRS reports to the OSFM in a timely manner. MFIRS reports for each month should be forwarded to the OSFM by the tenth day of the following month. Please continue to remind MSFA member fire departments of the importance of submitting accurate and timely MFIRS reports to the OSFM.
- ❖ **Fire Safe Cigarettes Legislation** – The Cigarette Fire Safety Performance and Firefighter Protection Act (HB 785) Chapter 497 of the Acts of Maryland (2007) will become effective July 1, 2008. In January of this year, the Comptroller of Maryland issued a bulletin which set forth the essential requirements under the new law for cigarette manufacturers, wholesalers, sub-wholesalers, retailers, and vending machine operators. Any cigarettes manufactured, sold, or offered by sale after July 1, 2008 must be in compliance with the methods, standards, and provisions of this new Fire-Safe Cigarette Law. We should all be proud of this accomplishment and continue to look for ways to protect the life and property of citizens and firefighters from the devastating effects of fire.
- ❖ **Partnership for a Safer Maryland** – The Partnership for a Safer Maryland hosted its second annual conference May 16, 2008, at the Sheppard Pratt Conference Center in Towson, Maryland to recognize and award successful public-private partnerships. The Office of the State Fire Marshal was pleased that their nomination, Delmarva Power and Pepco's Emergency Services Program, was selected as one of the honorees. This public-private partnership has allowed us to serve both regular and special needs smoke alarms to the community for the last eight years.
- ❖ **Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference** – Mark your calendars now. The 2008 Mid-Atlantic Life Safety Conference will be held on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, at the John Hopkins APL, Kossiakoff Conference Center, in Laurel, Maryland. Fire Chief (Retired) Alan Brunacini is the keynote presenter. The conference is sure to sell out again this year, please register early to get a seat. If you would like additional information, please contact Cynthia A. Spindler at the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, 5401 Rue St. Lo Drive, Reisterstown, MD 21136. She may also be reached at 410-517-5108.

Other Conferences:

Mid-Atlantic Fire Commissions 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Annapolis, MD Doubletree Hotel – September 18, 19 and 20, 2008.



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|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1ST VICE:<br/>PRESIDENT</b>   | Jeff Thompson<br>202 Oriole Rd.<br>Chestertown, MD 21620                 | H 410-778-1359<br>C 443-480-3022<br>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:jefft@dmv.com">jefft@dmv.com</a>                             |
| <b>2ND VICE:<br/>PRESIDENT</b>   | Richard Blair<br>10921 Roessner Ave.<br>Hagerstown, MD 21740             | H 301-582-3032<br>C 301-991-2540<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:rickframb@aol.com">rickframb@aol.com</a>                     |
| <b>SECRETARY:</b>                | Pete Mellits<br>2906 Blueberry Lane<br>Bowie, MD 20715                   | H 301-805-1328<br>C 240-508-4128<br>E-mail: <a href="mailto:pmellits@aol.com">pmellits@aol.com</a>                       |
| <b>ASST.:<br/>SECRETARY</b>      | Ron Watkins<br>25120 Woodfield Road<br>Damascus, MD 20872                | H 301-253-5285<br>C 301-717-1375<br>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:country4237@aol.com">country4237@aol.com</a>                 |
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| <b>ASST.:<br/>TREASURER</b>      | Calvin Stack<br>303 Rambler Road<br>Cambridge, MD 21613                  | H (410) 228-8517                                                                                                         |
| <b>MEMBERSHIP:<br/>SECRETARY</b> | Kara Small<br>6105 Manor Rd.<br>Clinton, MD 20735                        | C 240-508-7359<br>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:jetrider252@yahoo.com">jetrider252@yahoo.com</a>                               |
| <b>CHAPLAIN:</b>                 | John W. Hoglund, P.P.<br>5805 Runford Drive<br>New Carrollton, MD 20784  | H 301-577-5855<br>W 301-226-9940<br>Fax 301-314-0686<br>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:jhoglund@mfri.org">jhoglund@mfri.org</a> |
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