



## **DVFA OFFICER'S MEETING**

### **May 30, 2006**

President Kennard L. Pyle called the May DVFA Officer's Meeting to order at 1830 Hrs at the residence of 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Ron Marvel and welcomed all who were present. DVFA Director Hal Barber offered the invocation.

#### **Attendance:**

President Kennard L. Pyle  
Second Vice President Ron Marvel  
Treasurer J. Allen Metheny, Sr.  
Executive Secretary James L. Cabbage, Jr.  
Director Kevin L. Wilson  
Director Warren F. Jones  
Director Harold Barber  
Director Walt Reynolds  
Director Ed Welch

LADVFA President Barbara Rossister  
LADVFA Second Vice President Debbie Marvel  
DSFPA President Robert Hahn  
DSFPA First Vice President Joseph Zerolos  
DSFPA Secretary Ken Tull  
DSFCA President James Watson  
DVFA PP E. James Monihan  
DVFA PP John E. Bare  
DVFA PP Stephen P. Austin

President Pyle then recessed the meeting for a delicious dinner served by the Seaford Fire Dept. and the Seaford Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary at 1832 Hrs.

Meeting was called back to order at 1925 Hrs at the Social Hall of the Seaford Nylon Employee's Council (SNEC) and President Pyle thanked 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Marvel and the men & women of the Seaford Fire Dept. for a wonderful meal.

President Pyle then called on the following members and guests for reports and remarks:

**LADVFA** President Barbara Rossister brought greetings from the LADVFA and introduced Second Vice President Debbie Marvel.

**DSFCA** President James Watson brought greetings from the DSFCA and briefly discussed the following items:

- The next meeting of the Delaware State Fire Chiefs Assoc. will be June 22, 2006 at Slaughter Beach. This will be their Annual Fire Expo, to date they have over 100 exhibitors.

- Reported that on June 25, 2006 at DSFS-Dover, the Chiefs will hold its Elected Officials Day from 0900 to 1600 Hrs.
- Advised that they are finalizing the Flare Distribution Policy with the Delaware State Police.
- Stated they have been meeting with the National Fire Academy to arrange for the Fire Service Summit and the tentative dates are November 10, 11, & 12 or November 17, 18 & 19, more information will follow.
- Stated that he attended the Sussex & New Castle Chiefs meeting where Basic Graduation Certificates were given to the basic firefighters from the companies
- Advised that the IAFC Second National Stand Down Day will be June 21, 2006
- Reported that the Eastern Division of IAFC will be meeting in Rehoboth Beach on May 18 & 19, 2007
- Advised that the 79th EDIAFC Conference will be June 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> in Evesham, New Jersey.
- Thanked everyone for their support in his climb through the chairs of the EDIAFC, On Saturday, when he is sworn in as President, he and his late Father, Shorty, will be the first Father-Son team to every have served as President. Shorty in 1977-78 and Jim in 2006-07

President Pyle offered his sincere congratulations to President Watson on his upcoming term of Office and pledged the support of the DVFA in his duties.

**DSFPA** President Robert Hahn also brought greetings from the DSFPA and introduced 1st Vice President Joe Zerolles and Secretary Ken Tull. He then discussed the progress on the issuance of new Statewide Fire Police ID Cards, which will be issued through the Sussex County Sheriff's Office. He also advised that they are working on a new 6 hour Basic and 18 hour advanced course for his members.

**DVFA CRUISE** President Pyle reported that the DVFA cruise is being planned for the Western Caribbean for February 4 – 11, 2007. 30+ cabins have been booked already, anyone interested please contact him. Also the DVFA is also planning a trip to Scotland & Ireland on April 7 to 14, 2007, for details please contact 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Robinson.

**CONFERENCE 2006** Chairman Warren F Jones reported that the next Conference Committee Meeting will be on July 17, 2006 at the Dover Sheraton @ 1900 Hrs. All committees are doing a splendid job. All Conference information has now been posted on the DVFA web Page

**DVFA WEB PAGE** Executive Secretary Cabbage gave 1st Vice President Robinson's report. He advised that Russ Pickett, Web Master is back to work after his heart attack most updates have been made to the Web Page. If any materials needed to be updated or corrected please contact the DVFA in writing or by email with the changes, NOT the web master.

**TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER** Executive Secretary Cabbage gave 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Robinson's report. He advised we need to more closely check the dates of events when applying for licenses to ensure that organizations in close proximity do not compete with each other. It appears that most aspects of the operations are going smoothly and there does not appear that there will be any changes to the Delaware Code this year. They would like it to operate for a year, review it, and then make necessary changes. However, Gaming Commission has authorized organizations to hold Casino Nights at the same time as Texas Hold'em Poker Tournaments as long as the locations are completely separated in the building.

**VIRTUAL DRIVER TRAINING** Executive Secretary gave 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Robinson's report, He has been talking to a vendor since seeing a unit at FDIC. He is working on having them bring a display to the Conference. He has also been in contact with Secretary Mitchell from the Department of Homeland Security and Safety to look for possible funding sources.

**WAKE UP DELAWARE/RISK WATCH** Executive Secretary Cabbage gave 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Robinson's report. He advised that the Spring "Wake Up Delaware" was a success. He will be asking Fire Companies to check their supplies so he can place an order for detectors and batteries.

**NVFC** Treasurer Metheny gave an update on several Federal Issues and the concern of the NVFC on the lack of funding for the USFA – AFG Grants. They along with all of the major fire service organizations are working to restore full funding of the AFG Grants program. Advised that the Healthy Heart Program is growing, but the National Sponsor has cancelled it funding, but the NVFC is moving funds to keep this vital program.

NVFC Delegate Monihan further reported the NVFC is monitoring the progress of the Home Town Heroes Act which currently affects over 130 Line of Duty Deaths. Advised that Dave Paulison has been confirmed as FEMA Director. Further advised that any Fire personal responding on an EMAC request during an emergency will have to comply to NFPA 1582 with a predeployment physical. Also that all funds contributed to the Katrina Relief Fund are being redirected to individual members since all requests for fire companies were honored.

**FIRE CORPS** PP Jim Monihan that he is going to again contact all Delaware Fire Companies encouraging their participation in the Fire Corps program. Only 7 of the 61 Departments have signed up to participate. Brochures have been prepared and a ¼ page advertisement has been prepared to utilize in fire service publications. Also that the NVFC has hired a new Fire Corp Coordinator, Sarah Lee. & Senator Tom Carper has offered to do a PSA. After a lengthy discussion, additional several suggestions were given to Chairman Monihan who advised he would try to implement to increase participation

PP Monihan thanked the Officers for his nomination as the recipient of the 2006 Fire Safety Medal presented by the Sons of the American Revolution

**VOTER REGISTRATION** Director Walt Reynolds advised that the his committee is planning a major campaign to get all Delaware Fire Fighters and Ladies Auxiliary members registered to Vote.

**FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ISSUES** PP Austin reported on the following items:

- Last year the AFG Fire Act Grant Program was funded for 550 Million, this year it is only funded for 293 Million. There has to be a lot of work done before mark up is completed.
- He echoed PP Monihan's comments that everyone needs to contact their Elected officials in regards to the AFG Fire Act funding
- Reported that the DVFA is again preparing the necessary paper would to apply for a SAFER grant for 2006
- IAFC has designated the week of June 18 – 24, 2006 at "National Stand Down Week" more information will be forthcoming from the Chiefs.

**DVFA FOUNDATION** Chairman Austin reported that the Foundation's next meeting would be August 21, 2006 at the Kent County EOC at twelve noon. Everyone is invited to attend.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMT'S** PP Austin reported on his concerns of National Association of EMT'S national agenda in regards to a National EMS Administrator similar to USFA Director. But his major concern is PSOB eligibility for private providers, thereby weakening Fire Based EMS. He will discuss these issues the National Association of EMT'S Delaware Governor Mike McMichaels.

**MISC ITEM** Executive Secretary reported on the following items:

- Reviewed Legislative Priorities and Supported Issues
- Advised that on March 17, 2006 we were notified that we received a 2005 USFA Fire Prevention Grant in the amount of \$234,500
- Reported on April 10, 2006 1<sup>st</sup> VP Robinson, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Marvel and the Executive Secretary meeting with Margaret Reyes or the Governor's Advisory Committee on Hispanic Affairs and discussed several of issues of their concern
- Advised that on June 7, 2006 holding a meeting to discuss the DVFA and member fire companies participation in the Jefferson Awards Program. It appears to be a very positive program that may increase retention of members
- Reported that the Revolving Loan Committee has been working hard on Finalizing the application process and all pertinent information. Should be Available to the fire service in the very near future
- Reported that AD Hoc Committee to meet with the Div. of Historical and Cultural Affairs to assist in preparing an Exhibit entitled "Fighting the Dragon" Has had several meetings and progress is being made.

**CLOSING COMMENTS** President Pyle thanked everyone for their attendance and their participation in the Delaware Fire Service.

***Motion by Director Jones, seconded by Director Wilson that we adjourn. Motion Carried.***

Meeting adjourned at 2117 Hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

***James L. Cabbage, Jr.***

James L. Cabbage, Jr.

Executive Secretary