



DVFA OFFICER'S MEETING AUGUST 29, 2005

President Raymond T. Stevens called the August DVFA Officer's Meeting to order at 1836 Hrs at the Social Hall of the Selbyville Fire Company and welcomed all who were present. DVFA Chaplain Bob Hudson offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag led by Director Ron Marvel. President Stevens then asked for a moment of silence for DVFA Photographer Philip S. Young.

Attendance:

President Raymond T. Stevens
First Vice President Kennard L. Pyle
Second Vice President Alan F. Robinson, Jr.
Treasurer J. Allen Metheny, Sr.
Executive Secretary James L. Cabbage, Jr.
Director Thomas D'Alessandro
Director Warren F. Jones
Director Ron Marvel
Director Richard Toulson
Director Marvin C. Sharp
Chaplain Bob Hudson

LADVFA President Joyce Figgs
LADVFA First Vice President Barbara Rossister
LADVFA Treasurer Janice Marvel
LADVFA Secretary Virginia Yeager
LADVFA Asst. Sec. Joanne Catalino
Conference Chairman PP Elmer B. Steele
DSFCA President Rodney Marvel
DSFCA 1st Vice Pres. James Watson
DSFCA Director John Fox
NCCVFA 1st Vice Pres. Jerry Brennan
DSAA President Denis McMahon

President Stevens then recessed the meeting for a delicious dinner served by the Selbyville Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary at 1838 Hrs.

Meeting was called back to order at 1940 Hrs and President Stevens thanked the Selbyville Ladies for a wonderful meal.

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

LADVFA President Joyce Figgs brought greetings from the LADVFA and Introduced LADVFA First Vice President Barbara Rossister, Treasurer Janice Marvel, Secretary Virginia Yeager and Asst. Secretary Joanne Catalino. President Figgs thanked President Stevens and his chair officers for the hospitality and assistance during the past year.

DSFCA President Rodney Marvel brought greetings from the DSFCA and thanked everyone for their assistance and encouragement during the year.

DSAA President Denis McMahon also brought greetings from the DSAA and also thanked everyone for their hospitality.

CONFERENCE 2005 Chairman Elmer B. Steele reported on the following:

- Hot Training that will be conducted at the DSFS on the Saturday and Sunday preceding Conference 2005 registrations are below expectations
- Everything is coming together very well, all committees are working very hard
- All Conference information and registration information is posted on the DVFA web page
- EMS Seminars with CEU's are almost maxed out at approx 300 per session
- The Shopping trip has been cancelled
- The number of training seminars during the Conference has been scaled back and attendance is fair
- Hotel rooms are at a premium, if anyone needs rooms for speakers, etc. please contact him asap

Executive Secretary Cubbage reported on the untimely death of DVFA Photographer and Former Senior Instructor Philip S. Young. He then gave a brief background on his activity with the Annual DVFA Memorial Service.

Motion by Executive Secretary Cubbage, seconded by Director Warren Jones that the 2005 DVFA Memorial Service be dedicated to the memory of Philip S. Young. Motion Carried.

2006 CONFERENCE DATES Director Jones gave an update on the conflict of dates for 2006 with the Annual IAFC Conference in Dallas and the potential impact it may have on our Conference. After much discussion by many individuals and many alternatives solutions, President Stevens asked that 2005 Chairman Steele and 2006 Chairman Jones meet with the Sheraton and report back to the DVFA Officers as soon as possible to confirm the dates for the 2006 Conference dates.

DVFA WEB PAGE 1st Vice President Kennard L. Pyle reported that Conference 2005 has been added to the web page and asked everyone to check to see if any materials needed to be updated or corrected.

DVFA CRUISE 1st Vice President Pyle advised that next years DVFA Cruise will be February 4th to the 11th, 2006 from San Juan traveling to the Southern Caribbean. At the present time 58 cabins have been booked. If anyone needs additional information please contact him.

WAKE UP DELAWARE/RISK WATCH 2ND Vice President Alan F. Robinson, Jr. reported that the next "Wake Up Delaware" will be on Saturday, October 29, 2005 from 0900 to 1400 Hrs.

RISK WATCH 2nd Vice President Robinson reported that the State Fire Prevention Commission was successful in their negotiations to have the Risk Watch Program moved from Division of Public Health to the Delaware State Fire School. The Risk Watch Program is now housed at the Delaware State Fire School and the SFPC is working on making this a full time merit position.

TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER 2ND Vice President Robinson reported on the meeting with the Delaware Gaming Commission and asked NCCVFA 1st Vice President Gerald Brennan to discuss the several meetings of the Commission that he had attended. He advised that the Gaming Commission has established the guidelines and forms that each sponsoring organization and third party vendor will have to complete before they become licensed. License reviews will start at the next Gaming Commission Meeting.

FIRE CORPS Chairman E. James Monihan supplied a written report that the DVFA Officer's are reviewing a proposal to implement Fire Corp into Delaware with a \$5,000 Federal Grant with no match required. The Committee has meet and discussed detail the plans for the committee and this project.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION 1st Vice President Pyle read a report from Chairman Vaughn Rider outlining the goals for the Committee in 2006 and a request for \$5,000 in the budget. A lengthily discussion followed with many varied points of view. Director D'Allessandro repeated the critical need for this committee and the discussed the activities that the NCCVFA has implemented. Treasurer Metheny raised the question about the activity level of the committee over the years. A general comment was the only thing Recruitment and Retention has in common is the letter "R". After hearing the discussion President Stevens asked the three County Association to present three names to be placed on the Committee and that the Committee develop a long range strategy and report back to the Executive Committee.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ISSUES DVFA PP Stephen P. Austin was excused and his report was given by Executive Secretary Cabbage covering the following items:

- Discussed his attendance at the West Virginia State Firefighters Convention In Wheeling and invited everyone to attend, September 7 – 10.
- Advised that Bill Jeneway and his staff at VFIS assisted in the **Safer Grant Application**. We should be hearing from USFA on our request at anytime
- Reminded the **Wake up Delaware** Committee that the grant application window Opens September 5th for 30 days.
- Advised that the GAO is investigation the Two Hatter issue and also reported that The FDNY Union has asked all members to resign from their volunteer fire department, which has just added fuel to the fire.

Executive Secretary reported that President Stevens has met with the Medical Society of Delaware and is working on a voluntary Heart Screening Program for our members. This is in conjunction with the Healthy Heart program sponsored by the NVFC

DVFA FOUNDATION Vice Chairman Cabbage reminded everyone that the 2nd Annual DVFA Foundation Golf Tournament will be held at the Shawnee Country Club in Milford on September 28th, everyone is welcome.

DEMSOC/EDIN President Stevens reported on many of the issues relating to the EDIN reporting system and the BLS community's displeasure with the system and the Office of EMS. He advised that a DEMSOC/EDIN Task Force has been appointed to look at ALL of the aspects of the pre hospital reporting and asked Task Force Vice Chairman Allen Metheny to discuss the committee's progress. Treasurer Metheny advised that he is representing Kent County on the Committee and the Mike McMichaels is representing New Castle and Mike Vincent is representing Sussex along with Executive Secretary Cabbage who serves as an alternate to all three. Advised that the entire Task Force has had one official meeting but sub committee have been meeting for some time. The Task Force is looking for a web based, windows program that is wireless as their starting point. He asked everyone that has problems with EDIN to put them into writing and submit them to one of your county representatives.

HOB RYAN DINNER President Stevens advised that he has received several complaints about The Hob Ryan 40 year dinner. He stated that he is very appreciative to the Cheswold Fire Co. Auxiliary for their leadership since DVFA PP Emeritus Lou Amabili is not participating in the Event. He thinks that the DVFA in conjunction with the LADVFA and Cheswold should appoint a committee to handle this yearly event. 1st Vice President Pyle will make an appointment of an Ad Hoc Committee to meet with Cheswold.

DNREC REG #1144 President Stevens reported that the DVFA wrote a letter to Secretary Hughes after the last Executive Committee Meeting requesting that Fire Departments be excluded from this regulation. No response has been received from DNREC.

NEW CASTLE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE Executive Secretary Cabbage reported that after all of the hard work of so many people that the BRAC Commission has overturned it's original proposal to realign the NCC Air National Guard Base. He has been in contact with MG Frank Vavala and the General is very appreciative of the efforts of Delaware's First Responder Community.

STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Executive Secretary Cabbage advised that the DVFA had been recruited to join the State Chamber of Commerce. Besides the benefits of interacting with many types of business who will be potential Partners in Progress they have available a Statewide Health Insurance Plan the member's employees are eligible for. Our Administrative Assistant Melissa is very interested in being able to join their program. There would be no difference to the DVFA. We pay her a cafeteria plan, and she purchases her health care

Insurance. This would not change; she just would purchase her insurance through the Chamber. Cost to the DVFA would be a yearly membership fee of \$300.

Motion by Director Thomas D'Allasandro, seconded by Director Ron Marvel that the DVFA join the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce. Motion Carried.

DVFA VEHICLE Executive Secretary Cabbage discussed in detail the lack of use, condition and insurance costs of the 1995 Ford Crown Victoria that was donated by New Castle County Government.

Motion by Director Ron Marvel, seconded by Director Thomas D'Allessandro that the DVFA sell the 1995 Ford Crown Victoria. Motion Carried.

RECRUTIMENT & RETENTION TRAILER 1st Vice President Pyle and Executive Secretary Cabbage discussed the condition of the trailer that was donated by Kevin Segars to the Recruitment and Retention Committee. It has had a major water leak and is basically very poor condition and is not being used by R & R for events. Since there is some question on ownership of the Trailer since Leipsic Fire Company pays for the insurance, the following motion was made.

Motion by Director Marvel, seconded by Director D'Allanandro that the DVFA severe all funding and ownership of he Recruitment and Retention Trailer. Motion Carried.

PROCEEDINGS & PRINTING Executive Secretary Cabbage reported on the cost of printing and the problems in printing the proceedings of the last convention. He requested that 1st Vice President Pyle appoint a Printing Committee to look into the cost and possible alternative means of publishing the proceedings. 1st Vice President Pyle advised that he would consider same.

LODD – MEMORIAL Executive Secretary Cabbage advised that a date needs to be chosen by the Officers for a ceremony at the DVFA Memorial Monument to unveil the names of Patrick Dougherty and Joseph Evans. 1st Vice President Pyle states he and the Officers would choose a date in the near future.

MISC ITEM Executive Secretary reported on the following item:

- Reported that the Delaware City Fire Company received a USFA 2005 Fire Act Grant in round #1 in the amount of \$149,625.

COMMENTS BY ANY OFFICER OR VISITOR:

EDIAFC Ist Vice President Jim Watson thanked everyone for their support during the year and as incoming President of the Eastern Division of the International Association of Fire Chiefs for attempting to change the Conference dates so they will not interfere with the IAFC in Dallas next September.

NCCVFA President Thomas D'Allessandro discussed NCC Impact Fees and activities

SCVFA President Richard Toulson discussed that at the last meeting of the SCVFA that a motion was made and passed that each company conduct a completion audit in order to receive any county funds.

Motion by Director D'Allessandro, seconded by Director Toulson to go into Executive Session for Personnel Issues. Motion Carried. Went into Executive Session at 2140 Hrs.

Motion by Treasurer Metheny, seconded by Director Marvel to go out of Executive Session. Motion Carried. Went back to the normal order of business at 2146 Hrs.

Closing Comments President Stevens stated that he has traveled by land, sea and air to represent the DVFA during the past year. It was his privilege to lead the Association and thanked everyone for the Support, Input and Dedication.

Motion by Treasurer Metheny, seconded by Director Jones that we adjourn. Motion Carried.

Benediction was offered by Treasurer Metheny

Meeting adjourned at 2148 Hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Cabbage, Jr.

James L. Cabbage, Jr.
Executive Secretary