



**127th Annual Convention and Conference  
Ocean City, MD.  
June 15-21, 2019**

DVFA President Betts, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Jones, Secretary Steele, LADVFA President Gentry and Out-of-State Coordinator Steve Austin attended the Joint Officers Banquet of the Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA) at the Clarion Hotel in Ocean City, MD on Saturday, June 15, 2019.

On Monday, June, 17<sup>th</sup> the following Officers and members attended the joint opening of the Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center in Ocean City; DVFA President Betts, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Carrier, Secretary Steele, Out-of-State Coordinator Austin, Past President Walius, Fire Marshal Ingle, Kent Director Woznicki, State Chief's Secretary Maichle

MSFA President Richard Blair and LAMFSA President Marcia Roth called the Convention to order at 8:30 AM. The Convention proceeded with the normal order of business; recognition of Past President's, recognition of guest and Out-of-State folks, welcome by the Mayor, Chief of the Fire Department, several local officials, as well as several legislative folks. Numerous awards, citations and certificates were presented through-out the course of the opening ceremonies.

Keynote speaker was: Chief Kevin Quinn, Chairman National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)

He spoke about the volunteer fire service in terms of where we come from, where we are now and what the future may hold. With 70% of our nation's firefighter's volunteers, it is critical that we strengthen and progress the volunteer fire service so that it can continue to thrive. Showcasing the positive aspects of the fire service and the work of volunteers, as well as the many intrinsic rewards of volunteering, may be the key to molding the next generation of boots on the ground.

After the keynote speaker, the normal order of business continued with the nomination of Officers for 2019-2020. Nominations were: President Michael Faust, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Charles Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Joel C. McCrea, Secretary Doyle Cox and Treasurer Ron Siarnicki.

As anyone knows, that has attended the opening ceremonies, after the nomination of each Officer, they "strike up the band" and parade each candidate around the room behind the band. This is a true sight to see, if you have never had the experience.

**Congratulations to all of the newly elected Officers of the MSFA**

Respectfully submitted:  
Elmer B. Steele, DVFA Secretary