



**DVFA Officers Meeting
Thursday, May 29, 2025
18:00 hours – Social 18:30 hours – Dinner
Sta. 72, Bridgeville Fire Co.**

DVFA ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

President Tom DiCristofaro
1st Vice President Gerald Manley, Jr. (absent)
2nd Vice President Jim Arrington
Secretary Elmer Steele
Treasurer Terry Whitham (absent)
Assistant Treasurer John Wright (absent)
Executive Manager Jay Jones

New Castle Director Brian Reeder (absent)
New Castle Director Sharonda Spencer (absent)
Kent Director Jim Woznicki
Kent Director Kevin Hovis
Sussex Director Guy Hudson
Sussex Director Greg Hocker (absent)

LADVFA OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

President Mickey Decino
2nd Vice President Ginni Tice

1st Vice President Shirley Pennington
Past President Ann Marie Krystopolski

ASSOCIATIONS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Fire Commission Chairman Ron Marvel
State Chief's President Mike Edwards
Conference Chairman Mark Harris

Foundation Chairman Lynn Rogers
Fire Police 1st Vice President Jeff Dennison

- Social and hors'd were available at 6:00 PM
- 2nd Vice President Arrington called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM
- Invocation by Guy Hudson – Pledge to the flag by Jim Arrington
- Recess for dinner at 6:34 PM
- Reconvened at 7:00 PM by President DiCristofaro
- Thanked the Bridgeville Auxiliary for the meal

LADVFA President Mickey Decino:

- Greetings from the Ladies Auxiliary

State Fire Chief's President Mike Edwards:

- Expo will be June 26th at Sta, 50, Harrington starting at 3:00 PM
- Training for Conference is coming along

State Fire Police 1st Vice President Jeff Dennison:

- Working on up-dating by-laws
- Working on the blue light issue

OFFICER REPORTS:

President Tom DiCristofaro: (talking points from e-mail report)

Will talk about the Fire Tax disbursement and how we got to where we are today. Will thank the committee who worked so hard, and include State Representative Kim Williams and Senator Jack Walsh, along with the Insurance Commissioners office and the State Treasurer.

Will touch on the Joint Sunset Committee in reference to background checks and certifications.

Along with Executive Manager Jay Jones, we have spent a good amount of time in Legislative Hall in the last few months. This would include numerous meetings with State Representatives and Senators, and also a little time with the Governor and Lt Governor.

The conference committee has been working extremely hard to make this year's conference a huge success. We had a couple obstacles to overcome as far as facilities are concerned, but Elmer and his crew are working through them.

Will advise about the situation with the part time administrative position and how it came about to eliminate the position. This was not a personal attack in any way against Warren Jones, but a business decision. We thank Warren for his years in the fire service and his time spent working with and for the DVFA.

Will express my disappointment and disgust with the way that the Executive Director of the Fire Commission talked in reference to the entire DVFA and me personally and also the letter she wrote on State time and on the state email system questioning the integrity of FEMA Director AJ Schall without any facts that she talks about

1st Vice President Gerald Manley, Jr.:

- Absent

2nd Vice President Jim Arrington:

- No report

Secretary Elmer Steele: (talking points from e-mail report)

- My biggest task has been trying to sift through the DVFA "mass" e-mail list and get it manageable for my computer. Hopefully, I have been able to modify the list, so that everyone is getting e-mails from the office.
- If you are not receiving any e-mail from the office, see me, so you can be added to the list.
- I started out with 437 e-mail addresses and have cut it down to 399. Will continue to up-date the list and try to put addresses in a format for Fire Company Presidents, Fire Chief's, Past Presidents, Current Officers and Ladies Auxiliary. This way I can do a "bulk blast" e-mail to everyone or just use particular addresses for certain information.
- Been working with Conference issues. Contacted the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center, in the absence of Warren, to see where we stand with them. Working with the Hyatt on our needs with them. Working with Jay to get registration forms ready for the web page.

- Trying to do all I can for this Association, while taking care of my wife. For those that don't know, she has full body Parkinsons disease and now has have a mini stroke. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers, as she fights an uphill battle.

Treasurer Terry Whitham:

- (absent)

Assistant Treasurer John Wright:

- (absent)

Fire Prevention Commission Chairman Ron Marvel: (talking points)

- Traffic funds
- Fire Prevention money
- Gas props
- Cancer numbers
- Middletown sprinklers

Conference Chairman Mark Harris:

- Agenda is almost completed
- Developing a new on-line registration process

DVFA Foundation Lynn Rogers:

- Had their meeting on April 30th at Willis Chevy
- Re-appointed officers
- Next meeting is November 5th at Willis Chevy

Director Reports:

New Castle Director Brian Reeder:

- (absent)

New Castle Director Sharonda Spencer:

- (absent)

Kent County Director Jim Woznicki:

- Always available, if needed
- Thanks for keeping the Directors informed

Kent County Director Kevin Hovis:

- Next Kent County meeting is June 18th at Sta. 55, Magnolia

Sussex County Director Guy Hudson:

- Next Sussex Chief's meeting is June 19th at Sta. 74, Delmar
- Next Sussex County meeting is June 24th at Sta. 72, Bridgeville

Sussex County Director Greg Hocker:

- (absent)

Executive Manager Jay Jones: (talking points)

- See 6-8-2025 Executive Committee minutes for the full report from the Executive Manager

General discussion:

- None

There being no other business to come before the group, President DiCristofaro declared the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM Thanks to Bridgeville for hosting the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Elmer B. Steele

Elmer B. Steele, Secretary
Delaware Vol. Firefighter's Assoc.

Attest to:

Jay Jones, Executive Manager
Tom DiCristofaro, DVFA President