

Meeting was called to order by President Elmer B. Steele at 1000 hours at the Delaware State Fire Service Center, Dover, DE.

Invocation was given by Walter Lamon, Assistant DVFA Chaplain.

Pledge of allegiance to flag was lead by Past President George A. Diamond (Magnolia).

Moved by George Kerr (Minguas), seconded by George Diamond (Magnolia) to accept the minutes since they are in printed form and available to all - so carried.

ROLL CALL: Roll call showed following members were in attendance: Past Presidents - 15; President Emeritus - 3; Fire Commissioners - 5; Officers - 16; Committee members - 174; Guests - 8.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Charles Emerson (Claymont), Treasurer, stated his report was in printed and available for all concerned. He stated that the pension check in excess of \$740,000 was given to the State Pension Office as due. Moved by Walter Lamon (Clayton), seconded by Robert Romig (Five Points), to accept the Treasurer's report - so carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS: Officers reports are in printed form and filed with the Secretary. Anyone having a question or wishing to see a report, please contact the Officer concerned or the Secretary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADVISORY TO MUTUAL RELIEF: Joseph Hojnicky, Sr. (Minquadale) reporting. The committee was quite disturbed that the State sent a letter direct to Mutual Relief instead of coming through this committee. Hepitatis "B" inoculations was a big discussions, no comments will be made until legal opinion has been received. Also NFPA 1500 standards could have effect on future Mutual Relief. Committee will make recommendations after research.

ADVISORY TO STATE FIRE MARSHAL: Daniel Kiley (State Fire Marshal) reporting. John Lattimus is on board to handle junevile fire starters program. Reuest for an additional deputy fire marshal in Sussex County has been applied for. Smoke detector legislation will be introduced to require owners of all residential occupancies to install smoke detectors, will ask for DVFA's support under proper order of business.

ADVISORY TO STATE FIRE SCHOOL: Louis Amabili (State Fire School Director) reporting. Fire School has asked for additional slot. New Castle Burn Center badly needed - land is still a problem - firm has been hired to determine if it is in flood plan or not. Defib program discussed, State bids will be made on units. Dr O'Connor has stated that the Fire School will handle recertification of defib program. DSFS will be offering in June a program to educate Company Training Officers on training presentation.

ARCHIVES: Robert Romig (Five Points) reporting. New plaques are done and need to be mounted. Past President's pictures have been framed - more frames are needed. Railes and frames for pictures are being made. I ask again for the Convention Committee to provide this Committee with the pictures of the new Vice President (2nd) that is installed at the convention.

CONVENTION LIAISON: J. William Bell (Holloway Terrace) reporting. Bell thanked DVFA President and Vice Presidents for their help and attending all committee meetings. Thanks also to President of Ladies Auxillaries for their help and imput to the Convention. Committee will recommend under proper order of business to approve the agenda presented by Convention '93 Committee. Several changes to the By-Laws and Constitution will be required if new convention format is approved, suggest a representative from the By-Laws & Constitution Committee be present at this committee's meeting scheduled for April 18th, Many items discussed - Conference instead of Convention, Central location of convention, total sponsorship by DVFA, Opening of Conference on Thursday - have the parade on Saturday as the only event. All aspects of the Convention or Conference has been addressed by this Committee. Report will be presented at June Executive Meeting for approval and/or disapproval by this body for presentation at Convention in September for final approval of DVFA.

CISM: Kevin Wilson (Clayton) reporting. Funding for program will be pursued by John Mitchell (Elsmere). Monies needed for training of individuals and units. Need companies to think about having CISM as part of organization training program.

President Steele declared a temporary recess in the order of business and called upon Steve Austin (Aetna) to introduce a special guest.

Steve Austin (Aetna), Out-of-State Coordinator, introduced to the body the Co-Founder of the Fire Service Caucus, Honorable Curt Weldon, U.S. Congressman from Pennsylvania, who was given a standing ovation by the members in attendance.

Congressman Weldon stated that things were going extremely well in Washington for the fire service. However, there were some areas where we need to be alert and aware of what is happening.

Good things have been happening to the fire service on a national level - mainly because of what the State of Delaware fire service people have been doing. Delaware is recognized as the outstanding state in fire service in the nation.

During the past five years the formation of the Fire Service Caucus, the voice of the volunteer, has been increased. up to that time only the paid firemen members had the main voice that was heard.

The volunteers managed to have 2 sprinkler bills presented in Congress and passed. I predict a 3rd bill will be passed to require sprinkling of all buildings subsidized by the Federal Government. There were many who stated that we would not get even 1 sprinkler bill through Congress.

Death benefits have been increased for firefighters who die in line of duty - we lose about 120 firefighters yearly killed in action, benefits now amount to \$120,000 plus cost of living yearly to survivors; also permanent disability entitlement receive full death benefits, In addition, the definitions have been expanded to include EMS and anyone that is related to the fire service in their course of duties.

We have forced the tobacco industry to research a self extinguishing cigarette, which is a major cause of fire deaths. Further, we have forced industries to research the handling of Hazard Material - Title 3 requires that we train and equip our firefighters, but no funds have been made available on federal level - steps are being taken to find funds to help do this on a local level.

76 The use of Halon has been temporarily extended for one (1) year to allow for a suitable substitute, DuPont Company is working on same and feel they will have something within that time frame.

Funds have been increased for the Fire Academy and Fire Administrative and they have been reorganized under a single agency.

A bill to mint a coin to honor America's Fire Service has been passed and signed into law after a 3 year struggle--"The Ben Franklin Bill of Rights". Design of the coin has been made and it is presently in hands of the committee to approve the design - if approved it will be sent to the mint for minting. Sale of the coin (only 1.5 million will be minted) probably will sell for \$40 - \$50; it become a coin collector's item. If all are sold it is projected to generate approximate \$22,000,000 - this money will be used for fire service programs - scholarship of dependents of firefighters killed in action, special grant to NFPA to provide fire prevention material, monies to arson investigation monies to further material fire training.

It is important for 2 reasons to sell the coins - (1) There were individuals who stated the fire service would not support this by buying coins, we need to prove them wrong; (2) Once we use the monies generated by the sale of the coin we will experience Congress releasing funds in the same areas so that the foundations can be continued.

Senator William Roth of your state is the new Co-Chairman of the Caucus nationwide and will be announced at the annual Caucus Dinner in April. Also on the day of the dinner, competitions will be held on the Mall in Washington - a huge crowd is expected and invitations have been sent to all fire companies in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Penna.

Delaware has sent a spark to the fire service nationally - many states now are following the example of Delaware in regards to the handling of non-partisan politics which Delaware has been doing for the past 30 years.

Some problem areas exist in fire service as we go through growing pains. Recently the IAFF withdraw from the NFPA. There will be tremendous pressure on Congress to have ~~OSHA~~ applied to fire service throughout the nation - volunteer or not - this will cause as a lot of pain in that we would have to live up to the levels of industry and commercial businesses, one area of concern would be manning. FEMA will definitely be reorganized - it has been a disaster at present, they have siphoned off monies for areas not relative to immediate emergency areas and as a result training in these areas have suffered.

Some people in Washington want the military to take over all emergencies and give them the bulk of federal monies for this - this is the wrong way to go - the first responders have always been the fire service and we need to take this opportunity to grab the lead in this area. - this is an opportunity that will not come again - it is this year or not at all for the fire service. Congressman Weldon has recommended, in a letter to President Clinton, that a national task force be formed of fire service people from all over the nation and give a report in one (1) year to reorganize FEMA and the nation fire service thinking in Washington. We must be certain Congress does not cut the fire service anymore than they already have. President Clinton has proposed legislation to help educate people involved in law enforcement and various areas - but did not mention the fire service.

Once again I would like to reinteriate the importance Delaware has played to show the nation how to work with bi-partisan politics, you have been asked why I stepped down as Chairman of the Caucus and I want to express it was truly to show that we, in this effort, are truly bi-partisan. The new chairman is a Democrat and a good friend of the fire service, as well as having good report with the present administratic

President Steel thanked Congressman Weldon for his appearance and comments.

Steve Austin (Aetna) introduced Nick Brown, representative for Senator Roth, who expressed greetings from Sen Roth.

President Steele reverted back to regular order of business.

FIRE PREVENTION: Ron Marvel (Seaford) reporting. Committee will meet on April 1, 1993 and look over reimbursements in the excess of \$100,000, with the present monies available, this will figure out to approximately 73% of monies requested if they are all approved. Budgets for this year that wre to run over \$2,000 must be in the Fire Prevention Committee hands by June 1, 1993. All seminars and conferences must be approved by the Committee. On July 29th the committee will meet with all Chairmans of various companies to discuss any problems and/or any comments, meeting will be held at State Fire Service Center.

LAW & LEGISLATIVE: John Mitchell (Elsmere) reporting. DVFA Legislative Night was most successful and thanks to Fire School for all their help. Copt of my report is on table in printed form for all concerned.

FIREMAN OF THE YEAR: Barbara Wilson (Hartly) reporting. Letters will be going out in April and the Committee will meet in July to pick the winner.

OUT-OF-STATE COORDINATOR: Steve Austin (Aetna) reporting. FDIC in Cincinnati beginning April 5th, all arrangements have been made and Delaware Hospitality Night planned. Still have application for Caucus Dinner in Washington, On June 22, 1993 at the fire school there will be a training session by the fire school personnel for members of fire service caucus, social gathering will be furnished by fire service for caucus members.

PERMANENT MEMORIAL: Charles O. Smith (Felton) reporting. Resolutions presented to Alex Bohinski, owner of Dover Agway Store, for their support of the permanent memorial. Resolution also presented to John Zimmerman, Jr, owner of Jen-Mor Florist, who was unable to attend - Smith will see he gets the resolution. He further reported that everything was going well at the monument.

SAFETY & HEALTH: Raymond Blanchette (Harrington) reporting. Draft of proposed guidelines and letter sent to all fire companies Presidents and Fire Chiefs, questionnaire sent was received back (24 companies out of 60). Under proper order of business a motion will be presented for action.

SCHOLARSHIP: George Kerr (Minquas) reporting. Packets have been sent out by fire school to individuals requesting them. Committee will be meeting to award this year's scholarships. Harrington Ladies Auxillaries will be giving a scholarship in memory of Katherine Derrickson, Past President of Kent County, DELMARVA, and State Ladies Auxillaries.

DELAWARE CHILDREN FIRE SAFETY FOUNDATION: Harry Warner (Talleyville) reporting. Named the officers and directors of those involved many notable persons are involved in the lead of this foundation - it is beginning to get off the ground and have many programs to be supported. Foundation has great potential for an impact on the fire service in this state.

As 1st Vice President, DVFA, Warner also appointed the following members of the Fire Prevention Committee, as required by the Constitution and By-Laws:

Ronald Marvel, Seaford, Co-Chairman
Albert B. Cipollone, Volunteer Hose, Co-Chairman
William B. Matthews, Jr, Aetna
Terry Van Horn, Townsend
Joseph Vattilana, Talleyville
James H. Carson, Jr., Clayton
Barbara Wilson, Hartly
Lawrence Dixon, Hartly
Robert H. Yerkes, Jr, Houston
Jeffrey T. Elliott, Dagsboro
Alice Bruce, Indian River
Dennis Hughes, Milton
Florence Legates, Delaware State Fire School

Warner also reminded all concerned that the priorities for 1994 are in the Law & Legislative report - take these back to your organizations and be prepared to vote on them at the June Executive Meeting.

STATE LADIES AUXILLIARIES: Eleanor Warrington, President, brought greetings from the Ladies and introduced her officers and guests present. She called George Kerr (Minquas), Co-Chairman of the Scholarship Committee and presented him with a check for \$500 from the Ladies for the Scholarship Fund.

Steve Austin (Aetna) introduced Janet Rznewicki, State Treasurer to the meeting, who gave her a standing ovation. Janet was on her way downstate and dropped by to give her greetings.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL: E. James Monihan (Lewes) reporting. Reported that Rep Boucher (D-VA) will be reintroducing the Arson Prevention Act Bill. A draft of legislation has been distributed in Congress to give tax credit for installation for sprinkler systems in certain buildings. The NVFC Foundation will receive a portion of proceeds from sale of Benjamin Franklin coin. The IAFF has withdrawn from all committees of NFPA and has urged its members to relinquish their membership - it is believed this action stems from failure to get a 4 person minimum staffing in NFPA 1500. Jim again urged all Delaware companies who do not belong to the NVFA to join - it would make Delaware the only state to have 100% membership in NVFC.

MUTUAL RELIEF ASSOCIATION: Alberta Morris (Citizens Hose) reporting. The regular meeting of the association will be held on Monday, March 22, 1993 at Citizens Hose Co Fire Hall, Smyrna, DE.

FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION: C. Bryan Bennett (Seaford), Chairman, reporting. Sunset Committee meeting with State Legislators appears to have gone well - all questionnaires and inquiries were answered by commission. He thanked DVFA for its support and expressed hope that all went well with the legislators.

DELMARVA ASSOCIATION: J. Allen Metheny (Hartly) reporting. DELMARVA Executive Meeting is being held today in Parksley, VA, the annual Convention will be held in Pocomoke City, MD. on May 7-8, Parade will be on May 8, 1993.

CORRESPONDENCE

Jon Cottrell (Townsend), Assistant Secretary, read the following correspondence, parenthesis indicates action taken.

Ltr, NBC, Dec 21, 1992, re: Speaker Honorauin (Roth) (File)
Ltr, Sen Roth, Jan 27, 1993, re: Support of HB 6037. (File)
Ltr, DSFS, Feb 17, 1993, re: Annual Financial Report - FY91 (Counties
(Sta 14, 73, 78) Notified)
Ltr, Hartly Fire Co, Feb 21, 1993, re: Support of Guidelines (File)
Ltr, KCVFA, Feb 23, 1993, re: Support of Statewide Convention (Conv Lia)
Card, Manual Harkins (File)
Card, Bob Fairies (File)
Ltr, NCCVFA, re: Support Statewide Sponsored Convention (Conv Lia)
Ltr, SCVFA, re: Support of Lynn Rogers-2nd VP, DVFA (File)
Ltr, Marydel, re: ABC Person of Week (File)
17 Letters from various companies changing Delegate/Alternate (File)

Moved by George Diamond (Magnolia), seconded by James Monihan (Lewes), to accept correspondence and bring up under the proper order of business any that require action - so carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Steve Austin (Aetna) reported on a new flag for Delaware to be used at Fire Academy in Emmittsburg, MD. - it is handled by a committee at that installation so we do not have to be concerned with it - a new one will be procured.

David Bailey (Townsend), seconded by Ray Stevens (Selbyville) that this organization adopt the NFPA guidelines as presented by Health and Safety Committee in 1993.

Bruce Ennis (Citizens Hose) questioned motion and was answered by committee. Gordon Day (Brandywine Hundred) stated that they would go against the motion, but agree with it in principal, he questioned whether or not we need another written document or regulations.

President Steele called for a roll call vote - he stated the committee would stay active and address any problems that may arise in the future.

Results of roll call vote:

Yes - 97
No - 11
Abstain - 7

Motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: William Carrow (Clayton), Secretary, read names of companies who have not filed the financial statement with the fire school as of this date,

New Castle County
Stations 13, 14, 15, 20, 22, 25, 26, 28/32

Kent County
Stations 41, 42, 54

Sussex County
Stations 71, 72, 73, 74, 77, 78, 81, 83, 87, 88, 90

Moved by A.I. Guessford (Odessa), seconded by George Diamond (Magnolia) that the proposed agenda for 1993 Convention as presented be approved - so carried.

Moved by A.I. Guessford (Odessa), seconded by Donald Knight (Magnolia), that the DVFA write a letter to the President of the United States William Clinton and respectfully request that the fire service of this nation be included in any legislative, regulations, committees, etc perting to disaster preparedness and scholarships for community service programs and that copies be sent to our Congressional delegation as well as to Congressman Curt Weldon - so carried.

Moved by Daniel Kiley (State Fire Marshal), seconded by John Mitchell (Elsmere), that the DVFA go on record as supporting the proposed legislation on smoke detectors - so carried.

Dale Callaway (Milton) moved to support Lynn Rogers (Milton) for 2nd VP, DVFA. Daniel Magee (Roxana), President of Sussex County Firemen Association stated that the county had already endorsed Lynn at their last county meeting - motion not necessary and was declared void by President Steele.

Moved by Steve Austin (Aetna), seconded by E. James Monihan (Lewes), to support legislation on arson bill to be reintroduced in Congress, with letters to our Congressional delegation, as well as to Congressmen Curt Weldon and Boucher - so carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Charles Emerson (Claymont), Treasurer, presented bills totalling \$4,896.04. Moved by Robert Romig (Five Points), seconded by George Diamond (Magnolia), to pay all bills - so carried.

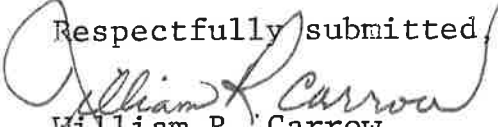
GOOD OF ASSOCIATION: Kennard Pyle (Odessa), President of New Castle County Volunteer Firemen's Association, announced that New Castle County will host the 1994 Convention on September 14 - 17, 1994 at a site to be announced. ~~Ken Pyle~~ ^{Bob Romig} and Ray Krett will Co-Chair the Convention, further information will be disseminated as finalized by the committee.

Moved by Charles O. Smith (Felton), seconded by George Diamons (Magnolia) to adjourn - so carried.

Benediction by Walter Lamon (Clayton), Assistant DVFA Chaplain.

Adjournment at 1230 hours.

* Bob Romig

Respectfully submitted

William R. Carrow
Secretary.

Dec.

a copy of Bills at ETC. Meeting 3-21-93

Dover Post	Print Post cards	112.91
Delaware State Fire School	safety + Health	207.48
Floral Occasions		32.00
R. Romig Show Lumber	archive	116.39
The Trophy Shop	archive	650.00
Union Press	Scholarship	92.00
V. sa credit card		812.15
Fairly Printing	Del. Night	37.00
John Mitchell	Reel ETP	800.44 800.41
Walt Lamon	reel ETP	35.75
Elmer Steele	ETP Cine.	1000.00
Harry Warner	" "	1000.00
Total	-	<u>4896.04</u>