



Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association Ladies Auxiliary

Conference 2019
Dover Downs Hotel and Casino
Thursday, September 12, 2019

JOINT OPENING CEREMONIES

8:30 AM Call to order by M/C Warren Jones

- Introduction of the Past President's and President Emeritus's of our organizations
- Introduction of the current Presidents of our organizations

DVFA President Willard R. Betts, Jr.
LADVFA President Penny Gentry

DVFA 1st Vice President Norman "Jay" Jones
LADVFA 1st Vice President Karen Workman

DVFA 2nd Vice President Dan Carrier
LADVFA 2nd Vice President Pam Ingle

- Invocation by DVFA Chaplain Bob Hudson
- DVFA/LADVFA Choir will sing our National Anthem
- Pledge to the flag led by DVFA President Betts and LADVFA President Gentry
- LADVFA President Penny Gentry gave her welcoming remarks and introduced her officers
- DVFA President Bill Betts gave his welcoming remarks and introduced his officers
- M/C Warren Jones pointed out the 4 new "stand-up" banners that were on stage, the new podium and the back-drop for pictures. Thanks to Vice President Jones for acquiring these items
- Welcome from the Mayor of the City of Dover Robin Christiansen
- Welcome from the VP/General Manager of Dover Downs Nicholas Polcino, Jr.

- Introduction of other guests:
 - Director of the Delaware State Fire School Robert 'Biff' Newnam
 - Delaware State Fire Marshal Grover Ingle
 - Chairman of the State Fire Prevention Commission Dave Roberts
 - President of the State EMS Association Jason Capps
 - President of the State Fire Police Association Les States
 - President of the State Fire Chief's Association Derrick Brode
 - CFSI Executive Director Bill Webb made a presentation to President Betts
- Introduction of the Conference Committee:
 - DVFA Chairman Joe Zeroles
 - LADVFA Co-Chair Christine McGee
 - DVFA Co-Chair's Dave Ruff & George Lamborn
 - LADVFA Co-Chair's Stacy Northam-Smith & Karen Majewski
 - Conference Treasurer Ray Stevens

Introduction of Jeff Buckworth, of PNC Bank, so he could make their Partners in Progress contribution of \$5,000.00

Over the next few days you will undoubtedly come in contact with many friends and associates in the fire service and most notably our sponsors. Please take a moment to personally thank them for their support.

I also hope you plan to spend some time with our exhibitors. Like our sponsors these folks contribute to the success of our conference.

Introduction of Christine McGee who will announce the 50-year LADVFA members: (11)

Kent County;

Bowers	Margaret Slusar	Felton	Barbara Jacobs
Felton	Jeannie Wood	Hartly	Barbara Metheny

Sussex County;

Bridgeville	Bonnie Workman	Delmar	Jane Ann Smith
Milton	Brenda Hughes		

New Castle County;

Christiana	Sharon Robinson	Delaware City	Nancy Migliavacca
Minquadale	Patricia Addison	Talleyville	Marjorie Nichols

Introduction of Jackie Guzzo for the Ladies Auxiliary Hall of Recognition presentations:

Kent County	Sharon Smith from Carlisle Auxiliary
Sussex County	Carolyn Calhoun from Seaford Auxiliary
New Castle County	Mickey DeCino from Cranston Heights Auxiliary
2018 Past President	Lynn Warner from Talleyville Auxiliary

Introduction of President Emeritus Bruce Ennis, who will announce the 50-year members: (39)
Grand total of 1,953 years of service to the fire service of the State of Delaware

Kent County;

Citizen's Hose	James P. Masten	Citizen's Hose	Easley E. Pierson, Sr.
Citizen's Hose	John C. Still, III	Citizen's Hose	Robert T. Ennis
Citizen's Hose	Robert Mitchell	Citizen's Hose	Robert Brown
Citizen's Hose	Edwin A. Pierson	Citizen's Hose	Keith Faulkner
Clayton	David J. Mast	Clayton	Clarence R. O'Neal
Carlisle	Francis Morris	Felton	Ken Ryder
Harrington	Edward Welch		

Sussex County;

Bridgeville	Brent Workman	Dagsboro	Robert Furbush
Memorial	Lynn J. Rogers	Milton	Samuel E. Argo
Milton	William M. Powers, Jr.	Rehoboth Beach	Sudler Dill
Roxana	Wayne L. Bennett	Seaford	Kenneth C. Tull, Sr.
Seaford	Barry J. Calhoun	Seaford	John Botdorf

New Castle County;

Aetna	David C. Anderson	Aetna	William F. Streets
Aetna	David L. Press	Christiana	James S. Russell, Jr.
Claymont	Edward J. Hassel	Claymont	Paul Ashback
Cranston Heights	William Walton, Jr.	Elsmere	John L. Mitchell, Jr.
Holloway Terrace	Hayden F. Klinger	Holloway Terrace	Anthony Riccio, Sr.
Holloway Terrace	William Logan, Sr.	Mill Creek	Herbert Davis, Jr.
Minquadale	Herbert Torterotot	Minquas	Carmen Maiorano
Minquas	William E. Thomas	Minquas	Phillip J. Young

M/C Warren Jones announced this year's inductees to the Hall of Fame:

- Heroic Firefighter of the Year – Joseph Shanahan and Thomas Morgan, Christiana Fire Co.
- Fire Policeman of the Year – John Davis, Sr., Clayton Fire Co.
- Firefighter of the Year – Kenneth McMahon, Christiana Fire Co.
- EMT of the Year – Larry DuHadaway, III, Christiana Fire Co.
- Past President DVFA Assoc. – Richard T. Perillo, Brandywine Hundred Fire Co.

M/C Warren Jones announced the "Youth Leadership Award" Must be under the age of 35 and be active in the leadership of your Company/Department. One award for each County this year;

- Kent County
 - Sussex County
 - New Castle County
- | |
|------------------------------------|
| Joey Marker, Leipsic Fire Co. |
| Cassie Burt, Indian River Fire Co. |
| Josh Rosa, Elsmere Fire Co. |

Vice President Jones presented President Emeritus Ken McMahon with his DVFA ring

Eric "Caeser" Haley announced this year's Non-Heroic Firefighter of the Year:

I would like to take this opportunity to nominate Raymond T. Stevens, Jr. for 2019 Firefighter of the year.

Ray Stevens Jr. has been a volunteer for Selbyville Volunteer Fire Company for 51 years. Ray has held the offices of President, Vice President, Fire Chief, Engineer, Safety Officer, Pension Officer, Human Resource Officer and Assistant Treasurer. He has chaired various committees.

On the county level, Ray has served as President between 1999-2000 and is currently Treasurer of the Sussex County Volunteer Firefighter's Association. He has served on many committees for this organization.

Ray served as President of the Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association in 2005. Currently Ray is the Assistant Treasurer of the DVFA and Treasurer of the Conference Committee. He has served as DVFA Foundation Treasurer, DVFA Statewide Pension Chairman, and other Special Projects. Most recently, Ray did a comprehensive report providing the state association with the income and debt service information for all the companies. This information was beneficial in providing our legislators with an accurate picture of our need for additional funding.

He was appointed by Gov. Ruth Ann Minner to the Delaware Fire Commission in 2006.

Ray has also found time to give back to Selbyville serving as a town councilman and police commissioner. He was instrumental in the creation of the Selbyville Industrial Park. He is a member of Salem United Methodist Church and serves on various committees.

In conclusion, please accept this nomination as Ray is a very dedicated member of the fire service community and is always willing to go above and beyond in assisting with any tasks. Ray's dedication to our community is second to none and the Selbyville Volunteer Fire Company is honored to recommend Ray for this award.

The 2019 Firefighter of the Year award goes to Ray Stevens, Jr. of the Selbyville Fire Co.

Warren thanked the opening ceremonies committee and helpers.

Movie presentation: "Year in Review"

Called on LADVFA Chaplain Juanita Nieves for the benediction. (10:15 AM)

2019 DVFA CONFERENCE
Executive Meeting
Thursday, September 12, 2019
11:35 AM in Ball Room C of the Rollins Center

Call the business session to order by President Bill Betts

Invocation offered by DVFA Chaplain Pastor Bob Hudson

Pledge to the flag led by the President of the Port Penn Fire Company

LADVFA President Penny Gentry (escorted by Tom DiCristofaro), LADVFA 1st Vice President Karen Workman (escorted by Ted Walius) and LADVFA 2nd Vice President Pam Ingle (escorted by Jon Townley) gave the ladies financial report for the year;

There are, a total of 2,043 Auxiliary members from all 3 Counties

The Auxiliaries donated \$853,134.70 (this is \$32,000.00 more than 2018)

Conference appointments by President Betts:

- Credentials: Ken Ryder, Sta. 48; Ron O'Neal, Sta. 83; Tom DiCristofaro, Sta. 13
- Sergeant at Arms: Kevin Reinike, Sta. 27; Steve White, Sta. 49; Harold Brode, Sta. 50; Dominic Messina, Sta. 80; Ed Schaffer, Sta. 82; Michael Shaw, Sta. 28 & 32
- Committee to visit the ladies: Ed Barlow, Sta. 20; Ted Walius, Sta. 75; Joe Zerolles, Sta. 47
- Parliamentarians: Jim Woznicki, Sta. 53; Guy Hudson, Sta. 90; Jasper Lakey, Sta. 15

CONFERENCE GROUND RULES AND CONDUCT

No hats, all cell phones and pagers are to be turned off or placed in the silent mode. In order to speak, rise to be recognized by the Chair, proceed to the nearest microphone, state your name and the fire company that you are representing.

Special Presentation:

Frank Splain, Jr., Director of Development gave a brief report on "Foundation 58" which is a support services group for first responders. He left cards and web site information that is available to our members. Please check it out.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

Secretary Elmer Steele summarized the communications:

- Letter from Odessa Fire Co. updating Delegates and Alternates
- Letter from Mike McMichaels reference to his decision to step down as DEMSA Secretary
- Letter from Delmarva Power extending thanks to all firefighter's and EMT's and their sponsorship of the conference for \$10,000.00
- Letter from Ellendale Fire Co. supporting Norman Jones, Jr. for President of the DVFA
- Letter from KCVFA supporting Ken Ryder for 2nd Vice President of the DVFA
- Letter from Mutual Relief advising that Bob Yerkes has completed his term and needs to be replaced
- Letter from KCVFA supporting Jim Woznicki for Kent County Director of the DVFA
- Letter from Dover Fire Dept. supporting Terry Whitham for Treasurer of the DVFA
- Letter from NCCVFA supporting Dan Burris as the NCC representative for Mutual Relief
- Letter from SCVFA supporting Jay Jones for President of the DVFA
- Letter from Leipsic Fire Co. supporting Jim Woznicki for Kent County Director of the DVFA
- Letter from KCVFA supporting Terry Whitham for Treasurer of the DVFA

REPORT OF THE OFFICERS

President Bill Betts: (copied and pasted from written report)

I want to thank everyone for their support that they gave me over the past year. It felt like it went very quickly, and I tried to do my best to promote the good qualities that the DVFA is about. There are a lot of naysayers out there in the Fire Service that feel that we do nothing for the State Fire Service, and if they do, they should look at their State funding at present. It is second to none in the rest of the 50 States and it is the result of a lot of hard work by past and present DVFA Officers and Executive Managers pounding on the

legislators for funding. With the new problems, we need to continue to examine potential funding sources and look back at our success with the red-light money for our EMS system.

Looking ahead at things that are still a work in progress are the efforts to increase our memberships with young quality individuals that can step up and provide the leadership and the service that the State of Delaware has come to rely on since our inception 98 years ago. We have taken some steps with the Joint Resolution to gain some outside perspectives on how we can reach our goals, and 1st President Jones has initiated some Committees based on the 3 Counties to also work on this problem. I would encourage anyone with ideas to bring them to the memberships of these committees and not throw insults from the black side of the social media.

I have to offer a special thank-you to my Vice-Presidents for their special support in guiding me through the difficult areas of the Presidency, and my Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer who have worked diligently to correct the flow of the monies in the Treasury. It is amazing of the bond that is formed with the other officers of the Executive Committee and the knowledge that I was able to glean from them. "Mr. Conference" Elmer Steele has continued doing an excellent job with the Conference and being Secretary, and the glue that holds us all together in Executive Manager Warren Jones. Finally, I would like to thank my wife for her unwavering support for me and providing me with another sounding board when I was questioning some of my decisions. Louise and Elmer were steadfast in the face of health problems both endured over the past year.

I would like to offer my support to the incoming officers, and I promise to be around to assist, and not be a one-hit-wonder. Thank you once again as I have met and got to know some very special and capable members of the Delaware Fire Service.

Once again, it has been my pleasure to serve as your President, and I thank you once again for your support.

1st Vice President Jay Jones: (copied and pasted from written report)

In the 4th quarter of 2019, I traveled to 3,544 miles, attended 59 events with over 137 hours of service. This brings my yearly totals to 14,928 miles traveled, 503 hours of service, and 176 events attended.

It has been an extremely busy quarter. I was working along with Executive Manager Warren Jones to wrap up our legislative items and securing funding for the fire service at the state level for this physical year. I have also been doing some traveling to several states representing the Delaware Fire Service. Those States include West Virginia, Virginia and Maryland States/Commonwealth conferences along with the Cumberland Valley conference.

I have also been working along with the Delaware conference committee to help make this year's conference a success and hope that we all can enjoy and benefit from the conference that we have planned. We have a lot of great seminars this year. I am hopeful that next year I will be able to continue providing more of these great seminars when I begin my term as President.

As you aware, we were not successful in getting the cancer presumption legislation passed through the legislature before the end of session. I have appointed a working group to iron out all the kinks on any new and current legislation concerning cancer in the 2020 term. I hope their work can move cancer legislation through the chambers more rapidly with a successful outcome.

In our last quarterly meeting the DVFA, I was charged to help facilitate a way to address the staffing issues throughout the state. To begin my task, I have reached out to every county association and county chiefs association asking them for an appointee from their bodies to come together with our three elected DVFA directors and appointees of the State Fire Chiefs Association, to put together a working group, to start the

conversation of this statewide issue. I hope good things will come from this and we will be able find a path forward.

The 2020 DVFA committees have been assigned by the 2020 Presidents and will be distributed at the conference. We decided to change some committees by adding a few and separating the technology and website committees, along with forming a Junior member/cadet committee. We also reinstated the DVFA cruise by request. We are also changing the name of the Health and Safety committee to Health and Wellness. We hope this will eliminate any confusion between the Life Safety Committee (fire prevention) versus this committee and gives a more clear description of the intent. I am eager to see great accomplishments from these committees and working groups.

Lastly, I would to thank all my fellow officers, whom have showed their support and friendship. I have been lucky to serve with these individuals to create a common bond and work toward a common goal. I also want to thank all my family and friends that have supported me these past few years, with an understanding of my absence. Surely, I will be remiss if I did not thank you, the members of this great association for allowing me to serve you as your 1st Vice President. I look forward to serving you in the role of DVFA President going into 2020. This is a great honor that I do not take lightly. I guarantee, I will always put forth my best effort for the good of the association. I hope you all have wonderful conference.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve you.

2nd Vice President Dan Carrier: (copied and pasted from written report)

I attended 30 functions traveled 1725 miles 124 hours in service for the past quarter.

I would like to congratulate President Betts for his year as president.

Worked on committees for the coming year as I worked on getting the new working staff committee going.

I would like to wish first vice president Jones a Happy Birthday.

Also working on the hundredth anniversary committee.

I found a mistake on the scholarship committee on the committee list Kim O'Malley for some reason was omitted off the list she is still on the committee. I would like to thank Association for letting me serve as second vice president for the past year.

Secretary Elmer Steele: (copied and pasted from written report)

4th Quarter travel report: 23 events, in service 97 hours, traveled 1,835 miles

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Secretary this past year. I have tried to make myself available to the Officers and to Executive Manager Warren Jones. I have tried to answer their questions and to respond to their needs as much as possible.

I will make that offer to the new Officers again this year. If I can assist you in any way, please feel free to ask. I'll do my best to help make the Association the best that it can be.

Congratulations to President Betts on a great year. Leadership is the key element to any organization and I feel that we, the DVFA, are on the right path for our future.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to the coming year.

Treasurer Terry Whitham: (copied and pasted from written report)

As of the end of August we record the following balances:

Operations Account- **\$ 249,282.82**

Money Market- **\$ 76,146.08**

Conference Account- **\$ 56,701.77**

Conference Money Market- **\$ 111,212.25**

Crawford Financial Account- **\$ 234,342.00**

Attached is a budget vs. actual expenses to give you an insight on where we stand financially through the end of June 30th.

Also enclosed is an Investment Schedule for our Crawford Financial portfolio. We have gained an additional \$ 6,300.00 since last meeting.

The financial review has been completed by Bumpers and Company. It will be turned over to the Finance & Budget Committee for review.

The Intuit Credit Card program has been re-established for receiving credit card charges for conference vendors. The fee now processed goes directly into the conference account.

The new vehicle purchased for the Executive Manager went \$ 503.88 over budget. So, our incoming President is starting his term in the red

As always, any questions please feel free to contact either Ray or myself.

Executive Manager Warren Jones: (copied and pasted from written report)

SB126: Senate Bill 126 is our Presumption Legislation. It passed the Senate and was over in the house on the last day of Legislative Session. It was held up there in the finance committee because of the fiscal note and the fact that they already passed the budget. We will be moving it when they go back into session.

HB199: House Bill 199 is the Tax Credit Bill changing our tax credit from \$400 to \$500. It passed the House and was on the agenda in the Senate on the last day when Senator McDowell announced his retirement. They had decided that they were getting done by 1 am no matter what was on the agenda. McDowell announced his retirement at 12:30 am. For the next 30 minutes they were giving tributes to him. That is why the bill did not get brought up for a vote. We will be moving it when they go back into session.

Recruitment and Retention Task Force: The Task Force should be starting this month. I wanted to talk about what we are hoping to come out of this task force. We are hoping for two things. First we are hoping to have the State get involved in programs and incentives for Recruiting and Retaining Volunteer Firefighters. Also, we are looking to establish a funding source for staffing to supplement the volunteers. In order for them to do this you all may be contacted to supply information. If you do please get back to them as soon as you can.

Also, you may be asked to consider some changes. Let me give you an example. During a break in the Bond Bill Deliberations this year I was talking to the Secretary of Finance about our bill to increase the tax credit. He asked me about the bill and I kiddingly told him that the \$500 would be a nice increase but it would be great if it was \$1000.00. He told me, very seriously, he would have no problem with making it a \$1000.00 as long as there was a standard way for every company. On June 30th the last day of session around midnight, Ron Marvel and I were on the 2nd floor of Legislative Hall, when we ran into Secretary Rick Geisenberger again. We starting talking about the \$1000.00 again and he said the same thing. So, I want you to think about this as an example. If you want to receive a \$1000 tax credit or anything that would help with recruiting and retention you may have to adjust your policies and agree to a universal policy.

Another point I like to make. You have to be careful you are following the pre-requisite for the Active member who you submit for the tax credit and those you submit for the Surf Fishing tags. For the Tax Credit it is clear that only Active Members qualify and for the Surf Fishing it is clear that an Active Firefighters is an active non-paid firefighter who responds to at least 20% of alarms or crew calls or a volunteer EMT who does the same or a Life member. The purpose

of these items is to keep people active. If you are giving them to anyone who is not active you not only missing an opportunity to get more people active but you are in violation of the statute. If you are the President of your fire company and you sign your name to those forms or list you are accepting the responsibility of the guidelines of those statutes. If they ever go in for an audit, which they have done before for the tax credit, you could cause everyone to lose if you are putting people on these list or forms who do not meet the qualifications.

We are going to have a lot going on this legislative session. We have the Presumption Legislation, the Tax Increase Bill, the other Cancer bill under workman's comp, we want to work with the Governor to get the schools to support the Poster and Essay contest and lastly there will probably have some legislation come out of this task force. This could be the busiest year we have ever had. We will need your help and your support.

That help starts tomorrow at the luncheon. We have 50 State and County Political folks attending our luncheon. Most will be sitting with you are your tables. Please engage them and talk about our legislation coming up. As a reminder, the Presumption Legislation, the Tax deduction bill, the Recruitment and Retention Task Force and whatever bill or bills that come out of that. And most importantly please stay in the Luncheon until the last end. Thank you,

M & T Bank has decided that they do not want to support the conference this year. President Jones has asked me to set up a meeting with M & T to find out what the issue is.

Introduction of Out-of-State Guest: Steve Austin introduced the Out of State guests that were in attendance this morning;

- Del-Mar-Va Firemen's Association 1st Vice President David Dixon brought greetings and stated their next meeting would be November 3rd at the Gumboro Fire Hall
- Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association (CVVFA) Past President Hoby Howell brought greetings from their Association. Thanked the DVFA Officers that attended their Convention in Berkley Springs, WV last month
- Virginia State Firefighter's Association (VSFA) 1st Vice President Pete Kirby brought greetings from the Commonwealth of Virginia. Pete made a presentation to President Betts
- Firemen's Association State of Pennsylvania President Kathleen Snauffer brought greetings from Pennsylvania and made a presentation to President Betts
- Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA) Vice President Chuck Walker brought greetings from the State of Maryland

DVFA Foundation: Chairman Lynn Rogers gave a brief report as to the activities of the foundation. There are some changes taking place, due to folks retiring.

Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission: Chairman Dave Roberts (copied and pasted from written report)

Good morning. First, I would like to thank President Bill Betts and President Penny Gentry for your dedication this past year. The Commission sincerely appreciates all that our emergency services does every day to make Delaware safer through your service.

The Commission meets monthly the second Tuesday of the month. The following are the highlights are from Fiscal Year 2019.

- The Commission continues to work with their BLS Medical Director with regard to the evolving Opioid epidemic and the safety of our responding members of the emergency service. The Office of Emergency Medical Services has a stock of Naloxone made available through grant funds. It is distributed by request through OEMS. There were 419 overdose deaths due to opioid in 2018. This is a 21% increase from the previous year,
- The Commission is charged with certifying Delaware EMTs. The Commission certified 1,466 Delaware EMTs by April 1, 2019. 80 were decertified due to lack of application and 104 were decertified due to not completing the Protocol update test.
- The SFPC distributed \$4,320,931.00 in ambulance funds for the period of July 1, 2018 until June 30, 2019. The funds are distributed on a bi-annual basis.

- The Commission Compliance Officer inspected 205 ambulances in 2018. As a result of those inspections 44 deficiencies were found and corrected.
- For the Calendar year 2018 the Commission received 60 arrest notifications through DELJIS. Of those notifications, 45 were no longer active Delaware EMT's
- During the calendar year of 2018 the Commission received 93 complaints. Sixty-one (61) of the 93 complaints required no action by the Commission. Thirty-two (32) complaints resulted in cases being opened and investigations.
- The Commission has updated their website to include "Commission Orders" for public view.
- The Commission is in the final stage of updating Section 710 Ambulance Regulations.
- The next Commission Meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2019

Delaware State Fire Marshal: Fire Marshal Grover Ingle (copied and pasted from written report)

- Fire Deaths – Currently, there are 11 fire deaths, three (3) with a working smoke alarm, and eight (8) without a working smoke alarm. The last fire fatality was the triple fatal on Scarp Road in Pots Net Bayside, Indian River Fire District on August 7, 2019.
- Deputy Fire Marshal II Michael Pfaffenhauser has returned to full duty effective September 6, 2019. He will be attending the ATF Post Blast class from September 15- 21, 2019 in Huntsville Alabama. Deputy Fire Marshal's II, Tyler Sipple & Tom Looney will be attending the same class from November 3 – 9, 2019. Deputy's Sipple and Looney will be attending the National Fire Academy from September 14 – 20, 2019 for a class on Forensic Evidence.
- Deputy Fire Marshal II John Yedinak resigned from his position as a Deputy Fire Marshal II effective August 27, 2019. John was with the agency for two plus years and has accepted a position with the Maryland Office of the State Fire Marshal. This position will be posted and filled in the near future.
- Annual Report has been completed and distributed to the Commission, President's, Fire Chief's, Governor, the legislature and other associations, as well as being on our website. Congratulations to the Staff for their hard work throughout the year.
- DFIRS reports we continue to work with each Company/Department on their submittals and cleaning up the data. The annual report reflects the information provided by the Fire Department's/Companies for the calendar year 2018.
- Congratulations to Paul Eichler and the Delaware Sprinkler Coalition. Paul continues to do an excellent job in educating the Public, Legislators, Homebuilder's and yes the Fire Service on the need for Residential Sprinklers in single family dwellings.
- At the October Commission meeting I will be submitting my recommendations to the Commission on proposed changes to the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulations.
- I would like to thank Chairman Roberts and the members of the State Fire Prevention Commission for their continued support to the Office of the State Fire Marshal as well as for appointing to another term as State Fire Marshal in June.
- Congratulations to Commissioner Perillo for his service as a Commissioners during the past year and his continued support of our Agency. Also welcome to Commissioners Leonetti and Kelly.
- Congratulations to President Willard "Bill" Betts on a successful year and we look forward to continue working with you in your role as a Commissioner. The Office of the State Fire Marshal looks forward to working with Incoming President Jones and his Officer's during the upcoming year.
- Congratulations to President Derrick Brode of the State Fire Chief's Association for a successful year and also look forward to working with Incoming President Deary and his Officer's in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,

Delaware State Fire School: Director Robert Newnam (copied and pasted from written report)

Thanks to:

- President of the DVFA and the table officers and the Fire School Advisory Committee for their support and input.
- The Executive Manager for his support.
- The State Fire Prevention Commission

- The Officers of the Emergency Service Providers who have supported and provided positive recommendations to staff and myself.
- The Staff of the Delaware State Fire School for their dedication and hard work, these employees are dedicated to providing the best possible training possible.

As with this past year, for the next year the Delaware State Fire School will continue improvements to current programs, enhance our delivery of programs, develop new programs, and provide support and assistance to the Emergency Services. Some of these include;

- **Projects, Programs and class offerings**
 - Reaccredited by Pro-Board for certifications, Firefighter I&II, Fire Brigade 1081, Fire Instructor I&II.
 - Will conduct the 6th New Castle Recruit Training program starting in January 2020.
 - Continue training opportunities for the Ladies Aux. Members, and in Public Fire Education
 - Approved AFG Grant – Gear washers - Divisions, Pump Simulator (3), PPE, Crash Kelly injury sets
 - Applying for AFG Grant – PPE for Rescue Instructors, USAR Training trailer/tow vehicle
 - Active Shooter – continue to develop and support the training requirements
 - Reformatted Basic Firefighting Skills – due to enrollment, two groups – increasing skill sessions
 - Upgrading the Computer Lab for certification testing - currently Pro-Board, in 2020 National Registry
 - Improving Structural Firefighting Skills with improving/adding skill stations, Search, nozzle forward
 - Speaker Seminars – provide speakers on various topics – 1st scheduled for January 25th
 - Dr. David Griffin present “Charleston 9” review, with emphasis on related PTSD issues
 - Implement a drone test prep and pilot qualification courses – equipment purchased – 2/22-23
 - ICS 300-400 – Program revisions – updating – Instructors
 - BFFS-SFFS-HMRS and Recruit Class – updated materials to Essential 7
- **EMS Programs**
 - EMTs in Delaware, currently 1601 certified - EMRs – currently 1287
 - Program Manager – Patricia Fox
- **Facilities**
 - HVAC Replacement Project – Dover Division, completed
 - Rest Rooms – complete redo – scheduled to begin this month
 - Roof Replacement – Dover Division – scheduled to begin this fall
 - Solar panels – SCBA building, power the Rescue Tower lighting
 - CPAT testing equipment – partnership with Wilmington Fire Department
- **General and Capital Budget (Bond Bill) FY21**
 - Requesting 150K for the updating and maintenance of the Student record keeping system
 - Requesting 55K for grounds generator KCD, 50K Concrete Repairs (SCBA pad area)
 - Rescue equipment – 60K, 7 Fire Companies and DSFS – *this is a pass though.*
- **Communications – Surveys** – need your help, responses
 - NFPA 1851, 10-year service life for PPE – many State Training adhere strictly to this requirement.
 - Updating the Fire Company inventory program/form with DVFA – DSFS staff

The DSFS will continue to provide professional instruction and training at a minimum cost to emergency service personnel and their employers. Daily the staff takes the necessary steps to meet that requirement. At a time when governments are cutting services the DSFS is increasing program availability, adding new props and programs. I ask that when you are reviewing your budgets that training remains a high priority within your department and that you continue to support the DSFS.

Thank you

Visitation from the Ladies: Past Presidents of the LADVFA Karen Majewski, Eleanor Raye Warrington and Marie Moore brought greetings from the Ladies Association.

National Volunteer Fire Council: DVFA Delegate Terry Jester reported on the things that are taking place at the NVFC. There is lots and lots of training information on the NVFC web site and it is FREE. They had a change in leadership. Terry discussed member benefits and legislative issues, along with grants. Their fall meeting will be October 23-25 in Augusta, GA

Delaware State Fire Chief's Association: 1st Vice President Steve Deery brought greetings from the Chief's Association. Thanked President Betts for a great year. Stated their meeting would be in Cheswold tonight. Speaker will be Chief Dennis Rubin

Delaware State Fire Police Association: 1st Vice President Ernie Layfield brought greetings. Their next State meeting will be in October

Delaware State Emergency Medical Services Association: President Jason Capps brought greetings. Congratulated the DVFA Officers on a great year. EMS will probably have 2 full days of seminars/classes next year during the Conference.

Mutual Relief Association: Chairman Steve White stated that their meeting would be at 3:00 today. Steve congratulated the Officers and is looking forward to working with the new Officers. Will be voting on the policy at the meeting for the coming year

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Credentials Committee: Ken Ryder gave the following report;

- Kent County 100% of the Companies have registered
- Sussex County 100% of the Companies have registered
- New Castle County 100% of the Companies have registered

Financial Committee: Bill Tobin thanked the Officers for allowing the committee to come up with a workable budget for FY 20

Life Safety Committee: Chairman Guy Hudson stated that fire prevention is just around the corner. Review the information in the packets for return dates. Any questions, contact your County representative

Conference Committee: Joe Zerolles

- Any issues or concerns, contact him or one of the co-chairs. If you are parked in any of the valet parking areas, you need to move your vehicle ASAP

Revolving Loan: Ray Stevens (copied from written report)

- Last meeting was on Wednesday, Sept. 4th @ 9:00 AM in Dover. (5 members present and 1st VP Jay Jones was invited to introduce him to the committee and its operations)
- We approved (1) one loan application for \$183,862.08
- Since its beginning, back in 2006, we have;
 - Awarded 44 loans totaling \$7,569,350.84
 - New Castle County 16 - \$2,837,125
 - Kent County 17 - \$2,175,691
 - Sussex County 11 - \$2,556,533
- Funds Currently Available for loan = \$1,372,716.78
- In the near future; All companies will have the opportunity to make their payments via ACH (at no cost to the companies). Dept of Finance is currently working on this and will have future up-dates to everyone. Its NOT MANDATORY, ONLY AN OPTION for you to pay electronically

- Lastly, a motion was made, seconded and passed that for the NEXT 6 MONTHS (now through February) ALL LOANS, REGARDLESS OF EQUIPMENT PURCHASED, will be granted at 1% interest rate (i.e. pumpers, tankers, rescues, ladders, ambulances, SCBA's, turn-out gear, etc.)
- Any questions, see me after the meeting, Thank you

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

President: Norman "Jay" Jones, Ellendale (letter received), Nominated by Andy Jones, second by Norman Jones, Sr.

1st Vice President: Dan Carrier, Hockessin (letter received), Nominated by DVFA Past President Anthony Guzzo, second by Chief Quint Saienni

2nd Vice President: Ken Ryder, Felton (letter received), Nominated by Chairman of the Board Bill Jester, second by President Adam Jarrell

Secretary: Elmer B. Steele, Laurel (letter received), Nominated by President William Hearn, second by Chief Jeff Hill

Treasurer: Terry Whitham, Dover (letter received), Nominated by President Tim Mullaney, second by Chief Ronald Rhodes

Director, Kent County (3 years): Jim Woznicki, Leipsic, (letter received), Nominated by President Benny O'Neal, second by Ralph Satterfield

Past President Director: Richard T. Perillo - This is an automatic appointment and does not need to be nominated

Motion made by Tom DiCristofaro and second by Jon Townley to close nominations. Motion carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

- President Betts requests a motion that the Secretary cast a ballot for all uncontested offices, except for Secretary. *Motion made by Richard T. Perillo and second by Kevin Wilson*
Favorable ballot was cast
- President Betts request Treasurer Terry Whitham to cast a ballot for Secretary Elmer Steele. *Motion made by Joe Zeroles and second by Tom DiCristofaro* ***Favorable ballot was cast***

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Treasurer Whitham stated that there is a total of \$67,633.07 in bills to be paid.

Expenses by Vendor Summary June 2019 through August 2019

VENDOR	EXPENSE
AT&T	\$ 41.16
BUMPERS & COMPANY	\$ 187.50
CANNON FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.	\$ 542.64
CHAMPION TROPHIES	\$ 65.00
COMCAST	\$ 812.55
CREDIT CARD PAYMENT PROCESSING	\$ 2,452.94
CUMBERLAND VALLEY VOL FIREMANS	\$ 45.00
DVFA CONFERENCE	\$ 30,500.00
GOLDFEIN & JOESPH, P.C.	\$ 175.00
JOSTENS	\$ 1,171.58
M7T BANK	\$ 1,697.09
ROGERS SIGN	\$ 705.00
STEVE AUSTIN	\$ 153.09
SUSSEX PRINTING	\$ 2,835.68
THE CONFERENCE GROUP, LLC	\$ 15.96
VERIZON WIRELESS	\$ 174.00
VERNON INGRAM	\$ 2,055.00
WILLARD BETTS JR.	\$ 3,500.00
WILLIS FORD	\$ 20,503.88
TOTAL	\$ 67,633.07

Motion by Al Townsend and second by Bernie Nutter to pay the bills.

Motion carried

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

- Joe Zeroles stated that the Conference dates for next year will be September 14-19, 2020 at Dover Downs.
- Sussex County President Hunter Holland requested that a committee be formed to change the name of this Association. Wants to remove "Volunteer" from the name of the Association. President Betts said that this would be taken under advisement with the new incoming Officers.
- It was stated that Norman Batchelor fell and was not doing very well
- Marvin Sharp raised a question as to why we would even consider changing the name of this Association.
- Pastor Bob Hudson thanked the Association for allowing him to be the Chaplain for the past years
- Ken Dunn raised a question concerning the "Freedom of Information" request that was made by the newspaper

There being no further business to claim the attention of the members, President Betts declared the meeting would recess until 8:30 AM tomorrow for the Memorial Program

Adjourned at 1:20 PM

**25th Annual Conference
DELAWARE VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
MEMORIAL SERVICE**



Friday, September 13, 2019 8:30 a.m.

**Dover Downs, Rollins Center
Dover, Delaware**

**IN MEMORY OF OUR
FIREFIGHTERS
AND
LADIES AUXILIARY MEMBERS**

OPENING REMARKS

Grover P. Ingle, *Master of Ceremonies*

INVOCATION

Pastor Robert Hudson, *Chaplain, DVFA*

CHORAL ARRANGEMENT

DVFA & LADVFA Choir

Shout to the Lord

By: Darlene Zacheck

WORDS OF COMFORT

Juanita Nieves, *Chaplain, Ladies Auxiliary DVFA*

Pastor Robert Hudson, *Chaplain, DVFA*

UNVEILING OF THE CROSSES

Willard R. Betts, Jr., *President, DVFA*

Penny Gentry, *President, Ladies Auxiliary DVFA*

W. Derrick Brode, *President, State Fire Chiefs Association*

Leslie States, *President, State Fire Police Association*

Jason Capps, *President, State Emergency Medical Services Association*

CHORAL ARRANGEMENT

American Tears

By: Therese Jennings

READINGS BY THE LADIES AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS

Penny Gentry, *President*, Ladies Auxiliary DVFA

Sandra Robinson, *President*, Kent County Volunteer Firefighter's Auxiliary

Regina Headley-Marvel, *President*, Auxiliary Sussex County Volunteer Firefighter's Association

Jane Williams, *President*, Ladies Auxiliary New Castle County Volunteer Firefighter's Association

CHORAL ARRANGEMENT

It Is Well with My Soul By: Craig Courtney

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEMORIAL PRESENTATION

Karen Barlow, *Secretary*, Ladies Auxiliary DVFA

Elmer Steele, *Secretary*, DVFA

THE MEMORIAL PANORAMA

Edited and Produced by: **Delaware State Fire School**

MOMENT OF SILENCE

TAPS

BENEDICTION BY: Juanita Nieves, *Chaplain*, Ladies Auxiliary DVFA

MUSICAL SELECTION MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PIPE AND DRUM

RECESSIONAL

98th DVFA Educational/Political Luncheon

12:00 Noon in Ball Room A/B of the Rollins Center

Call to Order and opening comments by M/C Steve Austin

This is a day that we celebrate a most unique partnership between the Fire Companies of Delaware and the elected and appointed officials who support us.

Over the years the request for service has increased and to meet that demand we have changed our staffing levels to incorporate more career firefighters and EMT's in our ranks. What hasn't changed is the commitment of the Volunteer Fire Companies who employ and manage our career personnel that supplement the volunteer force. Our commitment to the citizens of Delaware remains strong

As our Association approaches our 100th anniversary in 2021, we look back with pride on what we have accomplished together

I will speak for all of us in saying that we appreciate your support year after year

Two former M/C's of this event; E. Reynolds Bradley and Norman Tate. One a D and the other an R who epitomized the DVFA relationship with our elected and appointed leadership; being political without being partisan. This luncheon is all about that relationship.

I welcome each and every one of you, firefighter's and guest alike and thank you for your untiring support.
Invocation by Rev. Charlie Arnold

Leading us in the Pledge to our Flag is DVFA Past President and Chief Emeritus of the Christiana Fire Co. Jim McCall who presided over this Association in 1978-79. (40 years ago)

We have an ambitious agenda and we will need your attention to keep us on track.

Acknowledged the Conference luncheon committee; Ron Marvel, Warren Jones and Elmer Steele

Challenge for Fallen Firefighters and DVFA Foundation from Dave Majewski, Ron O'Neal and members of the DVFA Foundation. Donations in the amount of \$1,417.00 were collected during the men's luncheon. Carol Walton, Past President of the LADVFA presented \$1,808.00 which is half of the money from their basket raffle, making for a grand total of \$3,225.00 for the Foundation.

Introduction of the Head Table

Right side of podium

DVFA Assistant Treasurer Ray Stevens
Auditor Kathy McGuinness
Senator Chris Coons
DVFA 1st Vice President Jay Jones
Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long
DVFA President Willard R. Betts, Jr.
Governor John Carney

Left side of podium

MC Steve Austin
Senator Tom Carper
DVFA 2nd Vice President Dan Carrier
Attorney General Kathy Jennings
DVFA Secretary Elmer Steele
Treasurer Colleen Davis
DVFA Assistant Chaplain, Rev. Charlie Arnold

Introduction of Special Fire Service Guests in Attendance

- Past Presidents DVFA
- Col McQueen and the command staff of DSP
- Chairman Dave Roberts and the members of the DE State Fire Prevention Commission
- Fire Marshal Grover Ingle and staff
- Fire School Director Biff Newnam and staff
- DEMA Director A.J Schall
- DVFA Fireman of the Year Ray Stevens
- Cumberland Valley Firemen's Association Past President Hoby Howell
- Virginia Firefighter's Association 1st Vice President Pete Kirby

Partners in Progress

Atlantic Emergency Solutions
Delmarva Power
Motorola
Provident Insurance

Delaware Electric Co-Op
PNC Bank
WSFS

Remarks from Governor John Carney. He declared the week of October 6 to 11, 2019 as Fire Prevention week. The Governor presented Bill with his paperwork for his term as a member of the Fire Prevention Commission.

Introduction of Delaware Elected and Appointed Officials by Executive Manager Warren Jones. All of the elected officials that were present gathered at the table so Governor Carney could sign **HB 56 AN ACT DESIGNATING AND NAMING THE PORTION OF U.S. ROUTE 301 COMMENCING AT DELAWARE ROUTE 1 AND TERMINATING AT THE DELAWARE MARYLAND STATE LINE AS FIRST RESPONDERS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY**

President Betts made a few comments and remarks, while welcoming everyone to the luncheon.
Lunch was served by the Dover Downs Hotel staff at 12:30 PM

Introduction of Special Guest for Remarks and Presentations

- Remarks from Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long.
- Remarks from Senator Tom Carper.
- Remarks from Senator Chris Coons. Presented an American flag to President Betts for his year of dedicated service.
- Remarks from Attorney General Kathy Jennings
- Remarks from Treasurer Colleen Davis
- Remarks from State Auditor Kathy McGinnis
- Remarks and presentation from President Michael Faust, MD State Firemen's Association

Benediction by Rev. Charlie Arnold at 2:10 PM

DVFA/LADVFA Joint Installation

(copied from Carol Walton's notes)

Friday, September 13, 2019 at 4:00pm

DSFCA Past President – Edward "Mike" Rush introduced himself and reminded everyone to please turn off or mute all cell phones and electronic devices.

Introduction of the following officers, chaplains and their escorts:

DVFA Assistant Chaplain – Rev. Charlie Arnold

DVFA Installing Officer – Senator Bruce C. Ennis

LADVFA Installing Officer – LADVFA Past President Sara Lee Stevens

LADVFA Installing Marshall – LADVFA Past President Janice Marvel

DVFA President – Willard R. Betts, Jr. escorted by his wife Louise

LADVFA President – Penny Gentry escorted by her husband Dennis

DVFA President elect – Norman "Jay" Jones escorted by his friend Kelcie Mahr

LADVFA President elect – Karen Workman escorted by LADVFA Past President Eleanor Raye Warrington

DVFA 1st Vice-President elect – Dan Carrier escorted by his son Nathan

LADVFA 1st Vice-President elect – Pam Ingle escorted by her husband Del. State Fire Marshal Grover P. Ingle

DVFA 2nd Vice-President elect – Ken Ryder escorted by his wife Jo

LADVFA 2nd Vice-President elect – Debra Lawhead escorted by DVFA Past President Bill Tobin

DVFA Secretary – DVFA Past President Elmer Steele escorted by his wife Sandy

LADVFA Secretary – Karen Barlow escorted by her husband DVFA Past President Ed Barlow

LADVFA Assistant Secretary – Karen Gebhart escorted by LANCCVFA Past President Mary Alice Maichle

DVFA Treasurer – Terry Whitham (ABSENT)

LADVFA Treasurer – Kim Figgs escorted by her mother LADVFA Past President Joyce Figgs

LADVFA Assistant Treasurer – Ginni Tice escorted by Seaford Auxiliary Past President Betty Truitt

DVFA Kent County Director – Jim Woznicki escorted by Ralph Satterfield

DVFA Director/Past President – Richard T. Perillo

Mike asked Presidents Gentry and Betts to reconvene their meetings and the invocation was given by Assistant Chaplain Charlie Arnold

Mike asked the military in attendance to stand and be recognized and then asked them to lead the Pledge to the Flag

LADVFA President Penny Gentry was called on to give final remarks and thanks to family, fire company and auxiliary

DVFA President Willard R. Betts, Jr. then gave his final remarks and thanks to all

LADVFA Past President Saralee Stevens installed the 2019-2020 LADVFA officers and was assisted by LADVFA Past President Janice Marvel. The theme of the installation was snowmen

Installing the incoming DVFA officers for 2019-2020 was Senator Bruce C. Ennis

President Norman "Jay" Jones presented Bill Betts with his Past President's pin and was pinned by Louise

LADVFA President Karen Workman came forward to give remarks.

DVFA President Norman "Jay" Jones came forward to give remarks.

Mike asked all Past Presidents of the DVFA to stand and be recognized.

Mike recognized DVFA Executive Manager Warren Jones and thanked him for his continued hard work.

President Workman entertained a motion to close the LADVFA Conference for 2019:

Motion made by Sandy Warrick, Cranston Heights Ladies Auxiliary and seconded by Christine McGee, Carlisle Ladies Auxiliary **Motion carried**

President Jones entertained a motion to close the DVFA Conference for 2019:

Motion made by DVFA Past President Joe Zerolos, Farmington Fire Co. and seconded by Bernie Nutter, Wilmington Manor Fire Co. to adjourn **Motion carried**

Adjournment at 4:44 pm.

This full 2019 Conference report and proceedings are respectfully submitted by;

Elmer B. Steele

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

Attest to; Warren Jones
 Executive Manager

Willard R. Betts, Jr.
2019 DVFA President