Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association

Archived News 2012

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Fire Service Icon Chief Jack Peltier Dies at Age 71

Chief Jack Peltier an acknowledged expert on fire apparatus and hydraulics died following a brief illness. A native of Marlboro MA Jack lived and breathed fire service culture. He was a long time career and volunteer firefighter and was employed for many years at the Massachusetts Fire Academy where he schooled thousands of students. Jack experienced several battles with failing health over the last several years but he remained. Jack was committed to firefighter safety. Upon the establishment of the CVVFA Protecting Emergency Responders on the Highway Project he became a fixture in the ResponderSafety.com trade show booth with his sidekick Dr. Harry Carter. For his commitment he was named to the Emergency Responder Safety Institute where he served as an active member until his death. Just several weeks ago Jack began making arrangements for a Responder Safety roadway class to be held in his home town. Of special note were his CVVFA Convention presentations "Happy Hour with the Legends" a no holds barred chat with Dr. Carter and assembled CVVFA members that touched on the history and the future of the fire service. "What I remember most about Jack was his willingness to share his vast knowledge with younger members of the fire service" said Steve Austin CVVFA Past President. "Jack was devoted to his family. He shared all he knew with his son Jim an accomplished fire officer in his own right. When they traveled to places like the Fire Department Instructors Conference Jack was surrounded by firefighters anxious to learn from the master."

The viewing will be held on Friday December 14 from 1600-2000 hr.at the Slattery Funeral Home 40 Pleasant Street Marlborough MA. The funeral will held on Saturday morning at 0900 hr. at Immaculate Conception Church 11 Prospect Street in Marlborough.

Board of Directors to Meet Sunday January 6 2013

The annual Board of Directors Meeting of the CVVFA will be hosted by the Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway MD. Meeting begins with Lunch at noon. Open to all members.

Hotel Information

Ramada Plaza Hagerstown MD 15 Ramada Plazaa 1718 Underpass Way Hagerstown MD 21740 301-797-2500

69.00 tax

Mention CVVFA for rate. More information regarding the agenda will be forthcoming in a CVVFA Express Newsletter in December.

Past CVVFA President Chief Dan Grove Dies

Past CVVFA President Daniel L. IdquoDanrdquo Grove Sr. 78 of Leiter Street Leitersburg MD. passed away Monday Nov. 19 2012 at his home. Chief Grove served as CVVFA President in 1986. He was a life member of the Association having joined in 1974. He was a member of St. Paul's Free Lutheran Church of Leitersburg a life member of Leitersburg Volunteer Fire Co. where he served as Past Chief. He was also a Life Member of Waynesboro PA Fire Department. Chief Grove served in many positions with the Washington County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association and Maryland State Firemen's Association.br br Memorial donations may be made to Leitersburg Volunteer Fire Co. 21431 Leiter St. Hagerstown MD 21742 or to Hospice of Washington County 747 Northern Ave. Hagerstown MD 21742.

CVVFA to Help New York Fire Departments Damaged By Hurricane

Past CVVFA President Greg Yost is leading the Association's effort to assist in the recovery of New York Fire Departments damaged by Hurricane Sandy. Many of these companies have lost everything. A number of their members have suffered personal losses. br Chief Yost has organized a drive to provide some needed equipment and supplies. If anyone has any surplus equipment of any type that is usable it would be very much appreciated. br Working with CVVFA Director David Jacobowitz the immediate Past President of the Firemens Association of the State of NY FASNY Greg is organizing a group effort to go to Long Island NY and perhaps the New Jersey Shore and help in any way we can. This could include running calls helping rebuild fire stations and equipment helping rebuild firefighter homes and providing basic living supplies. Those who wish to simply donate to the effort with supplies or gift cards are encouraged to do so. Interested members and friends should contact Greg.

Presidents Council Meeting Notice April 13, 2013 Corning New York

CVVFA President Steve Haines invites Presidents Council members and CVVFA officers and members to attend the spring meeting in Corning New York on Saturday April 13 2013. Our host is the Firemens Association of the State of New York. FASNY is hosting a social event Friday evening April 12. FASNY President Jim Burns and CVVFA Director FASNY Past President Dave Jacobowitz welcome everyone to the beautiful Southern Tier of New York. This marks the third time the CVVFA Presidents Council has met in the Empire State and during each previous trip the FASNY hospitality was outstanding. It is very important that you make your reservations prior to March 21 to receive the discounted hotel rates. Click on the title of the article to download the form to make hotel reservations. Make your plans now to attend this important meeting.

MD State Police Aviation Command Announce Cadet Program

MSP intends to begin this program with the best seven applicants. Idquol envision this as an ongoing process to recruit and nurture our upcoming TrooperFlight Paramedics to serve this great state said Major Mark Gibbons of the Aviation Command. Major Gibbons regularly attends CVVFA Presidents Council Meetings and has asked that the Cadet Program be circulated to our members. Click on the title of this article to read or download the full Cadet Announcement from MSP.

CVVFA Officially Expands into New York-FASNY PP Jacobowitz Named CVVFA Director

President Steve Haines announced that the CVVFA has officially expanded into New York State with the appointment of a Director representing the Firemens Association of the State of New York FASNY. In a letter to FASNY President Jim Burns Haines invited FASNY to name a CVVFA Director under the terms of the CVVFA By-Laws that allow for a member of the CVVFA Board of Directors to be appointed from a state not represented in the current 5 states comprising the Association. In response President Burns appointed David Jacobowitz the FASNY Immediate Past President as the NY Director. Jacobowitz along with the last 5 FASNY Presidents have been actively involved in the CVVFA. A number of members of the NY Fire Service are already CVVFA members as are other firefighters from states across the nation. In the case of NY it is in the interest of both organizations to formalize an existing relationship with the over 46000 FASNY members. FASNY has already hosted two President Council Meetings and is slated to sponsor a third on April 13 2013 in the Binghamton area. IdguoWe welcome Dave to our leadership team said President Haines. I look forward to his input and thank FASNY President Burns for this important appointment. The enhanced CVVFA FASNY relationship is expected to also include additional coordination with the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute and the Fire Service Reputation Management Project.

Steve Haines of Newport PA Leads Association

Steve Haines of Citizens Fire Company of Newport PA was installed as CVVFA President for 2012-2013 at the 111th Convention held in Berkeley Springs WV. He becomes the 3rd member of Citizens to hold the title of CVVFA President. Haines serves as an Administrative Officer in Newport. Haines pledged to support the goals and purposes of the CVVFA which has seen considerable growth during the period he has served as an officer. "Steve will be an excellent President," said Chief Steve Flickinger, a CVVFA Past President himself. Steve's father, the late Judge Flickinger, also served as CVVFA President.

Convention Turnout to be Large-Firehouse's Harvey Eisner to Speak

Turn out for the 111Th Convention appears to be great with most area hotels sold out. Excitement looms with scheduled appearance of Harvey Eisner Editor in Chief of Firehouse Magazine and a retired assistant chief of the Tenafly NJ Fire Department which he joined in 1975 and served as chief of department for 12 years. He also was a firefighter in the Stillwater OK Fire Department for three years while attending Oklahoma State University. Eisner is an honorary assistant chief of the FDNY and program director for the Firehouse Expo Firehouse World and Firehouse Central conferences. He has covered many major fires and disasters and interviewed numerous fire service leaders. Chief Eisner will participate in the Presidents Council Meeting and will make comments at the annual banquet on Friday evening. The CVVFA has participated at Firehouse Expo for many years thanks to Harvey. A number of CVVFA members instructed classes and the CVVFA booth has been a staple on the exhibit floor. It is not too late to come out for the convention. Registrations will be accepted throughout the event.

Convention Book Sponsorships Due Now

Now is the time to reserve your page in the 2012 Convention Program Book. Publicity Manager Bob Timko and our new publisher Choice Marketing are working hard to make this years book the best ever. All who register for the convention will receive a copy in Berkeley Springs. This year each member fire company will get a copy through the mail. Show off your new apparatus or station in the book by taking a sponsorship. Honor a loved one. If you are a business owner here his the opportunity to deliver a message about your service or product to the members of CVVFA. Click on the title of this story for more details and a rate card.

111th Annual Convention Venue Information

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CVVFA Recieves Tax Exempt Status from the IRS

The CVVFA received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service that the Associations non profit tax status was changed as requested to 501 c3 which entitles persons or corporations to deduct donations to the level that the law allows for charitable contributions. A copy of the determination letter may be viewed or downloaded from the download section of this website under the Corporate Governance category. Founded in 1901 and organized in 1902 the Association was not incorporated until 1950 as a non profit. For some unknown reason the 501c3 tax designation was not applied for at that time. Thanks to assistance from the Provident Agency a long time Partner in Progress with the CVVFA we were able to receive the new determination from the IRS in about 18 months. The 501c3 designation also allows the Association to seek grants from foundations and businesses who limit their grants to non profit organizations that have a 501c3 designation.

Newest Recruit Arrives

Robert Sullivan 8 lbs 12 ozs born April 21st 2012 1719 hrs has become the newest recruit for the CVVFA. The proud father is President Mike Sullivan who holds the distinction of being the youngest President in CVVFA history may be the only President to ever have a child born during his term of office. Maddix is the couple's third child. Everyone is doing just fine including the Presidents.

Volusia County Fire Police Sign Firefighter Code of Ethics

The entire Volusia County FL Fire Police Unit all CVVFA members signed the Firefighter Code of Ethics. This is the first reported signing by an entire organization. The code was released in mid-January 2012. Volusia County Fire Police are members of Volusia County Fire and Rescue Services. They provide scene security and traffic control during fire department operations. They also assist law enforcement with traffic control as requested. Volusia County Fire Police are one of only a very few Fire Police Units in Florida. They have been active since the 1960s. The Fire Police drill each week at the county fire training center. They respond in traffic units strategically placed in a number of fire stations. The Fire Police are under the command of Captain Benny Rawlins and Coordinator Lloyd LaLonde.

CVVFA Publishes National Firefighter Code of Ethics

The American fire and emergency services has a very proud tradition of serving communities across our nation that dates back to colonial times. Throughout our nation's history firefighters have been looked upon with great respect and admiration for their courage and dedication to their profession. To preserve the public's trust a National Firefighter Code of Ethics was developed by a group of fire service leaders that calls on individual firefighters to pledge their support for maintaining the highest level of professionalism and behavior.br The idea for the Code was initially proposed in the Fire Service Reputation Management White Paper published by the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemens Association CVVFA. Since then the idea gained momentum and received support from the highest echelon of fire service leadership. We may never have the opportunity again and I urge all fire service leaders to develop establish disseminate abide and enforce a fire service code of ethics said then-U.S. Fire Administrator Kelvin Cochran in 2010. The Code is a guide for acceptable behavior already practiced by all but a very small percentage of the fire service. Isolated events that have occurred across the country involving lapses in ethical judgment by fire service personnel led to the Code of Ethics being developed. It was the brainchild of the -if gte mso