

# Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association

## Archived News 2013

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30 Aug 2013

## Chief Greg Yost Named CVVFA Member of the Year

Chief Greg Yost of the Hancock MD Fire Department was selected as CVVFA Member of the Year at the 112th Annual Convention held in Shippensburg PA. Yost received the E. Wade Thomas Memorial Award the highest honor bestowed by the Association. E. Wade Thomas was a WV Fire Marshal and CVVFA President. He was a nationally recognized instructor. He died unexpectedly during his term of office in 1955. Chief Yost received the award due to his outstanding support of the Protecting Emergency Responders On the Highway Project. He serves as the Chief Financial Officer of the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute. Under his leadership ERSI has a record of sound fiscal management. Greg is also in charge of the CVVFA ERSI assets including AV equipment as well as all supplies. Greg is a past CVVFA President and served as Host Convention Chairman at this hometown of Hancock MD

26 Aug 2013

## ResponderSafety Learning Network Funded Through Fire Grant Program for 2013

The Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemenrs Association received a FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant to continue building and delivering its free online learning network providing roadway incident safety training to responders. The ResponderSafety Learning Network may be accessed from any device that can be connected to the internet. Modules are about one half hour in length and are tested. Students may print a certificate upon successful completion of the course. Records are maintained securely and are password protected. Almost 7000 students have taken the opportunity to register for the network. There is no cost. The CVVFA is working with several jurisdictions in order to provide CEU's to students who need them for recertification. The modules are high quality and are designed for adult education. If a student has to stop the module for any reason the system will return to the point where it stopped when the student logs back on thus saving time. At least 7 modules are available with more on the way thanks to the grant. Experts in many areas of roadway response contribute their knowledge to the network. Access the ResponderSafety Learning Network from [www.respondersafety.com](http://www.respondersafety.com).

26 Aug 2013

## Federal Highway Administration Partners with CVVFA to Promote National Traffic Incident Management Training to the Fire Service

The Federal Highway Administration has entered into an agreement with the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association to provide outreach to the fire service for the new National Traffic Incident Management Course that is being rolled out across the country. The course now in the Train the Trainer stage provides multi-discipline training for responders at no cost. The CVVFA will provide advice to FHWA on how to encourage fire department participation in the classes. Chief Rich Marinucci a CVVFA Member and a Past President of the International Association of Fire Chiefs will be the point person for the Association on the project. pp classMsoNoSpacingThe National TIM course teaches responder safety safe quick clearance and interoperable communications. These are elements of the National Unified Goal for Traffic Incident Management. pp classMsoNoSpacingIt is the goal of the CVVFA to encourage all members of the fire and ems service to enroll in the TIM course. The course is being taught by leading instructors across the country. A number of the instructors are CVVFA members.

26 Aug 2013

## US Fire Administration and Department of Justice Contract with CVVFA

The USFA and the Department of Justice have contracted with the CVVFA to maintain and enhance outreach for fire EMS and law enforcement through the ResponderSafety.com website. The site launched in 2001 is the most comprehensive web portal for all things concerning highway incident scene safety and traffic incident management. The site's executive editor is Chief Harry Carter. The chief researcher is Howard Cohen a member of Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Company. Other experts from transportation towing and recovery and law enforcement contribute their talents. Respondersafety.com updates every day with a complete list of all known incidents in the United States. The site has free downloads and training programs along with many downloadable videos. Respondersafety.com also has companion Facebook YouTube and Twitter accounts. Readers can receive email updates from the site by registering their name and email address. The USFA has provided support for the site since the day it launched.

26 Aug 2013

# CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute Director of Training Wins Coveted Joe Bukowski Award

Jack Sullivan Director of Training of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association Emergency Responder Safety Institute received the Joe Bukowski Memorial Award for his steadfast devotion to Protecting Emergency Responders on the Highways. Sullivan is considered one if not the best roadway incident scene safety instructors in the nation. Jack served as an instructor and assistant chief in Chester County PA and was a member of Lionville Fire Company when in 1998 10 members were struck killing one in an incident on the PA Turnpike. Since that time Jack has dedicated his career to preventing incidents of this type. He was honored with at the 112th Annual CVVFA Convention in Shippensburg PA where earlier in the day he presented a class to responders. The award is made in memory of the late Joe Bukowski a CVVFA Past President. His vision helped establish the Emergency Responder Safety Institute. Joe dedicated his life to the project. He was a life member of the Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Company of Newark DE and had served as President of the Delaware State Fire Police Association. Sullivan left received the award from Joe's wife Karen Bukowski and Past CVVFA President and Committee Chair Chief Steve Flickinger and CVVFA President Steve Haines.

## Thirteen Year Old Convention Keynote Speaker Wins CVVFA Youth Leadership Award

Thirteen year old Madison Definbaugh the youngest Keynote Speaker in CVVFA History received the Chief Gary Happy Jack Easton Youth Leadership Award at the 112th annual CVVFA Convention in Shippensburg PA. Madison has been empowering other youth to enhance their knowledge for the chance of a disaster through Ohio Fire Corps Enhance for the Chance youth preparedness program since 2011.

This program uses peer advocates to spread the message of fire and prevention and disaster preparedness to other youth. Youth advocates distribute bracelets with the campaign slogan Enhance for the Chance to youth audiences to serve as a reminder to go home and talk to their family about fire prevention and developing a plan for the possibility of a disaster. In addition to the bracelet participants are provided with FEMA's Disaster Preparedness Checklist and Fire Corps Home Safety Checklist. The project focus was to reach out to middle school aged youth this is the age that is often home alone and/or put in charge of caring for younger siblings. Madison got her start while serving as the Safety Officer for her local 4H Club. She helped start the Enhance for the Chance program with the help of her mother in 2011 and has reached out to over 1000 people. Her message has been heard by 4H Clubs Boy Scout Troops church youth groups services clubs and she had the opportunity to travel to a regional conference in Denver Colorado to train state leaders on how to start a youth advocate program in their own state. Her efforts have been featured on the front page of two local newspapers in the Ohio State Firefighters Association magazine displayed at the Columbiana County Fair and she had the opportunity to serve as a FEMA panelist for the Youth Preparedness Workshop in Columbus Ohio in May 2012. Madison will also be helping host a leadership for girls workshop at Kent State University in the summer of 2013 to motivate other teenagers to develop campaigns on disaster preparedness and fire prevention targeted towards peers in their communities. Madison was accompanied by her mother Candice McDonald and her brother and other family members. They attended the CVVFA Convention. Madison and the many of her family members are involved in the fire service and are members of the CVVFA. The Chief Gary Happy Jack Easton Memorial Award honors the late chief of the Berkeley Springs Volunteer Fire Company who was a leader in recruiting and training young people for the volunteer fire service. Many of Happy Jack's boys are now leaders in the fire service.

26 Aug 2013

## Jim Watson of Delaware City Fire Company Elected CVVFA President

Jim Watson of the Delaware City Fire Company was elected President of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association for 2013-2014. Jim is an active member of Delaware City. The Company actively supports the mission of the CVVFA. Delaware City under President Watson's guidance has helped produce two national roadway safety Public Service Announcements PSA's for the CVVFA. Jim was installed at the 112th Annual Convention in Shippensburg PA with his family in attendance along with a contingent of Delaware City and DVFA leaders at the annual banquet. In his acceptance speech he indicated his agenda was to take the CVVFA to another level. He plans to update the strategic plan and to encourage younger fire service members to join. Since becoming President he has attended the FASNY Convention in Albany, New York. He also approved a new initiative involving the CVVFA Fire Service Reputation Management Committee whose members will be presenting programs on how fire departments can preserve and protect their reputation by the proper use of social media. Jim served previously as President of the New Castle County Fire Chiefs Association, the Delaware State Fire Chiefs Association and the Eastern Division of the International Association of Fire Chiefs.



25 Jun 2013

## CVVFA Members Root for the Orioles

CVVFA Members rooting for then Baltimore Orioles were disappointed with the loss to the Red Sox but were excited to be in Camden Yards with fellow members. The CVVFA membership is diverse and pulls for many different teams. The Orioles games organized by Past President Greg Yost are a popular outing and are enjoyed by everyone no matter who they root for. Just another example of the CVVFA family enjoying being part of the fire service.

## Chief Don Ringer CVVFA Historian Passes Away

Mr. Donald M. Ringer 85 a resident of Maryview Nursing Center Suffolk VA and formerly of 27 Roadside Ave. Waynesboro died at 726 A.M. Monday June 24 2013 in the nursing home. Born January 15 1928 in Waynesboro he was the son of the late Millard L. and Clea E. Wiles Ringer. He was a lifelong resident of the Waynesboro area. He graduated through the Industrial Course from Waynesboro High School with the class of 1946. Mr. Ringer served with the United States Army during World War II from June 1946 until October 1947. He served with the 8th US Army SGT - 1190th Engineer Battalion - 3013 Engineer Maintenance Co. serving in the Pacific Theater - Japan. He and his wife the late Dorothy Jean Rook Ringer were married on October 29 1948 in Hagerstown. They moved to Roadside Ave in 1959. Mrs. Ringer died on November 11 2010. Mr. Ringer worked for Frick Company Waynesboro and later Letterkenny Army Depot from which he retired. He was a member of the Waynesboro Church of the Brethren Eagles Club Inc. Loyal Order of the Moose in Waynesboro Joe Stickell American Legion Post 15 Member and Past President of the Burns Hill Cemetery Association and the Gallons Plus Club of the American Red Cross. He joined the A.T.H. & L Fire Company as a life member on April 4 1949 - served as President in 1954 - Recording Secretary 1960-61 - Co-Captain 1963. He served as Assistant Fire Chief under Orlow E. Helm and Kenneth E. Lemmon served as Deputy Fire Chief under Kenneth E. Lemmon and Merle K. Biser. He was appointed Fire Chief in 1990 and retired on January 5 1998. While he was Fire Chief he had the volunteer bunk room built in 1993 had brass pole installed and dedicated January 16 1993 initiated Explorer Post 22 which disbanded in 1997 initiated Waynesboro Fire Department Honor Guard and participated in Fallen Fire Fighters at National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg MD. He was Past Commander of William Max McLaughlin V.F.W. Post 695 Commander K.P. George Washington Lodge 487 Past Exalted Ruler and treasurer of Waynesboro Elks Lodge 731 Life member and Past President South Eastern Firemens Association Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemens Association Franklin County Firemens Association Franklin County Fire Police Association National Fire Prevention Association International Association of Fire Chiefs Appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania as Waynesboro Emergency Management Coordinator 1999-2008. Mr. Ringer enjoyed photography and collecting fire department history and memorabilia from around the United States and the world. His extensive collection has been donated to the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg MD. He is survived by one son Gary Michael "Mike" Ringer and his wife Susie of Portsmouth VA two grandchildren Chris Ringer and his wife Kristi of Portsmouth VA and Becky Knott and her husband Randy Jr. of Waynesboro PA five great-grandchildren Megan L. Ringer

Chase C. Ringer Rollins I. Ringer Caitlin R. Knott Emily S. Knott and a number of nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by one brother Robert L. Ringer. Services with full Fireman honors will be held at 1100 A.M. Friday June 28 2013 in Grove-Bowersox Funeral Home 50 S. Broad St. Waynesboro with Rev. Jesse Miles officiating. Burial will follow in Burns Hill Cemetery Waynesboro. The family will receive friends from 600 to 800 P.M. Thursday evening in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to The Waynesboro Fire Department P.O. Box 958 Waynesboro PA 17268

Online condolences may be expressed at [www.bowersoxfuneralhomes.com](http://www.bowersoxfuneralhomes.com)

Read Donald Ringers Obituary and Guestbook on [www.bowersoxfuneralhomes.com](http://www.bowersoxfuneralhomes.com). – See more at <http://www.bowersoxfuneralhomes.com/obituary/Donald-M.-Ringer-Waynesboro-PA1219571sthash.uNTss1RL.dpuf>ppstrongemObituary Courtesy of Bowersox Funeral Home Waynesboro PA

10 Jun 2013

## Allen Baldwin Selected as Chief of Winchester VA FD

Allen Baldwin Chief of the Gettysburg PA Fire Department and Incident Manager of the PA Turnpike System was selected as the Fire Chief of Winchester VA. Allen is a member of the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute and serves as an instructor. Through his involvement a number of photo shoots took place on the pike which were invaluable in producing much of the ResponderSafety.com learning material. Chief Baldwin has extensive leadership experience in fire and rescue as well as working with local governments. We expect he will be a great compliment to the strong leadership and dedicated team of volunteer and career staff currently serving with the Winchester Fire & Rescue Department said Winchester City Manager Dale Inman. Allen also received extensive support from CVVFA members of the Winchester FD who were polled about him during the selection process. Allen does have a major personal challenge ahead as he moves below the Mason Dixon Line. He is well known for his involvement as a Civil War reenactor and is a mounted Union General. Will he make the switch like General Robert E. Lee did from the blue to the gray The 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg is only weeks away.

31 May 2013

# 112 th Annual Parade to Honor Vigilant Fire Companies-Register Now

Now is the time to register for the 112th Annual Convention Parade Noon Saturday August 3 2013 in Shippensburg PA. The parade honors host company Vigilant Hose of Shippensburg and all the other fire companies by the same name. A special plaque will be presented to all "Vigilants" who participate. The CVVFA has two member companies named Vigilant the second being Vigilant Hose Company of Emmitsburg MD. Owning to the venerable name of Vigilant which has graced fire service organizations for hundreds of years the members of Vigilant Hose of Emmitsburg issued a challenge to any fire company with Vigilant in their name to travel to Shippensburg for the CVVFA parade. We've identified some 8 fire companies with Vigilant in their name in locations in PA NY and MD. Long ago there were others too, said Wayne Powell Executive Director of the National Fire Heritage Center and longtime member of Vigilant Hose of Emmitsburg. Powell in collaboration with Vigilant President Tim Clark and Chief Frank Davis approached the CVVFA with the idea of bringing the Vigilant's together to parade in Shippensburg. To commemorate the event the CVVFA will provide special recognition to all Vigilant fire companies that attend the parade.

Download the Parade Registration Parade Rules and Prize List from this article.

31 May 2013

## National Traffic Incident Management Class to be Offered at CVVFA Convention Friday August 2

Nationally known Traffic Incident and Safety Instructor Jack Sullivan the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute ERSI Director of Training will present the National Traffic Incident Management and Responder Safety Course at on Friday August 2 2013 at the CVVFA Convention in Shippensburg PA. The class begins at 900 a.m and concludes at 400. Lunch will be served at no cost to the students. Members of the CVVFA attend for free. Non members are asked to pay 5 which includes a membership and one years dues to the CVVFA.ppSullivan is one of the founders of the ERSI. He is the first and only Director of Training. He regularly presents at some of the largest and most prestigious fire service events in the country. He is considered one of the leading experts on roadway incident scene safety for first responders.ppstrongDownload a flyer for posting in your station by clicking below

25 May 2013

## CVVFA Member Doug Snow of Hancock MD Injured By Motorist who Ran Through Cone and Flare Line

HANCOCK MD- May 23 2013ppA Washington County Fire Police volunteer Graham Snow of the Hancock Fire Company and a member of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association who operates the Emergency Responder Safety Institute and the ResponderSafety.com web site was injured while directing traffic at an accident scene on I-68. A passing motorist rear-ended his fire police car which then struck Snow according to Maryland State Police.pdivHe had set out flares and traffic cones at the accident scene while the vehicle involved in the crash was being removed troopers said in a news release. divdivA 2013 Volkswagen Jetta driven by Ashley Khodayar 19 of Martinsburg W.Va. traveled through the traffic cones and flare pattern and rear-ended Snow's fire police car. Snow who was standing in front of the fire police car then was struck by his own vehicle troopers said.divpFire Police Officer Snow was treated and released from the hospital. Khodayar was charged with failure to control speed to avoid a collision, negligent driving, driving a vehicle in excess of reasonable and prudent speed on highway and failure to reduce speed in dangerous highway conditions according to the release. Maryland has a Move Over law. According to comments on a hrefhttpyour4state.comfulltextnxdid310352uYour4State.comua a local TV news website Khodayar posted insensitive comments on her Facebook page after the accident. Her page has since been taken down. Sources told Respondersafety.com that Snow and his fellow responders were exposed to traffic much too long due to a delayed response by the towing and recovery firm assigned to clear the incident. An important element of the National Unified Goal for Traffic Incident Management NUG is Safe Quick Clearance. The longer first responders are on the roadway at an incident their exposure to a secondary incident increases exponentially. It is extremely important that towing and recovery assets are dispatched by the proper authority immediately and that they arrive on scene as soon as safely possible.

12 Apr 2013

## Presidents Council Assembles in Corning NY

CVVFA President Council Members are assembling for the 28th Annual Presidents Council Meeting in Corning NY hosted by the Firemens Association of New York. Several Past Presidents alleging poor cellular service stopped with their wives to make a phone call on the way to Corning. An informative and educational weekend awaits.



