

# Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association

## Archived News 2015

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### Table of Contents

<b>Slow Down Move Over Theme for Public Education at Rest Area</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CVVFA Accepted into FL Fire Chiefs Association</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Vivian Myers Beloved CVVFA Member Passes Away</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Past CVVFA President Charlie Myers Win Prestigious Award</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>CVVFA Accepted into FL Fire Chiefs Association</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Slow Down Move Over Theme for Public Education at Rest Area</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>President Howell Leads CVVFA Delegation to PA Fire Convention</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>The CVVFA Wants to Communicate with Our Members</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>CVVFA visits FASNY Convention</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Steve Heefner is Member of the Year</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Hoby Howell Elected CVVFA President</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>By-Law Changes Adopted at Convention</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>114th Annual Convention Parade Winners</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>By-Law Changes to Be Voted on at Convention</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>New Logo Adopted At Convention</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Large Crowd at Spring Presidents Council in Lancaster PA</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>May Booster Meeting Weekend Held in Conjunction with Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester VA April 30 to May 3 2015</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>CVVFA Fire Service Reputation Management Project Awarded \$15,000 Grant from NVFC Foundation</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>CVVFA to Join the Florida Fire Chiefs Association during Fire Rescue East in Daytona Beach FL January 22-24th 2015</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>CVVFA Admitted into the Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Committee</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>CVVFA Admitted into the Congressional Fire Services Caucus National Advisory Committee</b>	<b>25</b>

11 Dec 2015

## Slow Down Move Over Theme for Public Education at Rest Area



President Hoby Howell and Past President, current Director Bob Cumberland provided information to motorists and their families who stopped by the PA Rest Area in Greencastle along I-81 just north of the MD state line. The Welcome Center has hosted the CVVFA for a number of years. Discussions with the public include the Mover Over Law, distracted driving and other topics regarding emergency responders working on the roadways while helping others. The outreach is an important part of the CVVFA efforts to improve safety of the traveling public.

11 Dec 2015

## CVVFA Accepted into FL Fire Chiefs Association



The CVVFA was notified that the Association was accepted as an Affiliate Member of the Florida State Fire Chiefs Association (FSFCA). The CVVFA has several members in Florida a number who are Volusia County Fire Police. Bob Romig CVVFA Publicity Manager and a Florida resident arranged for the Association to apply for membership. FSFCA is the sponsor organization of Fire Rescue East in Daytona Beach each January. The CVVFA has been invited to speak and/or

display at this important conference the last several years. Membership in the FL State Fire Chiefs Association is recognition of the CVVFA's national presence.





30 Nov 2015

## Vivian Myers Beloved CVVFA Member Passes Away

Vivian Myers a beloved member of the CVVFA passed away this morning following a courageous battle with cancer. She fought the good fight until the end with dignity and a good nature that was her trademark though out her entire life. Her husband Charlie Myers is a Past President of the CVVFA. At this time arrangements are not completed. Expressions of sympathy my be forwarded to Charles Myers 325 E. Garfield Street Shippensburg PA 17257

28 Nov 2015

## Past CVVFA President Charlie Myers Win Prestigious Award

Past CVVFA President Charlie Myers who served 2 terms as President of our Association as well as the President of the Firemens Association of the State of Pennsylvania and the Cumberland County Firemens Association received the First Chet Henry Advocacy Award from the PA Fire and Emergency Services Institute at the annual PFESI Dinner in Camp Hill PA. The award named in memory of the states first fire commissioner recognizes a person who has improved awareness of fire emergency service of life safety issues at the local county state and national level. This is a very special award due to the relationship and friendship that Charlie had with Commissioner Henry. Charlie is the Chief Emeritus of the Vigilant Fire Company of Shippensburg PA.

19 Oct 2015

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## Slow Down Move Over Theme for Public Education at Rest Area

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08 Oct 2015

## President Howell Leads CVVFA Delegation to PA Fire Convention

President Hoby Howell led a delegation of at least 7 CVVFA members to the Annual Firemen's Association of the State of PA FASP during the last week of September. President Howell welcomed the delegates and guests to visit the Responder Safety booth at the Expo and invited all to join the CVVFA. pp classMsoNormalHome Office Manager Steve Heefner attended as well as Past Presidents Charlie Myers who is also a PP of the FASP attended as did PP Walter Robertson and PP Steve Austin. DE Director Harry IdquoGriffrdquo Balthis and member Mike Cook assisted setting up and working the tradeshow booth. pp classMsoNormalThe convention season was complete for this year with the CVVFA being present at MD WV NY DE and PA state fire conventions. We missed VA this year due to the fact it was scheduled at the exact same time as the CVVFA Convention in Delaware City. emPhotos courtesy of the PA Firemanem

07 Oct 2015

## The CVVFA Wants to Communicate with Our Members

If you are not receiving the CVVFA Express Newsletter by email you are missing out on many of the exciting things your Association is doing as well as opportunities to become more involved. To enroll simply click the Newsletter block in the upper right hand corner of the page and register. There is no cost and we do not share your email address. We have over 100 members who once received email from the CVVFA but have changed their email address without notifying us. If you have a new email address please let us know by a [hrefmailto:cvvfarespondersafety@yahoo.com](mailto:cvvfarespondersafety@yahoo.com) emailing usa.

Help us to help you by staying connected with your Association.

20 Aug 2015

## CVVFA visits FASNY Convention

The CVVFA ResponderSafety Team is on the road. The gang is all set up at the a hrefhttpwww.desmondhotelsalbany.comDesmond Hotel a just outside Albany New York. The CVVFA has been represented at FASNY for a number of years. We are fortunate that many members of the Firemens Association of the State of New York are also CVVFA members.ppFASNY President Bobby McConville and VP Kenny Pienkowski attended the CVVFA Convention this year in Delaware City along with Dave Jacobowitz CVVFA Director who is a FASNY Past President.ppThe CVVFA Delegation is led by President Hoby Howell. The booth team is educating members of the New York Fire Service about the various CVVFA Programs as well as signing up new CVVFA members.

15 Aug 2015

## Steve Heefner is Member of the Year

CVVFA Home Office Manager Steve Heefner of the Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway MD received the President E. Wade Thomas Memorial Member of the Year award at the 114th Annual Convention in Delaware City. Steve has been the Home Office Manager for many years and this year he announced he is stepping down. The award was presented by President Walter Robertson and Past President George Dove who is Chairman of the Member of the Year Committee. The award is given to a member who provides significant service to the CVVFA.

14 Aug 2015

## Hoby Howell Elected CVVFA President

Hoby Howell a long time member at Joppa- Magnolia Fire Volunteer Company and who is a career firefighter with Baltimore County was elected at the President of the CVVFA for the coming year. ppHoby previously served on the MD State Firemens Association Safety Committee. He is highly committed to the health and safety of all members of the fire service.

14 Aug 2015

## By-Law Changes Adopted at Convention

By-law changes that usher in sweeping changes to meet the demands of a modern fire service organization were adopted without opposition at the 114th Annual Convention. The changes that reduce the number of officers and directors along with the time necessary to reach the office of President were the cornerstone of the revisions. In addition meetings were reduced from 5 to 3 each year. The newly revised By-Laws will soon be posted on the website for review. Portions of the changes have already taken effect. The first election under the new rules will take place at the Convention in 2016. An overview of the changes are attached to this article.

14 Aug 2015

# 114th Annual Convention Parade Winners

## CVVFA 114TH CONVENTION PARADE PRIZE LIST

Saturday August 1 2015 Delaware City DE

Best Appearing Uniformed Fire Company with Music with 25 or more members

1st Place Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by the Cumberland Valley Hose Company of Shippensburg PA Citizens Hose Company of Smyrna DE

2nd Place Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by Steve and Peg Flickinger of Newport Pa. in memory of Past President H.M. Flickinger Jr. Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Company of Newark DE

Best Appearing Engine 1250 GPM or Larger

1st Place David O. Gabler & Harold E. Snyder Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by Franklin Fire Company 4 of Chambersburg PA Delaware City Refinery

2nd Place Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by First Hose Company of Hagerstown MD Hacks Point MD Fire Company

Best Appearing Engine under 1250 GPM

1st Place Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by the Provident Insurance Company of Pittsburgh PA Church Hill MD Fire Department

2nd Place Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by the Mont Alto Volunteer Fire Company of Mont Alto PA Greenwood DE Fire Company

Best Appearing Aerial Device

1st Place Robert J. Gerhart Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by Junior Hose and Truck Company 2 of Chambersburg PA Volunteer Hose of Middletown DE

2nd Place Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by Mason Dixon Fire Store of Hagerstown MD Church Hill MD Fire Company

3rd Place Plaque and 40.00 Five Points Fire Company of Richardson Park DE

Best Appearing Engine Tanker

1st Place Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by Perry House of Awards Newport PA DE City Refinery President's Award

1st Place Chief Elmer J Ellison Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by the Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Company of Newark DE Delaware National Guard Band

2nd Place Guy M. Flory Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by Vigilant Hose Company 1 of Shippensburg PA Mill Creek Fire Company of Marshallton DE

#### Best Appearing Rescue or Squad

1st Place William E. Haug Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by the Mill Creek Fire Company of Wilmington DE Port Penn DE Fire Company

2nd Place Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by Dave's Truck Repair of Chambersburg PA Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Company of Newark DE

#### Best Appearing Ambulance Basic Life Support

1st Place Merle Kauffman Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by the Goodwill Steam Engine and Hose Company 3 of Chambersburg PA McConnellsburg PA Fire Company

2nd Place Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by the Mont Alto Ambulance Squad of Mont Alto PAbr Christiana DE

#### Fire Company Additional Judges Awards

1st Place James McGowan Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by the Newport Ambulance League of Newport DE Bowers Beach DE Fire Company

2nd Place Louise Fahreney Memorial Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by the Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway MDbr Delaware River and Bay Authority Motorcycle

#### Best Appearing Special Unit-Air Wagon Traffic Utility Command

1st Place Secretary Emeritus Louise Dell Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by the Active Members of the CVVFAbr Delaware City Refinery

2nd Place Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by Past President Walter Robertson of Stuarts Draft VAbbr Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Company

#### Best Appearing Brush Truck

1st Place Barbara L. Fischer and Dennis P. Deshong Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by the McConnellsburg Volunteer Fire Company of McConnellsburg PA Millcreek Fire Company of Marshallton DE

2nd Place Past President Charles D. Baker Memorial Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by Past President Wayne Baker McConnellsburg PA Fire Company

#### Best Marked Fire Apparatus for Highway Incident Scene Safety



1st Place Emergency Responder Safety Institute Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by Chief Crawford G. Wiestling of Prior Lake MN Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Company of Newark DE

Best Marked Ambulance for Highway Safety Incident Scene Safety

1st Place Deputy Chief Mark Reid Sr. Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by Chief Stephen M. Reid of Myersville MD McConnellsburg PA Fire Company

Best Appearing Antique Hand Drawn Pumper or Hose Reel

1st Place Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by Past President Steve Austin of Newark DE Aetna Hose Hook and Ladder Company of Newark DE

Special Judges Award Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by Past President Robert P. Cumberland Jr. of Westminster MD New Castle County DE Police Department ATV

Best Appearing Antique Fire Engine Driven in the Parade

1st Place Reverend Dr. David R. Hoover & Past President Martin I. Mowen Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by the McConnellsburg Volunteer Fire Company of McConnellsburg PA Wilmington Manor DE Fire Company

2nd Place Plaque and 40.00 Sponsored by Past President George Dove of Winchester VA Steve Austin of Newark DE

Fire Dept. Owned Apparatus that Traveled the Farthest Distance

1st Place Robert K. Wright Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by the Citizens Fire Company 1 of Newport PA McConnellsburg PA Fire Company

Best Appearing Privately Owned Fire Dept. Antique Apparatus

1st Place Past President Raymond T. Kimble Memorial Plaque and 50.00 Sponsored by Emergency Vehicle Specialist of Hagerstown MD Steve Austin of Newark DE

30 Jun 2015

## By-Law Changes to Be Voted on at Convention

By-Law revisions reflecting changes proposed at the October 2014 Strategic Planning Meeting and refined at several subsequent Association meetings are to be voted under Old Business at the 114th Annual Convention at Delaware City.

These changes reflect the larger role the CVVFA plays in the fire service as well as our geographically diverse membership from 30 states. The number of officers and directors as well as the method for electing them has been modified. Additionally one Booster meeting and the January Board of Directors meeting are recommended to be eliminated changes will improve the operation of the Association. The By-Laws Committee recommends the changes be adopted a summary sheet with the recommended changes by clicking on the title of this article.

## New Logo Adopted At Convention

The original CVVFA Logo was derived from the Cumberland Valley Railroad Logo and incorporated the 4 states that the railroad serviced. The railroad logo resembled a Maltese cross owing to the influence of the fire service whose history especially in PA is intertwined with that of the railroad. The CVVFA Logo included the initials of association in the center and state abbreviations. The colors were assigned to each state. Gold-Maryland Red-Virginia Blue-PA Green WV The logo remained unchanged until the admission of Delaware into the association in the 1990s when it was redesigned to its present form that placed Pennsylvania in the center signifying the founding location in Chambersburg PA. Since the 90s the CVVFA has grown to encompass members from 30 states and the District of Columbia. In 2014 the association was recognized as a national organization by admission to the Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Committee. The new logo recognizes today's CVVFA and at the same time preserves the history of the four original states by maintaining their colors in the Maltese cross. In order to control costs the new logo will be phased in over time.

13 Apr 2015

## Large Crowd at Spring Presidents Council in Lancaster PA

A large and engaged crowd attended the Spring CVVFA Presidents Council Meeting hosted by the Firemens Association of the State of PA and Lancaster County Firemens Association at their headquarters and printing plant the home of the PA Fireman Magazine. ppltems discussed included tactics that builders and others are using to oppose residential fire sprinklers. State reports on current legislative sessions and EMS issues were other "hot" topics. Guests included Dan Ioven who spoke on the Keystone Firefighters Conference in Oaks PA this August. There was a review of current programs underway at the CVVFA. Information was provided for the 114th Annual Convention in Delaware City DE.

23 Mar 2015

## May Booster Meeting Weekend Held in Conjunction with Apple Blossom Festival in Winchester VA April 30 to May 3 2015

Fire Chief Allen Baldwin invites members and guests of the CVVFA to attend and extended Booster Meeting Weekend in conjunction with the 88th Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival in Historic Winchester VA. There are special firefighter events planned for your enjoyment including a Thursday April 30th evening muster at Shawnee Fire Company. Friday evening is the massive Firefighters Parade, one of the largest in the nation. Saturday features the Grand Feature Parade. Reserved seating at a reasonable price is available at Rouss Fire Company for both parades. The Booster Meeting will be held beginning with a luncheon at noon on Sunday at the Friendship Fire Company 627 North Pleasant Valley Road Winchester VA 22601 540 667-6961. Rooms are available at BEST WESTERN Lee-Jackson Inn & Conference Center 540-662-4154. Room rates are 66.59 plus tax for 2 persons or 62.09 for a single. For the room block indicate CVVFA. Please call the hotel direct to get this rate. The Muster information and registration [here](#).

10 Feb 2015

## CVVFA Fire Service Reputation Management Project Awarded \$15,000 Grant from NVFC Foundation

The National Volunteer Fire Council Foundation awarded the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association Firefighter Reputation Management Project a 15000 grant to provide learning opportunities throughout the nation. As a result of this generous gift the CVVFA will expand efforts to teach fire service members how to prevent behavior that undermines the high moral ground from beneath the feet of the fire service. Improper and often illegal activities by a small minority of firefighters diminish the earned trust the public has placed in the fire service for hundreds of years. The funds will be used for travel and instructional material. Classes will be provided at no cost by the CVVFA's trained instructors who volunteer their time. The CVVFA established an effort to combat poor firefighter conduct after being asked to study the issue by members of the CVVFA Presidents Council a 30 year old round table of fire service leaders sponsored by the Association. The effort resulted in the creation of the Firefighter Behavior White Paper and the Fire Fighter Code of Ethics all available on the CVVFA a href<http://www.firefighterbehavior.com> Fire Service Behavior website. The CVVFA Firefighter Behavior Instructor Team is led by a href<mailto:mycdevelopment@gmail.com> Candice McDonald. The team presents at numerous conferences for both the career and volunteer fire service. We ask only to have our actual expenses covered when we speak says Candice. This wonderful opportunity that the NVFC Foundation has provided gives us the ability to deliver our message to audiences that we might not otherwise be able to reach. The NVFC like the CVVFA is concerned with Fire Service Reputation Management. We are pleased to be working with them she added.

03 Jan 2015

## CVVFA to Join the Florida Fire Chiefs Association during Fire Rescue East in Daytona Beach FL January 22-24th 2015

The CVVFA again will feature our ResponderSafety Booth at Fire Rescue East in Daytona Beach in January. The Association had a booth at the show last year thanks to member Bob Romig who is active in the volunteer section of the Association. The FFCA has provided the booth space at no charge and allowed us to address the volunteer chief officers. As a result of the strong relationship with the Volusia County Fire Police and the Chiefs Association it was agreed at the October Booster Meeting to join the organization. Over the years the CVVFA has had a presence at many state shows and as finances and logistics permit our plan is to expand our show schedule.

# CVVFA Admitted into the Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Committee

The Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Committee unanimously approved membership for the CVVFA at its meeting held in Washington DC of December 11 2014. The application was presented by Chief Dennis Compton who represents the International Fire Service Training Association IFSTA. Dennis is the CFSINAC Membership Committee Chair as well as a member of the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute. A prerequisite for membership is that an organization must be national in focus in programmatic activities. The CVVFA met this requirement for our long term commitment to Highway Incident Scene Safety Fire Service Reputation Management and for our sponsorship of the CVVFA Presidents Council. The CVVFA has a long term relationship with CFSI. We have purchased tickets for our President at every CFSI National Fire Service Dinner and Seminars for the last 26 years. In addition we have exhibited at the Seminars for several years and transported the CFSI trade show booth to various fire service events around the nation. CVVFA President Walter Robertson appointed Past President Bob Cumberland and Past President Greg Yost as the Associations representatives to the CFSINAC. Cumberland is a current member of the National Fire Academy Board of Visitors representing the CVVFA. Bob has chaired the CVVFA Legislative Committee for many years. Yost is the Chief Financial Officer for the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute and has been our primary contact in arranging logistics for moving CFSIs trade show materials. He enjoys an excellent working relationship with CFSI Staff. The CVVFA's membership application clearly showed that our some 1300 members in 30 states and our programs have made a positive impact on the entire fire service and qualified us to be considered an organization with national impact. Thanks to a cost sharing agreement with IFSTA the expense of CFSI NAC membership will be shared. Like CFSI the CVVFA enjoys a productive partnership with IFSTA.



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