

Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association

Archived News 2018

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02 Nov 2018

George Dove Honored with 65 Years Fire Service at Winchester VA Fire and Rescue

Rouss Fire Company and CVVFA member George Dove was honored at the Top of Virginia Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards Ceremony as the longest serving volunteer at the Winchester VA Fire and Rescue Department with 65 years of service.

George joined Rouss in 1953 and the CVVFA shortly thereafter. He was elected CVVFA President in 1965. After years as CVVFA Treasurer he was bestowed the title of Treasurer Emeritus. George remains active at Rouss Fire Company and is in the fire house several days per week completing administrative duties.

“The contributions that George has made to the fire service are immeasurable” said Winchester Fire Chief and CVVFA Vice President Allen Baldwin. “He is a role model for the department and I am proud to call him my friend” he added.



Assistant Chief Scott Kensinger, George Dove and Chief Allen Baldwin CVVFA members all

Miami Fire and Rescue Partner with CVVFA Responder Safety Institute for Roadway Incident Training



Miami FL Fire Rescue and the CVVFA are partnering with training the department on Highway Incident Scene Safety using the Responder Safety Learning Network. Additionally, the CVVFA is working with the Public Safety Educators at Miami Fire to establish a community risk reduction plan for struck-by incidents. Miami joins almost 44,000 other registered users of the on-line learning platform around the nation.

Recently the FL Department of Transportation began stocking the CVVFA distracted driving “push card” in every rest stop and welcome center in the state. The CVVFA has been actively working in Florida for years and is a member of the FL Fire Chief’s Association and the FL Firefighters Safety and Health Consortium.

21 Aug 2018

Quick Facts About the CVVFA and Some of Our Programs



Established in 1901 as a mutual aid organization the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association (CVVFA) has provided firefighters and emergency responders with training, leadership, and fraternallism for more than a century.

The Association's cornerstone programs include our highly respected Presidents Council that for over 33 years has gathered the leaders of the Mid Atlantic Fire Associations together with several national groups to exchange information and ideas to better the fire service.

In 1999 after the publication of our ground-breaking *White Paper Protecting Emergency Responders* on the Highways we established a formal committee within the CVVFA, the Emergency Responder Safety Institute. The association has received three national awards for its work recognizing the unusual dedication and the level of expertise in responder safety. The Association maintains ResponderSafety.com the world's premier web portal dedicated to Traffic Incident Management focusing on the safety of all roadway responders. Over 40,000 first responders are registered for the ResponderSafety Learning Network providing tested online self-paced learning at no cost. This program is made available in part due to support of the United States Fire Administration, the US Department of Justice and FEMA Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program.

The CVVFA is a leader in the fire service reputation management field. We published our acclaimed Firefighter Reputation Management White Paper on this critical subject leading to the Fire Service Code of Conduct. We regularly teach fellow responders about how the actions of a small minority of the fire service are eroding the high moral ground from beneath us. Our reputation with the public we serve has been the hallmark of the fire service for over 250 years. We also teach leadership and members alike how to prevent these issues from occurring.

We are a family friendly organization that welcomes anyone associated with public safety as a member. Learn how you can join us and participate in our programs by visiting CVVFA.org or reach out to any of our members or officers for more information.

20 Aug 2018

August a HUGE month for CVVFA Programs



ResponderSafety Booth in Dallas

Following the 117th Annual Convention in Fairplay MD, members of the CVVFA fanned out across the country delivering our life safety message on Highway Incident Scene Safety in 5 states, 4 in the same week.

Out in Cleveland Bob Cumberland and Steve Barry participated at the invite of Candice McDonald in the NASA Safety Day.



Bob Cumberland holding a moon rock with Steve Barry and Candice McDonald at NASA Facility Safety Day in Cleveland.

Steve Austin and Jerry Daniels headed to Fire Rescue International in Dallas where Bob Timko snapped a photo of Irving Texas FD's new blocking engines. Stay tuned for more about that later this year as the CVVFA reports on this emerging best practice.

Steve Heefner, Hoby Howell and Dave Lewis were up at the FASNY Convention outside of Syracuse NY with the ResponderSafety display booth. If that wasn't enough Donna Welsh and Bob Cumberland worked 2 PA rest stops and delivered our distracted driving message.

Then VP Allen Baldwin, President Greg Yost, Steve Austin, Bob Cumberland and Jim Kimble traveled to the WV State Firemen's Convention where Chief Baldwin was the speaker at the Annual Banquet.

At each event our folks encouraged firefighters and others to join the Association and enroll in the ResponderSafety Learning Network.



Get the new tool to FOCUS your department on a safer culture

The Fire Department Safety Officers Association (FDSOA) and the Center for Firefighter Injury Research & Safety Trends (FIRST) at Drexel University have partnered to help you FOCUS on your safety culture. FOCUS- the Fire Service Organizational Culture of Safety survey- was developed through the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant R&D Program specifically for the fire service and is a tool that will provide your fire department with objective data to assess your safety culture. A validation study showed for every 10-point increase in FOCUS score, there is on average a...

- 6% decrease in Firefighter Injury Rate.
- 2.5-point decrease in Burnout.
- 8-point increase in Job Satisfaction/Morale.
- 7-point increase in Work Engagement.

The Fire Service Organizational Culture of Safety (FOCUS) tool predicts firefighter injuries, burnout, morale, and engagement. We've already assessed over 150 departments. We can support up to 500 with free assessment and analysis. Such an effort would cost a fire department between \$10,000 -15,000, but fortunately FEMA funding provides this service free.

Download important information about the program [FOCUS Announcement Re-Blast](#)

Learn more about the program [HERE](#)

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3 CVVFA Members Tapped for Awards



Three longtime CVVFA members have been honored with honors from prestigious fire service organizations.

Tom Savage was awarded the Commissioner Chet Henry Fire Service Advocacy Award presented by the PA Fire and Emergency Service Institute at their annual banquet for his long-term commitment to the betterment of the fire service. In addition to Tom's work in the Commonwealth and in his community, his work in establishing the CVVFA Reputation Management Program was cited.

Jack Sullivan was awarded the Fire Department Safety Officers Association's Dave Dodson Lifetime Service award at the FDSOA

Apparatus Summit held in Scottsdale AZ. FDSOA Chairman Richard Maddox in presenting the award to Jack said Jack Sullivan has been a member of the FDSOA for many years and served as trainer and instructor in highway incident safety to thousands and thousands of fire and EMS personnel across the country," said Maddox. "He is passionate and committed to keeping emergency personnel safe while operating at highway incidents." He went on to say that Jack is a frequent speaker at national and

regional conferences, where he shares specific, proactive strategies and tactics for protecting emergency workers from being struck by vehicles while working on or near roadways. It was noted Jack is the Director of Training for the Emergency Responder Safety Institute.



Steve Austin was selected to receive the 2018 CFSI/ Motorola Solutions Mason Lankford by the Congressional Fire Services Institute's Board of Directors. The presentation will take place at the 30th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner on April 19th at the Washington Hilton, in Washington, DC. Steve is among a core group of fire service officials who were actively involved in the establishment of CFSI in 1989 and have maintained active roles over the last 30 years. He was elected Chair of the CFSI National Advisory Committee (NAC), holding the distinction as the only four-term chair in the



organization's history. His success as NAC chair was attributed to his ability to develop consensus among NAC members on a broad range of fire service issues.

01 Jan 2018

Questions About Membership Issues and Information? Past President Jim Watson will assume these duties effective May 1, 2018

CVVFA Financial Secretary is responsible for all matters involving CVVFA membership and dues. Currently VP Allen Baldwin is filling this role. "I am extremely pleased that Past President Watson has agreed to become the Financial Secretary" said Vice President Baldwin. "Jim's contribution as President of the Association was superb. He is the perfect person to assume this position " he added.

During the rest of April during the transition VP Baldwin will continue to handle membership issues. Full contact information will be posted as soon as Jim Watson officially takes over.

