Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association

Archived News 2020

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Dr. Michael Dailey Named CVVFA Medical Director



Michael Dailey, M.D., FACEP, of Albany NY Medical Center accepted the appointment to Medical Director for the Association, a required position that the CVVFA needs to apply for CAPCE Accreditation. This will allow the CVVFA to provide CEU's to EMS students successfully completing modules on the Responder Safety Learning Network.

Dr. Dailey is the medical director for the Town of Colonie EMS department and attending physician at Albany Medical Center. He also serves as the Medical Director for REMO (the Regional

Emergency Medical Organization – Albany NY), serves as member of the SEMAC (State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee) and the STAC (State Trauma Advisory Committee). Dr. Dailey is board certified in emergency medicine and in EMS.

Dr. Dailey started in EMS in 1983 as a volunteer EMT in Westchester County, served as a volunteer firefighter in Clinton County and then worked for New York City EMS. He went on to complete medical school at Albert Einstein College of Medicine (Bronx, NY) in 1998 and his Emergency Medicine residency at University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh, PA) in 2001.

Dr. Dailey has served as Medical Director for the Town of Colonie since 2003, he oversees the department's flight program, special operations rescue division and the town's Special Services Team (SWAT).

Dr. Dailey wrote in accepting the position "I am in admiration of the work your group has done over the years. The amount of impact provided by an organization that has never had an employee is very impressive. I would certainly be happy to serve as your medical director in order to assist with the goal of CAPCE accreditation for the education you provide. The safety of our paid and unpaid professional public safety responders is a passion of mine, and I am certainly proud to be able to assist."

Dr. Dailey was elected into Honorary Membership in the CVVFA during the Fall Meeting by unanimous vote.

Need a Rental? Enterprise Gives CVVFA Members a Deal

The CVVFA has a standing agreement with Enterprise to provide our members who need a rental vehicle a break on prices. Contact Enterprise direct to make a reservation. Make sure to inform the rental desk the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association members receive a preferred rate. Questions regarding the plan may be directed to Past President Walter Robertson (540) 294-9883 who is the Association's point of contact with Enterprise.

Todd Leiss Named to the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute



Todd Leiss, Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Coordinator in the Traffic Engineering and Operations Department for the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC) was named to the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute (ERSI) as Assistant Director of Training. Todd will collaborate with Jack Sullivan ERSI Training Director on all matters connected with Responder Safety Learning Network.

Todd is a veteran of the Turnpike Commission.Prior to becoming the PTC TIM Coordinator in 2015, Todd worked as

an Operations Center Duty Officer for more than 15 years in the PTC Traffic Operations Center.

Prior to his tenure at the PTC he worked as an emergency dispatcher at the Derry Township Police Department and at Lebanon County 911. Todd is a former volunteer firefighter with the Neversink Fire Company and the Lebanon City Fire Department's Independent Fire Company, joining the fire service in 1982. Todd was an emergency medical technician and served on the Lebanon County hazardous material team member.

As a CVVFA member, Todd has volunteered on many ERSI projects. In 2019 he received the prestigious CVVFA Past President Joseph Bukowski Responder Safety Award for Highway Safety. "I have personally known and respected Todd's commitment to highway incident scene safety for many, many years", said Chief Allen Baldwin, CVVFA President. "It became clear to us that having Todd on our ERSI Leadership Team provides another layer of technical and management skills that a national project of our size requires. Besides that, Todd is a great guy with good sense of humor who is fun to be around."

Todd is a 2018 graduate of the I-95 Corridor Coalition Senior Leadership Operations Academy, a 2019 graduate of the I-95 Corridor Coalition Freight Academy and was named the 2018 ITS-Pennsylvania Person of the Year, and the 2019 ITS-Pennsylvania

Project of the Year winner for the Pennsylvania SHRP2 Traffic Incident Management E-Learning Course.

Todd resides in Lower Swatara Township, PA with his wife Donna and two Siberian Huskies, Sasha & Dmitry. In addition to spending time with the family Todd enjoys nature photography and researching his ancestors civil war regiment, the 88th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

Some Good News From the CVVFA- Check Out Our New Video

Since the COVID National Emergency there hasn't been a lot of good news to report on this page. Cancellations of our meetings and convention and the missed opportunities to see one another have made 2020 a less than a stellar year. However, as members, your officers and I want you to know that just because we haven't been meeting in person, there is positive news. Our organization continues to be in the lead in protecting emergency responders on the roadways just as we have been doing for the last 22 years. Take a peak at this short video prepared by Rod Ammon and the Stonehouse Media team that we presented to the Federal Highway Administration Traffic Incident Management Executive Leadership Group at a recent virtual meeting. We want you to know we are focused on the core missions of the CVVFA during these difficult times.

Thanks for hanging in there with us. Better times are ahead. I look forward to celebrating them with you.

Chief Allen Baldwin President CVVFA

Dr. Harry Carter Receives National Honor

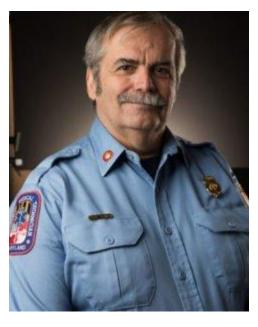


Dr. Harry R. Carter, Editor of Respondersafety.com and long time CVVFA member has been named to the Hall of Legends at the National Fire Heritage Center. Dr. Carter is a veteran chief fire officer, an internationally known municipal fire protection consultant, author, writer, and lecturer. He currently serves as a fire commissioner and is Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners for Fire District #2 in Howell Township, New Jersey. Dr. Carter has also served on the adjunct faculty of a number of community colleges in New Jersey, as well as the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. He formerly served on the faculty of the School of Public Safety Leadership at Capella University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He holds a Doctor of

Philosophy from Capella, a Masters in Political Science from Rutgers University, a Bachelor's degree in Fire Safety Administration from Jersey City State College, a Bachelor's in Arts from Thomas A. Edison University, and an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Brookdale Community College. He retired in 1999 as a Suppression Division Battalion Commander with the Newark Fire Department in New Jersey. During his tenure in Newark, he served as Chief of Training, Commander of the Hazardous Materials Response Team, and Administrative Assistant to the Fire Chief. Dr. Carter is also a past Fire Chief and former Training Officer of the Adelphia Fire Company, located in the Adelphia section of Howell Township, New Jersey. He currently serves as the fire company Chaplain. He also serves as Chaplain for the East Freehold Fire Company in Freehold Township, New Jersey. Dr. Carter is a Fellow of the United States of America Branch of the Institution of Fire Engineers, Great Britain (FIFireE). Dr. Carter is currently serving as a Past President for the branch. He is a Life Member and former President of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors. Dr. Carter is also currently the President of the New Jersey State Association of Fire Districts and is a former President of the New Jersey Society of Fire Service Instructors. He is a Life Member of the National Fire Protection Association and has served on their technical committees since 1975. He has authored or co-authored twenty fire service texts as well as publishing more than 3,000 journal, magazine, and on-line articles and commentaries. From 1977 to 1981, he served as a member of the Joint Council of Fire Service Organizations.

Chief Joe Kroboth,1st VP of the CVVFA remarked, "Harry has been a pillar in our Association. We are fortunate he agreed to be our Editor for these many years. We are pleased that he received this prestigious honor"

CVVFA Director Dave Lewis Receives Prestigious National Award



CVVFA Director David Lewis received the James P. Seavey Sr. Health and Wellness Leadership Award from the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC).

As a member of the fire and emergency medical services for more than 40 years, David Lewis has always been an advocate for firefighter health, wellness, and safety.

Dave serves as the Maryland Director of the NVFC. He is a nationally known instructor, author and leader in a number of fire service organizations. As an active responder at the Odenton MD VFC, Dave held the offices of President and Assistant Fire Chief among others. He is a Past President of the Maryland State Firemen's Association.

CVVFA President Chief Allen Baldwin remarked, "We are proud to have Dave on the CVVFA team. The NVFC made an excellent choice in bestowing this honor on a man who has done so much for so long to promote firefighter health and safety."

The James P. Seavey Sr. Health and Wellness Leadership Award is co-sponsored by Ward Diesel Filter Systems and VFIS. Is named in memory of Chief Jim Seavey who dedicated his career to firefighter safety, health and wellness.

Read more about the NVFC Awards here.

Apply Now for Youth Leadership Award



The future of the fire service relies on our Junior and Cadet members who one day will be in leadership positions. The CVVFA created a program to identify and recognize those newer members under the age of 21 who are demonstrating leadership potential in their home fire departments.

The Chief Gary "Happy Jack" Easton Youth Leadership Award is presented by the Association to those worthy members who early in their career show leadership talent.

Named after the late Chief Gary "Happy Jack" of Berkeley Springs WV the award exemplifies the development of younger members. Chief Easton, during his tenure developed a cadre of young members, many of which went on to distinguish themselves in the fire service, business and professional worlds as leaders. The Chief's guiding hands is credited for setting them on the path to success.

Fire companies who have identified a potential future leader under the age of 21 may submit that person as a candidate for the award that is presented at the Annual CVVFA Convention.

Download the application and information sheet and submit a worth young member of your fire department to receive this honor.

CVVFA Youth Leadership Nomination

CVVFA Information Form Youth Leadership Award

Email Application to: Jim Watson kingshimr@aol.com

CVVFA Sponsoring Emergency Responder Community Safety Ride



During these unprecedented times, the CVVFA salutes fire companies by encouraging a "Safe Ride" of apparatus through local communities. The ride should focus on how residents can keep themselves and their families safe and might include a salute to a local health care facility, police department, national guard armory or other location where first responders including health care workers are struggling to deal with the pandemic.

Following 9-11, there was an outpouring of support for the fire service. Now, as health care professionals are the leaders on the front lines the CVVFA wishes to encourage fire departments to show their appreciation through community involvement.

The CVVFA is hopeful fire departments everywhere to show their support. We will provide some recognition for the company that receives the most endorsements through online voting for their efforts. Your company does not have to be a member of the CVVFA to participate in the recognition program.

Questions may be directed to: cvvfaride@gmail.com

CVVFA Update Spring 2020

The National Emergency has forced the cancellation of the CVVFA events for spring of 2020. At this time, our next scheduled meeting is the 119th Annual Convention in Williamsport MD July 29 to August 1. We will be joined for the first time by the Chickenheaders, a fire related social organization from Montgomery County PA. CVVFA members will be able to join the Chickenheaders should they so desire. A number of CVVFA members already belong to this fun loving organization.

Convention information will be posted as soon as the national emergency is lifted. We anticipate that the convention will be held as scheduled this summer.

Meanwhile CVVFA President Chief Allen Baldwin reminds all members of the importance of following the guidelines for social distancing, hand sanitation and wellness recommendations now being circulated the government and many other organizations.

Please be extra careful if you are an emergency responder and observe all edicts and guidelines forwarded to you by your agency.

We are here for you and your department. If you are in need of assistance, please reach out. We are actively working to insure the mission and commitment of the CVVFA continues.

President Baldwin also reminds those members who are staying at home or at the fire station for extended periods of time, that this is an excellent opportunity to take many of the self paced on line learning modules on the Responder Safety Learning Network

Past President J. Allen Brennan Dies at Age 79



J. Allen Brennan, respected volunteer fire official, died January 30, 2019 at age 79 following a long illness.

Allen was a volunteer member of the Fredericksburg VA Fire Department for most of his adult life.

He was a highly respected spokesperson for volunteer firefighters having served as the President of the VA State Firefighters Association (VSFA) in 1985-1986 and President of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association (CVVFA) in 2004.

Allen was a member of a family who embraced public safety. His late father was a police officer. Wife Sharron and daughter Karen, who predeceased him, were both past presidents of the Auxiliary to the VSFA. Karen was also a certified firefighter and paramedic.

Allen held the position of VA State Director of the National Volunteer Fire Council. He was a founding member of the CVVFA Presidents Council that meets regularly with volunteer fire officials in the mid-Atlantic for the betterment of the volunteer fire service.

Allen is survived by his daughter Liz Garnet, son in law Stephen and grandchildren Joe and Sarah.

"Past President Brennan was a giant in our organization" said Cumberland Valley VFA President Chief Allen Baldwin. "His wise council and gentle demeanor will long be remembered in the ranks of the fire service" he added.

Services: Family visitation Covenant Funeral Service, 4801 Jefferson Davis Highway Fredericksburg, VA 22408, Friday, February 7 from 5 PM to 8 PM.

The funeral service will be held at Fredericksburg Baptist Church, 1019 Princess Anne St, Fredericksburg, VA 22401 on Saturday, February 8 at 1 PM.