

# Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association

## Archived News 2021

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24 Nov 2021

## Our Own Candice McDonald Featured in E-Book About Influential Fire Service Women



First VP Candice McDonald

CVVFA First Vice President Dr. Candice McDonald is featured in a new E-Book authored by our good friend Chief Dennis Compton. Candice and 30 other exceptional women are featured for their vital roles in the fire service. Chief Compton chose to include Candice in his book describing her as a leader who balances her professional, family and volunteer responsibilities. Her abilities and enthusiasm are something we at the CVVFA have known since we first met Candice. Congratulations Candice! Read all about Candice and the rest of these exceptional leaders [here](#).

## Did You Know? The CVVFA & Sparky Connection



Sparky the fire dog, created and copyrighted by NFPA, is the most recognized symbol

of fire prevention anywhere. What most folks don't know is that the CVVFA helped build the brand by advocating and sponsoring Sparky Fire Departments in the Mid-Atlantic region in the 1950's and '60's. So successful was the program, the CVVFA received an award from NFPA for its work and Middletown PA Sparkies were featured in Parade Magazine. Two of those young men are active members in the CVVFA. Jack Still and Jim Wealand, who joined Sparkies while in grade school went on to have long careers in the fire

service after being members of Sparky departments. Jim is involved in preserving Sparky history working with the local historical society.

Sparky Fire Departments were established in elementary schools by CVVFA member fire departments. The groups that were closely tied to junior firefighter programs, had a distinct difference. They were heavily focused on fire prevention. They were supported by the NFPA. Elsewhere on this page readers can view a vintage video of Sparky activities in Middletown, Dauphin County PA. Both Jack and Jim are featured.

We have attached some vintage Sparky material to this post and from time to time we will bring readers more information about the program. Westphal Hose Company of Martinsburg WV can be seen parading in Waynesboro at the 56th Annual CVVFA Convention. If you have Sparky memorabilia or stories, let us know. We will cover them in future articles. We also stand ready to answer any questions about the role CVVFA played in Sparky history.



Westphal Hose Co. Sparky FD in the 1957  
Convention Parade in Waynesboro PA



Chief Jim Wealand holds a rare Sparky doll



Sparky Fire Departments had lots of bling. Some  
which is being preserved in the Middletown history  
museum.

## Fall Meeting a Huge Success! Awards Go to Allen Baldwin, Jim and Jimmy Kimble

The Fall “Hybrid” Booster Meeting of the Association in Limerick PA was a huge success with 35 members in person and a dozen more participating on line. “The combined in person and online format is the new meeting structure of the future for the CVVFA” said First VP President Dr. Candice McDonald.

Chief Allen Baldwin, Immediate Past President received the President E. Wade Thomas Member of the Year Award for his tireless efforts advancing the CVVFA agenda during the deepest days of the COVID pandemic. Baldwin and the rest of the officers held their positions for two full years, something that hadn’t been done in the Association for well over 100 years. The Past President Joseph Bukowski Award for service protecting emergency responders on the highway was presented to James Kimble Sr and James Kimble Jr owners of Emergency Vehicle Specialist of Hagerstown MD. Kimble family participation in the CVVFA has stretched over 4 generations. The Kimble’s provide storage space for CVVFA equipment and supplies at no charge. Jim Kimble Sr. is also the Chief Financial Officer of the Emergency Responder Safety Institute.



Steve Heefner (L) Joe Bukowski Award Chairman, presents Jim Kimble Sr. the award at the meeting.



During the weekend that coincided with the Firefighters Association of the State of Pennsylvania Convention, at least 20 new members joined the Association.

The next meeting of the CVVFA takes place May 14th and 15th at Rescue Hose Company in Greencastle PA.



29 Aug 2021

# Greetings and A Big Thank You To CVVFA Members



Hello members and friends. Thank you for electing me to lead our Association this year. I'm honored to follow in the footsteps of Chief Allen Baldwin who skillfully steered us through one of the most difficult periods in our history. As I mentioned during our convention, I'll have more to say about that during our Fall Booster Meeting in Limerick PA September 24th.

Already we find ourselves busy with the challenge of a new FEMA Firefighter Safety Grant to support our Responder Safety Project. We are working with the Fire Administration to begin some more research on lighting and helmet

improvements.

We hosted a policy discussion with trusted governmental affairs representatives to address the spiraling out of control struck-by incidents. Our task is how to raise the level of discussion about this topic to our federal government.

We hope see you in Limerick where you can learn more about our plans and visit with one another in person. We need your help. Yes, we have a job for you!

As for me, I look forward to serving you with anticipation.

Joe

28 Aug 2021

## Meet Our New Leadership Team for 2021 to 2022



President Chief Joe Kroboth



First VP Candice McDonald

Chief Joe Kroboth, Dr. Candice McDonald, Firefighter EMT, and Chief Doug DeHaven were sworn in to office during the 120th Virtual Convention on August 14th. President Kroboth is a second generation member of the CVVFA. He has served in various capacities in the volunteer fire service including Chief of the Department in Halfway MD. He is a registered engineer and holds an MBA. First Vice President Dr. McDonald is a volunteer firefighter and EMT in Sebring OH. She is a nationally recognized presenter. Second Vice President DeHaven served in the Hagerstown MD Fire Department for 30 years attaining the rank of Acting Fire Chief, retiring as the Fire Marshal. He is a long time volunteer in his home community where he served as Deputy Chief. He is a recognized children's fire safety advocate and instructor.

All three leaders bring a wealth of professional and personal experience to their offices along with a reputation as leaders of the highest order. The three pledge to work as a team to advance the mission of the Association.

15 May 2021

## CVVFA Salutes EMS Providers During National EMS Week



The members of the CVVFA took time during the Association's Spring Meeting on May 15th to salute the service of EMS Providers during National EMS Week – May 16 – 22, 2021. We are proud of our members who provide EMS in their communities. Learn more about EMS Week [here](#).



11 Apr 2021

# Video Shoot in Daytona Beach Captures Responder Safety Leaders and Preserves History

Daytona Beach FL. A video shoot conducted on behalf of the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute captured several highway incident scene safety leaders and memorialized a contribution made almost 50 years ago. Nicholas Calvano, a 87 year old retired engineer from Ormond Beach FL provided source information from studies he conducted on fire helmets at the old National Bureau of Standards, now NIST, in the late 1970's. Mr. Calvano is credited with developing the specifications that led to the adoption of the first edition of NFPA 1971, the standard for fire helmets. The video is most relevant to our current project that is exploring responder helmet designs for those working in moving traffic at incident scenes.



L to R: Marc Bashoor, Allen Baldwin, Scott Parr, Brady Robinette (not shown Nicholas Calvano)

Lt. Brady Robinette of the Lubbock TX FD and a CVVFA member, is heading up the helmet research. A module for the Responder Safety Learning Network is in production and includes material from the photo shoot.

Located in Daytona, Dr. Scott Parr, of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, was interviewed. Dr. Parr is part of a team that is conducting a lighting study on behalf of the CVVFA with funding provided by the US Fire Administration. The study is looking lighting patterns and brightness of LED warning lights on the fire and police vehicles. The study continues with drivers later this year.

CVVFA President Chief Allen Baldwin provided an update on how the Association has managed to advance our objectives during the pandemic by remaining focused on communicating with our members.

Chief Marc Bashoor, Fire Chief and Public Safety Director of Highlands County FL conducted the interviews. Marc is the Executive Editor of Fire Rescue One and Fire Chief. Much of the content of the interviews will be used not only by the CVVFA, but by Fire Rescue One in their productions spreading the word about the valuable work the Association is doing. Chief Bashoor is the newest member of the CVVFA Emergency Responder Safety Institute.

The last session of the shoot was a round robin discussion. We will be sharing this material with our members and the general public shortly. Stonehouse Media our production partner supported the video shoot.