MARYLAND FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING – APRIL 7, 2018 – ENGLISH CONSUL VFC

The annual meeting of the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association (MFCA) was held on April 7, 2018 at the English Consul VFC in Baltimore County. Past Presidents in attendance were Ron Watkins, John Hoglund, Paul Sterling, and Richard Blair. PP Blair is also serving as the 2nd VP for the MSFA. Officers present were President Hugh Owens, 1st P Paul Sullivan, 2nd VP William Smith, Treasurer Rick Hemphill, Membership Secretary Katie Owens, Chaplain Reverend Richard Bower, and Assistant Chaplain Robin Howard. Special guest Mark Bilger, MD State Firemen’s Association (MSFA) President was also in attendance.

The English Consul Auxiliary and firefighters provided a very nice lunch at Noon, and photos of all members in attendance were done during the lunch hour. The opening prayer was given by Assistant Chaplain Robin Howard. Robin also led the Pledge of Allegiance. At 1305 hours, President Owens called the meeting to order. The Association was greeted by ECFD Chief Robert Bury, Jr. MSFA President Mark Bilger made some brief comments and presented a plaque to President Owens for the good work over the past two years. Past President Paul Sterling, current President of the Eastern Division, International Fire Chiefs Association, spoke about the upcoming EDIAFC Conference being held in Maryland at the Embassy Suites BWI hotel, noting that we would like to have a good attendance from Maryland.

President Owens commenced with the awards portion of the meeting. President Bilger was presented with a plaque for the MSFA to commemorate the unity that has been exhibited this year between the two organizations. Appreciation plaques for their hard work over the past year were presented to the MFCA officers and Regional representatives, and also to the Training Committee members and to LAMFCA President and Fire Prevention committee Chair Teresa Chrisman.

The William Perry Award, given in honor of Past President William Perry for outstanding work for the Association in the past year, was awarded to 1st VP Paul Sullivan. The Chief Leslie B. Thompson, PP, Memorial Trophy, the highest award given by the MFCA, is sponsored by the Damascus VFD and Chestertown VFC. Chief Thompson served in both of these departments. Chief Darron Long of the Damascus VFD presented Chief Johnie Roth, last year’s winner, with his “keeper” trophy. The winner of this year’s Thompson Award was Chief Paul Sterling, PP. Also nominated for the award were Chief Calvin Stack and Chief Dave Lewis. 1st VP Sullivan and 2nd VP Smith presented outgoing President Owens with plaques for appreciation for his service.

The elections for 2018 – 2019 were held next. Chief Roth spoke briefly to the group about trying to elect the best possible candidate to the positions, as there are many areas coming up that will require strong efforts on our members part, and the officers will have much to do. PP. Paul Sterling was designated handle the nomination and election process.
For President, Paul Sullivan was nominated. With no further nominations, Paul Sullivan was ELECTED.

For 1st VP, William Smith and Jeff Dickie were nominated. Election results – Smith, 37 votes, Dickie, 8 votes. William Smith was ELECTED.

For 2nd VP, Gerald “JJ” Lynott was nominated. No further nominations received, JJ Lynott was ELECTED.

For Secretary, Pete Mellits and Dave Crawford were nominated. Election results – Mellits, Crawford. Dick Crawford was ELECTED.

For Treasurer, Rick Hemphill was nominated. No further nominations received, Rick Hemphill was ELECTED.

For Assistant Treasurer, PP Hugh Owens was nominated. No further nominations were received, Hugh Owens was ELECTED.

For Membership Secretary, Katie Owens and Nick Thompson were nominated. Election results – Owens, Thompson. Nick Thompson was ELECTED.

For Chaplain, Rev. Richard Bower was nominated. No further nominations received, Rev. Richard Bower was ELECTED.

There was a MOTION and Second to destroy the ballots. MOTION Passed.

The new officers were sworn into their officers by MSFA President Mark Bilger, with Past President Hugh Owens also sworn in as immediate past president on the Executive Board. Following this, Past President Owens received is Past President’s badge from newly elected President Sullivan.

Under “Good of the order” Past President Hugh Owens spoke on the plan for a new award – the Leonard T. King Memorial Valor Award – and noted that a committee would be formed to make the rules for this award.

Motion received and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1420 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Watkins, Asst. Secretary
Ronald E. Watkins, P.P.  Asst. Secretary
Rick Blair, P.P.  MSFA 1st VP
Mark Bilger  MSFA President
Charles Barr  Western Enterprise FD
Gary Schotterback  Western Enterprise FD
Jason Miller  Washington County
Skip Menzies  WCVFRA 2nd VP
Rick Hemphill  Treasurer
Clark Beall  Damascus VFD
Sharon Funk  
Jason Funk  
Christine Jackson  LA MFCA
Tom Cooper  Cape St. Claire VFC
F. R. Seibbel III  Cape St. Claire VFC
Juanita Colwell  LA MFCA
Calvin Colwell  Chillum-Adelphi VFD
Tim Delehanty  SMVFRA, Prince Frederick VFD
Katie Owens  Membership Secretary
Jeff Wickline  Chief, Upperco VFC
Nick Thompson  Chief, Hampstead VFC
Gerald “JJ” Lynott  Hampstead VFC
Robert Bury Jr.  Chief, English Consul VFC
Samuel Suter  Asst. Chief, English Consul VFC
Laura Woods  Glenn Dale VFD
Frank Brewer  Gaithersburg-Washington Grove VFD
Mike McTighe
Johnie Roth     Sandy Spring/ BCC Rescue
Doug Howard     MFCA Regional rep
Robin Howard     MFCA Asst. Chaplain
Calvin Stack     MFCA Regional Rep / Rescue Fire Co.
Roger N. Powell     Pikesville VFC
Rev. Richard Bower     MFCA Chaplain
Lawrence Gaddis     Chief, Bethesda FD
Jamie McNeal     Chief, Easton FD
Bob Phillips     MFCA Regional Rep, Rescue Fire Co.
A.J. Waytekuns     MFCA
Robert Thomas Jr     Chief Deputy SFM, Retired
Hugh Owens     MFCA President
Gregory Cage     NFPA
Bill Smith     2nd VP
Paul E. Sullivan Jr.     1st VP
Teresa Ann Chrisman     LAMFCA, Chair, FP Committee
Wayne Colburn     Elkridge VFC
Bob McHenry     MFCA Regional Rep, Reg.3
Carol Ann McHenry     Germantown VFD
Dave Crawford     Earleigh Heights VFD
Paul Sterling, P.P.     Pres., ED-IAFC
Steve Barry     Pleasant Valley VFD
Jack Amrhein     White Marsh VFC
Phil Hurlock     MIEMSS / Church Hill VFC
Thomas Ludwig (?)     Wise Avenue VFC
John Hoglund, P.P.     Chaplain Emeritus, MFCA

54 in Attendance