



**Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association  
Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association Ladies Auxiliary**

Conference 2017

Dover Downs Hotel and Casino

Thursday, September 14, 2017

**JOINT OPENING CEREMONIES**

8:30 AM Call to order by M/C Warren Jones

- Introduction of the Past President's and President Emeritus's of our organizations
- Introduction of the current Presidents of our organizations

DVFA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Willard "Bill" Betts, Jr.

LADVFA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Penny Gentry

DVFA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Richard T. Perillo

LADVFA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Lynn Warner

DVFA President Theodore H. Walius

LADVFA President Lois Pearson, Posthumously

- Presentation of the colors by Dover Air Base Honor Guard
- Invocation by Pastor Bob Hudson
- DVFA/LADVFA Choir will sing our National Anthem
- Pledge to the flag by DVFA and LADVFA Presidents
- President Ted Walius welcoming remarks and introduction of his officers
- LADVFA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Lynn Warner welcoming remarks and introduction of her officers
- M/C Jones reflected on the passing of three of our dedicated members this year that have been special to us all. Their seats are empty; there is a white rose in their chairs as we remember them today. LADVFA President Lois Pearson, long time Conference Secretary Virginia Yeager and Sussex Director for DVFA Clay Yocum.
- Welcome from the Mayor of the City of Dover Robin Christiansen



Kent County;

Bowers	Elizabeth Cabbage	Bowers	Linda Hudson
Felton	Marilyn Alexander	Felton	Leona Stephens
Frederica	Joan Rager	Frederica	Loretta Wooten
Harrington	Norma Short	Harrington	Sylvia Smith

Introduction of Sara Lee Stevens for the Ladies Auxiliary Hall of Recognition presentations:

Sussex County	Sandra Steele from Laurel
New Castle County	Lil Noonan from Holloway Terrace
Kent County	Muriel Gillespie from Carlisle
President Emeritus	Pat Paolini from Bowers
Past President	Mary Frances Eisenbrey from Cheswold

President Emeritus Bruce Ennis presented newly elected President Emeritus John P. Fox with his ring and a certificate for being the newest member of that group.

Introduction of President Emeritus Bruce Ennis, who will announce the 50 year members: (41)

Sussex County;

Delmar	John Smith	Delmar	Elmer Reikard
Ellendale	Donald Webb	Laurel	Ronald Ross
Laurel	Elwood Baker	Memorial	John Caldwell
Memorial	Donald Peterman	Seaford	Edwin Earl Conaway
Selbyville	Raymond Stevens		

New Castle County;

Aetna	Alan Silverman	Aetna	George B. Robinson, Jr.
Brandywine	James A. Pletz	Brandywine	Stephen A. Raign
Brandywine	Ronald E. Schmidt	Brandywine	Dennis J. Yesville
Christiana	Paul W. Burge	Christiana	George Spicer
Christiana	Robert Cunane	Cranston Heights	Leslie W. Warrick
Elsmere	George F. Cunningham	Elsmere	Gerald F. Dougherty
Elsmere	Alexander A. Leonetti	Elsmere	Joseph J. Leonetti
Elsmere	Michael R. Schaal	Five Points	Robert J. Borkowski
Hockessin	Anthony R. Guzzo	Mill Creek	Theodore Weaver, Sr.
Mill Creek	John Lackford	Minquas	George L. Kerr, Jr.
Minquas	Edard Ranck, Jr.		

Kent County;

Citizens Hose	Jay P. Schuman	Citizens Hose	J. Patrick McCann
Citizens Hose	Harry D. Willis	Citizens Hose	Richard Dowes
Clayton	William C. Donovan, Jr.	Dover	Thomas M. Pribanic
Felton	Franklin "Butch" Weaver, Jr.	Felton	F. Wayne Wheeler
Harrington	Robert Outten	Houston	Robert H. Yerkes, Jr.
Magnolia	David Bryan		

M/C Warren Jones announced this year's inductees to the Hall of Fame:

- Heroic Firefighter of the Year – Greg Adkins, Laurel Fire Dept.
- Heroic EMT of the Year – Matt Burge, Hockessin Fire Co.
- Heroic EMT of the Year – George Lamborn, Hockessin Terrace Fire Co.
- Fire Policeman of the Year – Clayton Yocum, Sr., Greenwood Fire Co.
- Firefighter of the Year – James Mood, Citizen's Hose Fire Co.
- Past President DVFA Assoc. – Joseph Zeroles, Farmington Fire Co.

Carleton Carey, Sr. announced this year's Non-Heroic Fireman of the Year:

This year's Fireman of the Year has been a member of his Department for 54 years. He has been a remarkable member to his Department for 54 years of service not only to his fire company but to the County and State of Delaware. It should also be noted that he was always around the fire house prior to becoming a member, helping out as needed.

In his early years at his department he was a mentor and leader for the Departments Explorer Post where he taught our young teenagers how to be firefighters. Many of which are still members today, thanks to his willingness to go the extra mile.

He rose through the ranks as a fire line and administrative officer. He served as Deputy Chief and Assistant Chief for many years. He has served in many positions in his Department.

He was President six different years and has served on the Board of Directors. To this day, he is an instrumental part of the daily business of our company attending meetings and helping where necessary. In the past he dedicated his time and energy serving as the annual banquet chairman decorating the hall to the joy of everyone attending. He was the cook for the annual chicken and dumpling and turkey dinners out Ladies Auxiliary held for years.

He is well known throughout the State of Delaware especially with the DVFA. He is instrumental in making the opening ceremonies for the annual conference each year.

He has served as President of each association in his County that represents the Fire Service. He is well respected and has no problem speaking his mind for the wellbeing of the fire service. He has received numerous awards throughout the County that he serves and represents.

His dedication did not stop at the State line. He is active in organizations spanning many States including the Del-Mar-Va Fire Chief's Association, Cumberland Valley Fireman's Association and Delaware Valley Fire Chief's Association.

He was also involved with St. John the Beloved school/church assisting with their annual carnivals and athletic association. His dedication and commitment to the fire service make him an ideal candidate for this award.

The Fireman of the Year for 2017 goes to John P. Fox of the Mill Creek Fire Company of New Castle County.

Warren thanked the opening ceremonies committee and helpers.

Slide show presentation "Delaware; Year in Review"

Called on LADVFA Chaplain Nancy Hooper for the benediction.

**2017 DVFA CONFERENCE**  
**Executive Meeting**  
Thursday, September 14, 2017  
11:30 AM in Ball Room C of the Rollins Center

Call the business session to order by President Ted Walius

Invocation offered by DVFA Chaplain Bob Hudson

Pledge to the flag led by Ron O'Neal

Conference appointments by President Walius:

- Credentials: Charlie Arnold, Sta. 82, Keith Bowman, Sta. 17, Allan Post, Sta. 64
- Sergeant at Arms: John Fox, Sta. 21, Ducky Reed, Sta. 20, Steve White, Sta. 49, Harold Brode, Sta. 50, Dominic Messina, Sta. 80, Ed Schaffer, Sta. 82, Ken McMahon, Sta. 12
- Committee to visit the ladies: Ron Marvel, Sta. 87, Ray Stevens, Sta. 88  
Charles Stevenson, Sta. 77
- Parliamentarians: Guy Hudson, Sta. 90 , Jasper Lakey, Sta. 15, Jim Woznicki, Sta. 53

**CONFERENCE GROUND RULES AND CONDUCT**

No hats, all cell phones and pagers are to be turned off or placed in the silent mode. In order to speak, rise to be recognized by the Chair, proceed to the nearest microphone, state your name and the fire company that you are representing.

**READING OF COMMUNICATIONS**

Secretary Elmer Steele summarized the communications:

- Letter from Christiana Fire Co. nominating Bob Steinman for Treasurer of the DVFA
- Letter from Special Olympics Delaware thanking the DVFA for their support
- Letter from Kent County Firefighter's Association supporting Bill Betts for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
- Letter from Frederica Fire Co. endorsing Bill Betts for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
- Letter from New Castle Firefighter's Association supporting Richard T. Perillo for President
- Letter from Cheswold Fire Co. supporting George Pyott for Treasurer
- Letter from Ellendale Fire Co. supporting Norman "Jay" Jones for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Card from Wally Poppe thanking the DVFA for his scholarship
- Letter from Kent County Firefighter's Assoc. supporting George Pyott for Treasurer
- Letter from Sussex County Firefighter's Association reference to Partners in Progress contribution from Sussex County Council
- Letter from Sussex County Firefighter's Association supporting Norman "Jay" Jones for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the DVFA
- Letter from Sussex County Firefighter's Association supporting Ron O'Neal for Director of the DVFA

**REPORT OF THE OFFICERS**

**President Ted Walius:** President Walius thanked the officers and everyone in audience for their support over the past 3 years. It takes everyone working together to get things done and again I want to thank all of you. There have been some bumps in the road this year, lots of ups and downs but we have survived.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Richard Perillo:** (copied and pasted from written report)

Good morning everyone,

If I may I'd like to congratulate President Walius on a successful year. Yes, we all know there were some bumps in the road and turbulent times but this didn't distract Ted from the business at hand. I'd also like to thank Ted for including Bill and I in everything that transpired. Thank you, Mr. President.

Congratulations to our 2nd Vice President Jay Jones and our Sussex County Director Ron O'Neil. Gentlemen, I can guarantee you that Bill and I will include you and the rest of the Officer's in everything we do.

Ted, Bill and I had talked about our current President's hand book. What we currently have does not include, in our opinions, cover everything we need to do and at times where we may be going. With that said, I'd like to have our 3 County Director's work on this hand book for our future Officer's.

We would like for us to create a handbook and placed on the DVFA website for our member companies that gives the time lines of when certain items are due. Items such as; when company audits are due per their physical year or calendar year and a copy of said audit to their prospective County if necessary, their BLS Financial Statement to Fire School, DVFA and County Delegates and Alternates and other items you all feel could be beneficiary for our member companies.

We could also have on the DVFA website for Mutual Relief, how and where to file a claim. PMA, State of Delaware Workers Compensation and Provident Insurance Company, secondary policy for Mutual Relief.

As you all are aware, there was a motion to have a committee to compose our future budgets. This committee is now our Budget and Finance Committee. They will continue through my term and it is up to President Betts during his term who will be on this committee.

There has been one change on this committee already. At the last meeting held at the Cheswold Fire Company, I thanked the following Ladies, Pam Ingle, Sarah Lee Stevens and Debra Lawhead for the hard work and long hours they had committed to this process. I then stated that they would no longer be on this committee. As I had had a conversation earlier in the year with President Lynn Warner, I saw no need for the Ladies being on this committee. Our Ladies do not contribute to this budget nor are there any men on the Ladies Auxiliaries budget committee, nor should there be. This has nothing to do with me not wanting a woman on our committees, some of you may not like this and that is fine.

But once our past treasurer stated that he was done, this was prior to any resignation, I had asked Debra Lawhead to put her name in for the position of the DVFA Treasurer if no one else had done so. I've also had the honor and pleasure to serve with Lynn Truitt as we went through the New Castle County chairs. It is my hope that none of our members, especially our Ladies feel that I do not value what you do for this Association and your fire companies.

I had asked the Ladies to continue and work on the Conference Committee Budget. Yes, our Ladies do contribute to this part of our Conference.

Earlier this week I had asked Warren what we need to do with the Smoke Detector program, the \$200,000.00 dollars our State Legislators had given to our Association for the indigent, low income housing residents? Warren had informed me that Paul Ichler is working on this program. Should we ask our member companies for them to tell us, him who the areas are in their districts? If these areas are section 8 are they entitled to these free smoke detectors? Isn't there a county code stating that the land lords must provide this? I wouldn't want us giving these away to land lords that are making money from the residents, when they should already be providing this life safety devices to them. Your thoughts?

As you all know, this is the first time this Associations budgets have been sent to the member companies for their review prior to the conference. At this time, we have only received 1 company reply asking a couple of very good questions, questions that Ray Stevens answered quickly and appropriately. We did have one member ask questions about the conference budget and his questions were answered too. I along with the DVFA Officer's cannot thank the Budget and Finance Committee Members enough for the hard work and long hours they have put in to composing our budget.

Working with this committee has been a pleasure. Mr. Burris, would you please recognize the members on this committee.

Please do not hesitate to ask questions during your meeting.

The Budget and Finance Committee broke down in to a separate committee to interview new accountants for our Association. Daniel Burris, William Tobin, Pablo Reyes, George Pyott, Ray Stevens and I had interviewed 3 accountants and have voted to accept Mr. Douglas Kook of Bumpers and Associates to represents and do our annual audit and our 990's. This committee recommends that you except our recommendation and vote on this so it can be brought up to the membership at our Executive Meeting this September. This will be brought up for your consideration at the proper time during this meeting.

We need to compose a committee to see what our membership wants to do for the 2018 Conference / Convention. I guess this all depends on what may come up at this Septembers Executive Meeting.

After the conference, we will review the members that have signed up for committees, send this out to everyone, make a decision if we need to meet or if we can create the committee listing on line though emails. We will discuss this later on how we are going to go about this in the near future.

At all 3 County Firefighter's Association Meetings, there has been a pad for anyone and everyone who wants to receive an email from the DVFA office to write down their email address. I feel this is a great start to show the membership that their Association wants to give them information, be open and transparent with what we do and how we do it.

I hope that we continue to be open on everything we do as an Association, give our member companies the information they deserve.

I was asked if we can have our Legislators change the verbiage for the legislation that gives us the free background checks for new prospective firefighter's joining a fire company to include a free Federal and State background check authorized by the fire department for active firefighter's, EMT'S and drivers. Every EMT has to obtain a Federal background check that is sent to the Delaware State Fire School to take the EMT course. Some companies require their drivers to obtain these before they allow them to drive any of their equipment. This would also be a great recruitment and retention tool for the fire service.

My mileage and hours are on a separate sheet for your review.

If you would like to have information about this I'm sure it is on our web site or our Secretary can give you this information.

Does anyone have any questions for me?

Thank you all for what you do.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Bill Betts:** (copied and pasted from written report)

I spent the last quarter attending 27 functions, and 199 hours representing the DVFA. For the year my totals were 109 functions, 671.5 hours (16.78 work weeks), 6,924 miles (not counting air miles and riding with other folks)

Sadly, there were many funerals of good friends and others involved with the DVFA and LADVFA.

I attended the Conventions of Maryland, Cumberland Valley, and West Virginia, and everyone has the same problems with funding, recruitment & retention, and trying to get the millenials to become involved with the fire service. I would like to thank Steve Austin for his help in coordinating these events, and introducing us to our counterparts in these other associations.

I would like to express my gratitude to the DVFA finance committee, and it's work on the 2018 budget, and the Conference budget. With the new format developed by the Committee, it should give the membership a clearer understanding of the developed budget, and increase the transparency that the table officers have been trying to improve over the past year. We are all in the same boat, and it is much easier to work on improvements when everyone is rowing in the same direction.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who supported me and the other officers this year, and look forward to serving you to the best of my ability in the coming years.

**Secretary Elmer Steele:** Stated that his report was filed electronically with the office and is posted on the web site for everyone's review. Congratulated President Walius on a great year and looking forward to the coming year.

**Acting Treasurer George Pyott, Jr.:** (copied and pasted from written report)

Since being appointed Treasurer in June, it has been a very busy two and a half months. With the help of several members of the Association, I have become more acquainted with the financial operations of the DVFA. QuickBooks has been upgraded to 2017 Premiere Nonprofit and I am becoming more comfortable using it.

Since the last meeting I have assisted the Budget and Finance Committee in preparing both the Operational and Conference Budgets for Fiscal Year 2017-18. I also have assisted them with interviews and the selection of a CPA Firm regarding an Audit of the Association. These two items will be presented for your approval today.

**Executive Manager Warren Jones:**

- Talked about committee assignments and that the forms are in the Board room for members to fill out to request a certain committee.
- Note pads are being passed around the room. If you want to receive e-mails from the office regarding any information that goes out, please sign the pad with your e-mail address and we'll put you on the distribution list.
- Our attorney Bill Preston is working on the IRS issues around hall rentals, etc. He has recommended that the DVFA hire a tax lawyer that will be better educated and better versed on the various tax laws that may or may not affect the fire service. This may cost up to \$7,500.00

**Introduction of Out-of-State Guest:** Steve Austin introduced the Out of State guests that were in attendance this morning;

- Virginia State Firefighter's Association (VSFA) 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Pete Kirby brought greetings from the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association (CVVFA) President Hoby Howell brought greetings from their Association.
- Maryland State Firemen's Association (MSFA) Past President Bob Cumberland brought greetings from the State of Maryland.
- National Fallen Firefighter's representative Ed Kilma

**DVFA Foundation:** Steve Austin gave a brief report as to the activities of the foundation. They are seeking a grant from Mid-Del. The foundation will be awarding a scholarship this year. Next meeting is November 11.

**Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission:** Chairman Dave Roberts introduced the commissioners that were in attendance. He reported on the traffic fine money and the amounts that have been dispersed this year. He thanked Joe Zeroles on a great year as commissioner. Next meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 19.

LADVFA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Warner presented the 2017 LADVFA Financial report as follows:

- Total auxiliary members from all 3 Counties 2,447
- Total donations to the men, includes all 3 Counties \$829,761.23 (this is \$28,991.32 more than 2016)

**Delaware State Fire Marshal:** Fire Marshal Grover Ingle (copied and pasted from written report)

- Fire Deaths – Currently, there are four (7) fire deaths, one (1) with a working smoke alarm, and five (6) without a working smoke alarm.
- Deputy Fire Marshal I vacant position for New Castle County Division awaiting a recruitment list from Human Resources to begin the interview process. Deputy Fire Marshal I Tyler Sipple and Deputy Fire Marshal I John A. Yedinak Jr. graduated from the 84<sup>th</sup> Delaware State Police Municipal Police Academy on August 11, 2017. Tyler is FM-15 and has been assigned to Kent County Division Fire Investigations and Code Enforcement and John is FM-14 assigned to New Castle County Division Fire Investigations and Code Enforcement.
- Annual Report has been completed and distributed to the Commission, President's, Fire Chief's, Governor, the legislature and other associations, as well as being on our website. Congratulations to the Staff for their hard work throughout the year.
- DFIRS reports we continue to work with each Company on their submittals and cleaning up the data. The annual report reflects the information provided by the Fire Department's/Companies for the calendar year 2016.
- The Office of the State Fire Marshal continues to work and participate with the Delaware Fire Sprinkler Coalition.
- I would like to thank Chairman Robert's and the members of the State Fire Prevention Commission for their continued support of the Office of the State Fire Marshal and me in carrying out our responsibilities.
- Congratulations to President Walius on a challenging and successful year and we look forward to working with Incoming President Perillo and his Officer's during the upcoming year.
- Congratulations to President Jester from the State Fire Chief's Association for a successful year and we also look forward to working with President Hall and his Officer's in the upcoming year.

**Delaware State Fire School:** Director Robert Newnam (copied and pasted from written report)

- Thanks to the DVFA, the table officers, the Fire School Advisory committee, the Executive Manager, the State Fire Prevention Commission, the EMS providers, and the Staff of the Fire School for your dedication and hard work.
- Projects, Programs and Classes;
  - Conducting the 4<sup>th</sup> New Castle recruit training program
  - Continuing training opportunities for ladies auxiliary members
  - Received an AFG grant – Used for Ambulance simulator, Forcible Entry trailer Haz Mat training
  - Basic Firefighting skills – developing on line program
  - Instructor I – II certifications redone
  - Structure Firefighting skills – increase training and use TIC's
  - Transition from social security numbers to NFA student ID numbers within next 2 years
- EMS Programs:
  - Currently, 1,512 certified EMT's of those 1,484 are NREMT's
  - Revising EMT program to include on-line segments
  - Developing a fully blended EMT program
  - Currently 1,384 EMR's in the State
  - Planning to offer EMR training on-line with one day of skills training
  - SFPC is in the process of adopting National Registry as a requirement for EMT re-certification
- Facilities:
  - New Castle expansion is complete
  - Have added Rescue and Haz Mat training equipment to New Castle site
  - Dover site HVAC replacement should begin in January 2018
  - Dover site office remodel. Will relocate staff during that project
- Capital Budget (Bond Bill) FY19:
  - Rescue equipment of \$105,000.00 for 13 fire companies and DSFS
  - Requesting 860k for remodel and ADA compliance of rest rooms at Dover site
- Reminder:
  - Delaware week-end at the National Fire Academy has been cancelled

**National Volunteer Fire Council:** Ken McMahon stated that there were handouts from the NVFC placed in the registration packets.

**Delaware State Fire Chief's Association:** President Terry Jester brought greetings from their Association. Thanked everyone for their support this past year. Bobby Halton will be the guest speaker tonight at the Conference meeting in Cheswold. Come out and enjoy yourself.

**Delaware State Fire Police Association:** President Marty Redington was absent.

**Delaware State Emergency Medical Services Association:** President Matt Gadjos brought greetings from the State EMS Association. New Officers were installed last night. Congratulated the award winners from their program last night.

**Mutual Relief Association:** Thanked President Walius for a successful year. Advised companies to get their paperwork in when they have a claim. He explained the death benefit that Mutual Relief has and how to apply for it.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Credentials Committee:** Charlie Arnold gave the following report;

- Sussex County 19 of 21 Companies registered
- New Castle County 21 of 21 Companies registered
- Kent County 17 of 18 Companies registered

**Finance & Audit Committee:** Chairman Dan Burris stated that the budget for FY 18' has been prepared and will need to be voted on under the proper order of business.

**Life Safety Committee:** Chairman Guy Hudson stated that fire prevention is in October. Packets are out. If you have any questions, contact your County representative. Matching funds were deleted this year from the JFC budget.

**Conference Committee:** John Stevenson

- Stated that next year the Conference will be September 11- 15, 2018. There will be no EMS classes on Monday or Tuesday. Looking at the possibility of still having seminars on Tuesday.
- Wrap-up meeting will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in October in Cheswold at 6:00 pm

**Permanent Monument:** Jim Watson reported that things are moving along on this project.

### **NOMINATION OF OFFICERS**

**President:** Richard T. Perillo nominated by Chief Thomas Finacchario and seconded by DVFA Past President Charles Frampton, Jr.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Willard R. Betts, Jr. nominated by President Steve White and seconded by Assistant Chief Alex Vasquez

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Norman "Jay" Jones, Jr. nominated by Chief Andy Jones and seconded by Norman Jones, Sr.

**Secretary:** Elmer B. Steele nominated by President William Hearn and seconded by Past President Ron Scott

**Treasurer:** George J. Pyott, Jr. nominated by President Jamie Roy and seconded by Chief Josh Dempsey

**Director, Sussex County:** Ron O'Neal nominated by Richard Ward and seconded by Chris Blackburn

**Past President Director:** Joseph Zeroles. This is an automatic appointment and does not need to be nominated

*Motion by Tom DiCristofaro and second by Jim Watson to close nominations. Motion carried*

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

NONE

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- President Walius requests a motion that the Secretary cast a ballot for all uncontested offices, except for Secretary and that the Executive Manager cast a ballot for the Secretary. *Motion by Bruce Ennis and second by Tom DiCristofaro to have the Secretary cast a favorable ballot for all uncontested offices, except for Secretary and that the Executive Manager cast a ballot for the Secretary. Motion carried* Favorable ballots were cast for each office
- *Motion by Dan Burriss and second by Tom DiCristofaro to adopt the FY18' budget. Question was raised about addition money for a tax attorney. Motion by Tom DiCristofaro and second by John Hall to amend the motion by adding \$7,500.00 to pay for a tax attorney. Motion carried* Budget was adopted with the amendment
- *Motion by Jim Watson and second by Mark Gott to hire Bumpers and Associates as the new account for the DVFA. Motion carried*
- Dan Burriss discussed that while they were interviewing the 3 accountants, none of them recommended or saw a need for a forensic audit of this Association. After discussion, a motion was made by Rich Clark and second by Steven Maichle that we over-ride the previous motion that was made at the June meeting stating that we have a forensic audit done. **Motion carried**
- *Motion by Charles Arnold and second by Joe Triglia that the DVFA bestow the honor of President Emeritus Posthumously to Clayton Yocum, Sr. and that a suitable plaque be presented to his family. Motion carried*

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

### **GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION**

There being no further business to claim the attention of the members, the meeting was recessed until 8:30 AM on September 15, 2017 for the Memorial Service.

Adjourned at 1:30 PM

**The 97<sup>th</sup> Annual  
DELAWARE VOLUNTEER  
FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION  
MEMORIAL SERVICE**



**Friday, September 15, 2017 8:30 a.m.**

**Dover Downs, Rollins Center  
Dover, Delaware**

**IN MEMORY OF OUR  
FIREFIGHTERS  
AND  
LADIES AUXILIARY MEMBERS**

**OPENING REMARKS**

Grover P. Ingle, *Master of Ceremonies*

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Robert Hudson, *Chaplain, DVFA*

**CHORAL ARRANGEMENT**

DVFA & LADVFA Choir (Arr. By Heather Sorenson)  
10,000 Reasons (Words/Music by Jonas & Matt Redman)

**WORDS OF COMFORT**

Nancy Hooper, *Chaplain, Ladies Auxiliary DVFA*  
Pastor Robert Hudson, *Chaplain, DVFA*

**UNVEILING OF THE CROSSES**

Ted Walius, *President, DVFA*  
Ann Hurst, *President, Greenwood Auxiliary*  
Terry Jester, *President, State Fire Chiefs Association*  
Marty Redington, *President, State Fire Police Association*  
Matt Gajdos, *President, State Emergency Medical Services Association*

**CHORAL ARRANGEMENT**

If You Search with All Your Heart (by Craig Courtney)

**READINGS BY**

**THE LADIES AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS**

Ann Hurst, *President*, Greenwood Ladies Auxiliary  
Bobbi Albright, *President*, Auxiliary Sussex County  
Karen Gebhart, *President*, Ladies Auxiliary New Castle County  
Shirley Pennington, *President*, Kent County Volunteer Firefighter’s Auxiliary

**CHORAL ARRANGEMENT**

Remember My Song (Words/Music by Sally Albrecht & Jay Althouse)

**INTRODUCTION OF THE MEMORIAL PRESENTATION**

Karen Barlow, *Secretary*, Ladies Auxiliary DVFA  
Elmer Steele, *Secretary*, DVFA

Remembering the passing of 117 men and 42 ladies from the past year

There were 3 LADVFA Past Presidents  
AND  
There were 3 Line of Duty Deaths

**THE MEMORIAL PANORAMA**

Edited and Produced by: **Delaware State Fire School**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**TAPS**

**BENEDICTION**

Nancy Hooper, *Chaplain*, Ladies Auxiliary DVFA

**MUSICAL SELECTION**

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL PIPE AND DRUM

**RECESSIONAL**

**96<sup>th</sup> DVFA Educational/Political Luncheon**

12:00 Noon in Ball Room A/B of the Rollins Center

Call to Order and opening comments by M/C Steve Austin

Our friends from government who are with us today recognize what the fire service means to our State and I will speak for all of us in saying that we appreciate your support year after year. especially in this very tough budget environment.

Our relationship with you was no better demonstrated than by two of our former M/C’s of this event; E. Reynolds Bradley and Norman Tate. One was a D and the other an R who epitomized the DVFA relationship with our elected and appointed leadership; that being political without being partisan. This luncheon is about that relationship.

I welcome each and every one of you and thank you for your untiring support. As our Chaplain makes his way to the podium, We ask each of you to keep President Emeritus Lou Amabili in your thoughts and prayers as he recovers from some health issues at Peninsula General Hospital.

Invocation by DVFA Chaplain Blake Bowers

Leading us in the Pledge to our Flag is Past President Jim McCall who presided over this Association in 1978-79.

We have an ambitious agenda today. Soon Governor Carney will arrive to sign 2 significant bills into law that the DVFA supported during the last legislative year. The Governor and the Congressional Delegation are over cutting a ribbon on the Dover Bypass as I speak, so we will work them in as soon as they arrive.

Acknowledged the Conference luncheon committee; Ron Marvel, Warren Jones and Elmer Steele

Acknowledged our Partners in Progress who sponsor various events during the Conference  
**See full list of sponsors on the next page**

Challenge for Fallen Firefighters and DVFA Foundation from Vince Jacono and members of the DVFA Foundation. Donations in the amount of \$2,128.00 were collected during the men's luncheon. The LADVFA donated \$1,486.50 that was collected from their luncheon yesterday, making for a grand total of \$3,614.50 for the Foundation.

Remarks by Attorney General Matt Denn, so he could leave for another engagement.

Remarks from Auditor Tom Wagner

### **Introduction of Special Fire Service Guests in Attendance**

- Editor and Chief of Fire Engineering Magazine Bobby Halton
- Past Presidents DVFA
- Col McQueen and the command staff of DSP
- Chairman Dave Roberts and the members of the DE State Fire Prevention Commission
- Fire Marshal Grover Ingle and staff
- Fire School Director Biff Newnam and staff
- DEMA Director A.J Schall
- DVFA Fireman of the Year John P. Fox
- Principal Consultant-First Net AT&T Global Solutions Robert J. Walls
- First Net Solutions Ken Woods
- Cumberland Valley Firemen's Association President Hoby Howell
- Virginia Firefighter's Association 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Pete Kirby
- Maryland State Firemen's Association President Mark Bilger

Lunch was served by the Dover Downs Hotel staff at 12:15 PM

President Walius made a few comments and remarks, while welcoming everyone to the luncheon.

Introduction of Delaware Elected and Appointed Officials by Executive Manager Warren Jones

### **Introduction of Special Guest for Remarks and Presentations**

- Introduction of Head Table
- Remarks from Governor John Carney. He declared the week of October 8 to 14, 2017 as Fire Prevention week. The Governor presented Ted with his paperwork for his term as a member of the Fire Prevention Commission. Signed SB 35 and HB 265 into law
- Remarks from Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long. The Governor and Lt. Governor presented a tribute to Donald Pearson in memory of Lois.
- Remarks from Senator Tom Carper. Presented a resolution to Donald Pearson in memory of Lois.
- Remarks from Senator Chris Coons. Presented an American flag to Donald Pearson in memory of Lois. Presented an American flag to President Walius for his year of dedicated service.
- Remarks from Congresswoman Lisa Blunt-Rochester
- Remarks from Insurance Commissioner Trinnad Navaro
- Remarks from President Mark Bilger, MD State Firemen's Association

Benediction by Chaplain Blake Bowers at 2:10 PM

### **DVFA Partners in Progress**

- President's Level
  - M & T Bank
  - Delmarva Power
  - Motorola
- Deputy Chief's Level
  - Atlantic Emergency Solutions
  - PNC Bank
  - Provident Insurance
  - Delaware Electric Co-Op
- Captain's Level
  - Kent County Levy Court
  - DVFA Mutual Relief
  - Delaware City Refining
  - Delaware OEMS
  - Dover Federal Credit Union
  - Harvey, Hanna Associates
- Lieutenant's Level
  - Magnum Electronics
- Firefighter's Level
  - Graves Uniforms

Wilmington University  
WDEL/WSTW Radio  
Ferries Funeral Home  
Spicer Mullekin Funeral Home  
Doherty Funeral Home  
I.G. Burton  
Ferris Home Improvements  
Gunnip & Company  
Waste Management  
Marling's Inc.  
Bethany Travel  
Freedom Dental  
Peninsula Dental  
West Dover Dental  
Bear Glasgow Dental  
Ameriprize Financial  
Grotto's Pizza  
Mid Coast Community Bank  
Diver's Chevrolet

**DVFA/LADVFA Joint Installation**

Friday, September 15, 2017

5:00 PM in Ball Room C of the Rollins Center

M/C for the installation was Mike Rush

Stair guards were posted

Please turn off or mute all cell phones and pagers.

The following Chaplains, Officers and Escorts were introduced:

DVFA Chaplain - Blake Bowers

LADVFA Chaplain - Nancy Hooper

DVFA Installing Officer - Chief Richard J. Perillo

LADVFA Installing Officer - LADVFA Past President Ann Marie Kristopolski

LADVFA Installing Marshall - Joanne Catilino

DVFA President - Ted Walius escorted by his daughter, Rachel

LADVFA President -

DVFA President elect - Richard T. Perillo escorted by his son, Richard

LADVFA President elect - Lynn Warner escorted by her husband, Harry

DVFA First Vice-President elect - Willard R. Betts escorted by his wife, Louise

LADVFA First Vice-President elect - Penny Gentry escorted by her husband, Dennis  
DVFA Second Vice-President elect - Jay Jones escorted by Kelcie Mahr  
LADVFA Second Vice-President elect - Karen Workman escorted by LADVFA Past President Eleanor Raye Warrington  
DVFA Secretary elect - Elmer B. Steele escorted by his wife, Sandy  
LADVFA Secretary elect - Karen Barlow escorted by her husband, Ed  
LADVFA Assistant Secretary elect - Jackie Guzzo escorted by her husband, Anthony  
DVFA Treasurer elect - George Pyott escorted by his wife, Mary  
LADVFA Treasurer elect - Kim Figgs escorted by her mother, Joyce  
LADVFA Assistant Treasurer elect - Ginni Tice escorted by David Hamrick  
DVFA 3 Year Director elect - from Sussex County - Ron O'Neal escorted by his wife, Lisa  
Past President/Director - Joseph Zeroles escorted by his wife, Debbie

MC Rush thanked Warren Jones for acknowledging the loss of Virginia Yeager this year at the Opening Ceremony and thanked Mrs. Grover Ingle for stepping up and helping him with the installation.

M/C Rush requested Vice President Warner and President Walius to reconvene their respective meetings

Stair guards may be seated with their companies

Invocation given by DVFA Chaplain Blake Bowers  
Pledge to flag led by Chief Thomas Finnacchario  
LADVFA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Lynn Warner gave her final remarks and thanks on behalf of Lois  
DVFA President Ted Walius gave his final remarks and thanks

LADVFA Past President, Ann Marie Kristopolski, assisted by Joanne Catilino installed the following LADVFA officers for the year 2017-2018:

President - Lynn Warner from Talleyville Ladies Auxiliary  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President - Penny Gentry from Little Creek Auxiliary  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President - Karen Workman from Georgetown Auxiliary  
Secretary - Karen Barlow from Holloway Terrace Ladies Auxiliary  
Assistant Secretary - Jackie Guzzo from Hockessin Ladies Auxiliary  
Treasurer - Kim Figgs from Delmar Ladies Auxiliary  
Assistant Treasurer - Ginni Tice from Seaford Auxiliary

LADVFA officers were presented with their officers' pins.  
Past President's charm and necklace were presented to Lois's husband Donald

Chief Richard J. Perillo, Christiana Fire Co. installed the following DVFA officers for the year 2017-2018:

President - Richard T. Perillo from Brandywine Hundred Fire Co.  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President - Willard R. Betts, Jr. from Frederica Fire Co.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Norman "Jay" Jones from Ellendale Fire Co.  
Secretary - Elmer B. Steele from Laurel Fire Co.  
Treasurer - George J. Pyott, Jr. from Cheswold Fire Co.  
3 Year Director from Sussex County - Ron O'Neal from Millsboro Fire Co.

Past President/Director - Joseph Zeroles from Farmington Fire Co.

DVFA officers were presented with their officers' pins and were pinned by their respective spouse/escort

Past President Ted Walius was presented with his past president's pin and a plaque with gavel

LADVFA President, Lynn Warner, gave her remarks and appreciation

DVFA President, Rich Perillo, gave his remarks and appreciation

LADVFA President Lynn Warner and DVFA President Richard Perillo entertained motions to close the conference for 2017.

**MOTION** was made by Patti Kiley (Talleyville) and second by Muriel Gillespie (Carlisle) that the 2017 LADVFA conference be adjourned. **Motion carried**

**MOTION** was made by Thomas Finacchario (Brandywine Hundred) and second by Andy Jones (Ellendale) that the 2017 DVFA conference be adjourned. **Motion carried**

MC Rush recognized DVFA Executive Manager Warren Jones and thanked him for his continued hard work. He recognized Robin Hahn, widow of Pappy Hahn who was in attendance and asked everyone to keep Lou Amabili and John Fox in your thoughts and prayers.

Stair guards were requested to post their position.

Benediction was given by LADVFA Chaplain Nancy Hooper.

Adjourned at 5:45 PM

This full 2017 Conference report and proceedings are respectfully submitted by;

*Elmer B. Steele*

Elmer B. Steele, Secretary  
Delaware Vol. Firefighter's Assoc.

Attest to; Warren Jones  
Executive Manager

Ted Walius  
2017 DVFA President