50 YEARS OF SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

1954 - 2004

The Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department, the newest department in Montgomery County, began service to the citizens of the Laytonsville community in August of 1954.

Early records of the department date to early 1951, when Augustus Lee, a member of the Laytonsville Town Council, had discussions with various groups about the need for a fire department in Laytonsville. Mr. Lee asked Mr. Lewis Kibbee to make an impartial study of the existing fire service providing service to the Laytonsville area; also to look at the feasibility of establishing a fire department for Laytonsville six months later Mr. Kibbee submitted his report to Mr. Lee.

Mr. Lee was so impressed with the findings of the report which pointed out the inadequacies of fire protection in the area, began meeting with various groups to inform them of the information contained in this report. One such group met in the home of Lewis Kibbee on Feb. 28, 1952 where plans were made to implement the recommendations of his report. On March 20, 1952, a meeting of community leaders was held in the office of G. D. Armstrong Company. A permanent committee was organized with Mr. Lee as Chairman. The objectives of the committee were to develop a fire fighting unit that would make it possible for all of the property in the Laytonsville District to be classified as "Rural Protected" which would mean that the property is within four miles of a fire department approved by the Maryland Underwriters Rating Bureau as having met their requirements in training and equipment and would be qualified for the lowest possible insurance rate of a rural area. The greater part of the Laytonsville District was outside of the four mile radius of an approved fire department and carried the maximum insurance rate.

The new committee planned a public meeting for April 3, 1952 and distributed hand bills inviting the public to come and discuss the possibility of a fire department for the Laytonsville District. No formal action was taken but twenty-two people spoke in favor of a fire company and two spoke against.

Later the committee was nudged forward by being presented with a petition bearing the names of eighty property owners requesting the formation of a volunteer fire department and pledging financial support.

On May 3, 1952 the committee met with Mr. M. E. McBride of Takoma Park; chairman Mr. John Cole of Silver Spring and Mr. Joe Price of Hyattstown, a committee appointed by the Montgomery County Fire Board to assist and give advice for forming a fire company in Laytonsville. This committee promised full cooperation of the Fire Board and urged the

committee to organize as soon as possible. They also warned of possible opposition by at least two neighboring fire companies. The birthday of the Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department is May 17, 1952. It was on this date that the new fire department was organized and set to work. This meeting was chaired by Mrs. Margaret Williamson and the now famous "hat passing' took place to raise money to buy the first fire engine. There were other far reaching decisions made at this meeting of equal importance but not receiving as much notoriety.

The committee learned that the Montgomery County Council had approved the formation of a fire department in Laytonsville and that it would be made a part of the Central Alarm System that was in the process of development. The committee voted to request the County Council to set up the Laytonsville Election District as the Laytonsville Fire Tax Area. It also voted to withdraw the request of a previous committee for a five cent tax on the Laytonsville District to finance the formation of a fire department. The committee was informed that a 1930 Brockway pumper could be purchased from Hyattstown for \$100.00. That would meet county standards and be approved for the \$500.00 pumper allotment. This looked like a good business deal, so the \$100.00 was pledged and Mr. Mike Windham was directed to make the purchase. Those contributing were Mrs. Josephine Snouffer, Mr. Henry Perry, Mrs. Margaret Williamson, Mr. Mike Windham, Mr. B. Z. Kile and Mr. LaRue Evans.



Also at this meeting it was agreed that the Woodman Hall property was the most desirable place for a fire house and Mr. Mike Windham was authorized to look into the possibility of acquiring this property.

At this meeting Mr. Harrison King donated the \$50.00 fee required to obtain a Charter of Incorporation from the State of Maryland. He was directed to obtain legal services to secure this charter. For the purpose of legalizing the new corporation the following interim officers were elected: President, Mr. Mike Windham; Vice President: Mr. Harrison King; Secretary, Mr. Lewis Kibbee; Treasurer, Mrs. Josephine Snouffer; Membership Secretary, Mr. Henry Perry and Fire Chief, Mr. George Miller. Chief Miller was authorized to begin to recruit members for a training class. On May 17, 1952, all this action was taken to get the new department rolling.

In six days the new company met with Mr. Edwin Brown, Rockville Attorney, to work out the legal problems in connection with obtaining the Charter and other matters connected with getting the new company into operation. It was May 23, 1952, that the official name of the company was adopted. The name was chosen to identify the area to be served and to coincide with a bill introduced in the Montgomery County Council Legislative Session by Mr. George Nesbit and Col. Lathrop Smith to define the Laytonsville Tax area. Mr. Lewis Kibbee, Mr. Henry Perry and Mr. Harrison King were named as incorporators of the corporation and Mr. Mike Windham was named as resident agent. The Charter was issued by the State of Maryland on June 17, 1952. Mr. Edwin Brown donated his legal services in preparing the charter as well as his services for all legal work of the department until Mr. Robert Heeny became an active member in 1957. The Brockway pumper was purchased and stored in Mr. Henry Perry's garage temporarily.

As support for the new fire company grew very fast, opposition to the new department grew almost spontaneously from neighboring companies as well as citizens in the outlying sections of the district. The bill to create the tax area was defeated by the opposition and the progress in forming the new company ground to a temporary halt. The citizens opposed the new fire company because of (1) loyalty to the fire companies who had rendered service to them in the past (2) feeling that existing fire service as good enough and (3) fear of excessive property tax if the new company were to operate on a tax system.

At that time each fire department was in full control and responsible for fire protection in its own tax area which meant the new company must have a tax area in order to operate. When the bill to set up the Laytonsville tax area failed, the new department was informed by those companies controlling the area around Laytonsville that it must operate within the corporate limits of the Town of Laytonsville. Later a concession was made that the new company might be permitted to operate as far south as Dorsey Road.

The officers of the new fire department were a bit discouraged but determinedly pressed forward.

In December 1952, the members of Camp 15320 Modern Woodmen of America voted to sell their hall property to the fire department for the price of \$1.00; if it were to be used as a fire house.

In 1953, the Bank of Damascus offered to loan the fire department \$7,000.00 on a first mortgage, if the department could get title to the property and at a low rate of interest.

Mr. Spencer Brown, former Chief of Sandy Spring, offered his services as Chief.

Also in 1953 two incorporators of the fire department, Mr. Mike Windham and Mr. Harrison King, who were also Trustees of the Laytonsville School, purchased the old four room school building on written bid for the sum of \$100.00. They in turn sold the school building to Mr. Roy Barber for the price paid for the building but reserving two steel beams one foot by forty foot, the lighting system, and the complete heating plant including the boiler, radiators and oil tank. This they donated to the fire department. They also sold to G. D. Armstrong Company fuel oil out of the tank which was then donated to the fire department.

At a meeting of the officers on January 8, 1954 an inventory showed the assets of the fire company as a Brockway 1930 pumper paid for, an experienced Chief, a \$7,000.00 bank loan offered, valuable real estate and building at the corner of Howard Street and Route 108, a complete heating and lighting plant, enough steel to convert the hall building and over \$200.00 in the treasury. It was decided that the time was at hand to start moving again. Hand bills were again passed out inviting the public to attend an organizational meeting of the fire department or to send \$2.00 for charter membership dues to be held January 27, 1954 at the elementary school.

The January 27th meeting was opened with Mr. Henry Perry acting as temporary chairman. Thirty-three members were certified as being present. The first order of business was adoption of By-Laws and then the permanent officers were elected as follows: Henry Perry, President; Harrison King, Vice President; Lewis Kibbee, Secretary; LaRuse Evans, Treasurer; Charles Barber, Sergeant of Arms and Spencer Brown, Chief. The Executive Board elected was Edwin Fry, Samuel Riggs, Mike Windham, John McNaughton and Washington White. In other actions of the first regular meeting was that the February meeting was the last time for charter membership. Meetings are to be held on the fourth Wednesday, the Executive Committee was authorized to take out fire insurance on the hall property and voted to make Sandy Spring an offer of \$1,200.00 for a Diamond T pumper and radio.

The Charter membership was closed with 99 members and at the March meeting a Ladies Auxiliary was authorized and dues that were collected from the Ladies were turned over to them.

In May of 1954, the department renewed its request for a Fire Tax area for operational purposes, this time for all of the Laytonsville Election District with the exception of that area north of Annapolis Rock Road but received only a portion of that asked for. The area granted to the Laytonsville Department consisted of the Town of Laytonsville and surrounding agricultural land.

On July 17th, a dedication of the building and cornerstone laying was held with county fire and government officials and friends of the department in attendance. Refreshments were served by the Ladies Auxiliary for the occasion. By that time two stalls had been completed to house the two pumpers that had been placed in service. The first building fire responded to by the department as an operating unit was to a chimney fire on the A. W. Hines farm.

Of the \$7,000.00 borrowed from the Bank of Damascus \$4,250.00 was spent alone on brick work to transform a community "eye sore" to an attractive building. After the dedication a door to door canvas was started to raise funds to complete the construction work on the fire house and to pay for the second pumper. The public was appreciative of the work being preformed by the department and contributed generously. The company adopted, from the start, the practice of pay as you go financing. No further borrowing was necessary to complete this work.

In 1954 as part of their fund raising effort the department adopted a motto "When seconds count, count on us".

In May of 1954 through the efforts of Nelson Whipp and Spencer Brown and with the concurrence of the Sandy Spring Fire Department, Councilman Wilbur Baughman introduced and was able to get passed a bill which enlarged the Tax Area to the East to include the community of Unity and other land to the Election District line. Repeated efforts to further enlarge the fire tax area have failed.

Early in 1955 the G. D. Armstrong Company donated a 2000 gallon tractor-trailer for use as a water carrier to fires. This introduced a new concept in rural fire fighting and added greatly to the prestige of the department. The Squad truck was sold to make room for Tank truck.

In June of 1955, as part of the fund raising effort, Laytonsville had a carnival at the rear of the fire house on Howard Street. The Ladies Auxiliary had a dinner in the fire house at the same time. Also, in 1956 the department and the auxiliary repeated the carnival and dinner. Then it was decided this would be the last time to hold these events.

In early 1956 proposals were made to change the standards for pumpers to quality for the \$1,500.00 truck allotment which would have disqualified all three pieces owned by the department. Fortunately this proposal failed when investigation revealed that this was directed at Laytonsville. Fearing the possible loss of revenue the department used its tax levy power to set a ten cent tax rate on the property in the tax area and appointed a committee to make plans for a new pumper.

In the summer of 1957, a new Underwriters approved pumper was purchased and placed in service. This was a 1957 Ford American LaFrance. The Diamond T was sold. Up to this time the company used obsolete and unreliable equipment in order to operate within its income, but was fortunate in that during this period adequate protection was provided without casualties, major breakdown or gross failure.

Up until this time many training classes were held to get the department members trained for fire fighting and first aid. Chief Spencer Brown, Nelson Whipp, Vincent Napoli and William Berry were some of the instructors working for the Maryland Fire Service Extension of the University of Maryland. On August 23, 1958, the department was approved as having met their minimum requirements in training and equipment by the Maryland Fire Underwriters Rating Bureau and immediately all property in the district was reclassified as "Rural Protected" and insurance premiums were reduced by about seven per cent. This was the major objective of those who worked many years to get the company organized. Now approved equipment and trained men were only minutes away. The company owes a debt of gratitude to those who helped so much; some of whom were County Councilman George Nesbit, Col. Lathrop Smith and Wilbur Baughman; Edwin Brown, Rockville Attorney; the Modern Woodmen of America, Spencer Brown, G. D. Armstrong Company; members of the Sandy Spring Fire Department and the many citizens of the community.



In early 1959, a Diamond T pumper was purchased from Gaithersburg-Washington Grove Fire Department and placed in service just before the field fire season which was very bad that year. This was a great improvement as it could pump while in motion. This truck replaces "Minnie" our first pumper. Minnie is still owned by the company and is in custody of a committee of Charter members. To the charter members Minnie is a symbol of the long hours of hard work that went into starting this company.



In 1960, engine 173 a field fire truck was purchased and placed in service. This vehicle was a 1959 International Truck with a front mount pump by American Barton. This truck has proved its worth time and again in off road travel and today is unmatched in that type of performance. This truck replaced the Mack pumper which was donated from Rockville to Laytonsville. The pumper was donated to the Leading Creek Fire Department in Kerens, West Virginia. Rev. Gilbert Hart drove the Mack from Laytonsville on a cold, snowy night to West Virginia. The Mack was used from 1960-1963; then sold to Weston Fire Department in West Virginia and used until 1965. Then the Mack was sold to Pricetown, West Virginia and used until 1969. In November of 1972, Robert Moxley purchased the Mack; brought it back to Montgomery County; restored it and is still the owner.





The department realized the need for an ambulance service in Laytonsville and in 1960 purchased a used Cadillac from the Navy District at the Soldiers Home of Washington, D. C. Up until the fire department started ambulance service the Roy Barber Funeral Home provided this service. American Red Cross classes were taught to members to qualify to ride the ambulance. On March 6, 1961 this ambulance was placed in service fully equipped with trained personnel.



In1961 a 2600 gallon used Autocar Tank truck was purchased to replace the tractor trailer tanker. This was an improvement as the straight wheel truck could negotiate the unimproved roads and driveways better.



In 1962, a new ambulance fund was set up in memory of Harlan Sell's son who was a drowning victim. The need for a more mechanically reliable ambulance was recognized as the number of rescue calls received was increasing.



The new ambulance was purchased and placed in service in early 1963. Also in 1963 additional land was purchased and an addition of two more stalls was added to the building. The oldest part of the fire house was also remodeled. New paint, repairs; etc. This is the first time since 1955 that all of the company's equipment is housed in one building. This addition was fully paid for when completed. All of the equipment owned by the department is fully paid for. The \$7,000.00 mortgage on the property remains to be paid off. The practice of meeting each financial obligation before assuming others has enabled the department to meet its commitments.

The department began 1964 with three pumpers, (two of which were purchased new) an ambulance and a tank truck in service. Also in early 1964, a committee was authorized to begin to make plans to purchase a third new pumper. This committee is headed by Mr. Lewis Kibbee who has headed up the purchase of all the company's new equipment.



In September of 1964, the Laytonsville department was host to the Montgomery County Volunteer Firemen's Association Convention. The Convention was a huge success especially showing off our newly renovated building.

1965 started quiet and all was going well.

Suddenly, on February 4, 1965 disaster struck at 11:40 a.m. The fire house was on fire. Disbelief was the word of the day.



Mr. Harrison King, Nelson Whipp, Mowatt Windham, Francis Barber, Bill Alley and many, many more frantically tried in vain to get the apparatus out. Many calls were made to the dispatch center to report the fire.

The neighboring departments, that didn't want the department to take tax area from them in 1952, came to our rescue and fought courageously to save anything they could. Nothing!!! Gaithersburg Washington-Grove, Damascus, Sandy Spring, Rockville, and Kensington did all they could.

The evening of February 4, 1965 was very busy. The first donations were coming in. G. D. Armstrong being the first followed by the Gaithersburg Little League. Sirens and telephone lines were being installed at Charles Pickett's Garage and G. D. Armstrong's storage building so we could house apparatus being offered from many sources. Gaithersburg Washington-Grove offered a reserve ambulance and Sandy Spring offered a pumper affectionately known as "Pearl". By 8:00 p.m., February 4, 1965 the Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department was declared by the County Dispatch Center as being back in service.

At 8:00p.m., February 4, 1965, a fire department meeting was called to order by President Ulysses Griffith in the hall of the St. Paul United Methodist Church to set an agenda to regroup and set goals to replace the fire house and equipment.

Mr. Pat Richards was to head a fund raising campaign to raise funds to rebuild. Mr. Charles Johnson was asked to head the Building Committee. Chief Jack Barnsley was to head up the replacement of apparatus.

Mr. John Stann, an architect, was retained to draw plans for a new building. Later he donated his time to this effort.

Contacts were made to find a suitable location for the new fire house as the property at Laytonsville Road and Howard Avenue were not large enough to meet county requirements. The Fulks family came forward and offered property to the department.

The Apparatus Committee met at Mr. Frank Kimble's house to set a plan of action. One pumper was already on order and should be delivered by late May or June. The committee felt the department needed 2 pumpers, tanker and ambulance in order to provide immediate service to the community. It was decided at a later meeting to add a brush jeep to the equipment. The department voted to purchase a second pumper per the specs, of the one already on order. An ambulance would be the same as the one lost in the fire except it would have a raised roof and extended length. The tanker would be a 1500 gallon tank on Ford chassis with a front mounted pump. The pump was the one that burned in the fire and was rehabilitated by Glenn D. Culbert Company to be used on the new tanker. The brush jeep would be a J-5 Jeep with 100 gallons of water.



After a few months apparatus was ordered; the plans were approved for the building and the property was acquired.

Beltway Builders was chosen as the contractor. In an effort to save money James Snyder, Edward Smith, George Geisbert and many others donated their time to install the electrical and sound systems in the new building. Mr. Charles Johnson donated his time to paint the building.



On March 13th 1966, the department took possession of the new firehouse at 21400 Laytonsville Road and housed a 1965 Ford pumper for the first time. This was a very joyful day. The work continued to finish the fire house and be ready for the upcoming dedication.











Used Civil Defense Tanker, Then purchased from Cabin John Park V.F.D.



On Saturday, October 15, 1966, at 2:00p.m., the new Laytonsville District Volunteer Fire Department building was dedicated. Senator Gilbert Gude presented the department with a United States flag that had flown over the Nation's Capitol. Senator James Clark of Maryland presented a Maryland Flag that had flown over the Maryland Capitol. Comptroller Louis L. Goldstein gave the address.

1966 saw the delivery of a new ambulance, a second pumper, tank wagon and a brush truck

In 1967, the Laytonsville Department put together a tug of war team and a hook-up team to compete at local contests. Montgomery, Prince Georges, Ann Arundel Counties all had competitions. At first we were not very competitive but as time went on and more practices took place the team began to make others realize that Laytonsville was a team to be taken seriously.

The team won many contests and in 1981 at Wheaton Plaza for the Montgomery County Convention, Laytonsville posted, for the first time ever, a 12 second time. The record still stands today.

The tug of war team pulled for over twenty years in competition and never lost.

The Ladies Auxiliary also had a hook-up team and a tug of war team. The ladies teams also won many contest and were also a team for others to fear.

The ladies Auxiliary put together a marching unit to march in the many parades which they attended... Ocean City at the Maryland State Firemen's Convention was always a big event for the department and the ladies marching unit.

In the summer of 1968, Washington, D. C. became over run by rioters following the shooting death of Dr.Martin Luther King Jr. Laytonsville was dispatched to meet with units of the Upper Montgomery Fire Department in Rockville to transfer to the Glen Echo Fire Department. Before Engine 172 and Engine 142 and Chief 14 left Rockville our units were changed to #20 Engine Company in Washington, D. C. For the next eight hours our units were dispatched to many areas in Washington to fight fires and help to calm down the situation. Our units returned to quarters at approximately 8:00a.m. Those responding from Laytonsville were Chief Glenn Darnell, Rev. Richard Thompson, George Kimble, James Snyder, Nelson Ballenger and Stanley Snouffer.

Many changes were taking place in the Fire and Rescue Service in the early 1970's. The Length of Service Awards Program was approved by the County Council and County Executive James Gleeson. He and Chief Marvin Gibbons worked to make this program the first in the nation. It provided income to volunteer personnel who had contributed 25 years or more of service to the community. Accredited time was grandfathered for those who had service before 1972 and a point system after 1972. A person must be 60 years of age to collect the monetary benefit.

American Red Cross Training was being phased out and replaced by the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Training through the State of Maryland Health and Mental Hygiene

Department. Those already having American Red Cross Training were allowed to take a written and practical exam and if they passed successfully they were grandfathered in as EMT's.

In 1973, Edna Cummings made application to join the fire department. The By-Laws at that time read "To be a member of the fire department a person must be a white male of good moral character". After a long period of time the By-Laws were finally amended to remove the offensive language. Edna wanted to join the fire department to be an EMT. She finally was processed to join the department but failed to get 2/3 vote of the membership to become a member.

In late 1974, Joyce Bowles made application in join the department. After processing the application she was voted in as an EMS member; thus becoming the first female member of the fire department.

In 1974 all training for the Fire and Rescue Service shifted to the Public Service Training Academy on Darnestown Road.

On May 11, 1974 four members of Laytonsville were presented with the Dr. Buppert Award by the Maryland State Ambulance and Rescue Association for Life Saving. The award was presented to C. Murphy Richards, Bob Hagman, Wayne Biddinger and James Snyder for an auto accident at Hawkins Creamery Road and Route 108 when a person was treated and transported to the hospital with a broken neck and multiple other fractures and lacerations. The patient survived and had very little permanent results.

On January 1, 1975, Lawrence Gaddis was hired as the first career firefighter in Laytonsville at the rank of Sergeant. The call load had become more than the volunteers could handle in the day light hours. Later Wayne Shaw was hired along with Roger Williamson. A large part of their job was fire prevention and making maps of Laytonsville's first due area. Mapping was a big part of the growing fire service and call load. Locating addresses, ponds and remote locations was a full time job. Preplans and building inspections were all a part of the job.

Rev. Richard Thompson and Marshall Smith became the first Cardiac Rescue Technicians for our department. They both served not only Laytonsville, but the entire County. They both rode on Medic 3 out of Station 3 in Rockville to be able to get their required skills.

While serving at Rockville Marshall Smith was riding as a second CRT on Medic 3 when at the intersection of Old Georgetown Road and Democracy Boulevard the Medic Unit was involved in an accident. The unit overturned onto its side and Marshall was critically injured. His partner was killed in the accident. Marshall was hospitalized for many weeks and really never fully recovered from his injuries.

Rev. Thompson was first in his class at the Training Academy and has the distinct honor of having his name on the Rev. Richard Thompson Memorial Award for those EMT's finishing first in their respective classes.

On June 18, 1978, Clarence Copeland was accepted to membership in the department as a cadet firefighter. Clarence was the first African-American to join the department. He soon made

his presence known; in training, and interest in the fire service. When he turned eighteen years old he became an active member and continued to be very active and was one of the top responders year after year. He became a career firefighter/EMT in Montgomery County at Hillandale Volunteer Fire Department where he continues to serve today.

In 1978, Laytonsville saw the need for a large more diverse Engine-Tanker and set to work to draw specs for a truck. Mr. Lewis Kibbee a member of the department and a truck engineer wrote the specs based on many committee meetings and discussions with the officers and finally ordered a Chevrolet Bison Chassis and a Grumman Fire Body with 2100 gallons of water and 1000GPM midship pump. This gave Laytonsville two large tankers to service the area.



In 1979, the County Law was changed to have a Fire-Rescue Commission to be responsible for setting policies which the Fire-Rescue Service would operate. James Snyder was appointed to the Commission by County Executive Charles Gilchrist James served on the Commission until 1986 and served as the Chairman in 1985.

In 1980, at the Maryland State Firemen's Association Convention in Ocean City, Chief James Snyder was awarded the Maryland State Fireman of the Year Award. He was nominated by President Charles Richards, Sr. and the membership of Laytonsville.

In 1980, Laytonsville received a 1979 Autocar-3D pumper from Montgomery County. This was the second pumper purchased by Montgomery County as part of apparatus to be owned by the County.



In 1980, Laytonsville replaced a 1974 Chevrolet Utility Truck. The department then converted this unit to a Special Unit; it was designed to carry special equipment needed for auto accidents, water rescues and building fires. The unit also carried a cascade unit to fill air bottles at the scene. We later fitted the unit for air for trench rescue and the under water rescue team for the county.

In 1984, the 1966 Ford Tanker was replaced by a 1984 Ford with a Four Guys body with 1500 gallons of water and 750 GPM front mounted pump. The old tanker was sold.



The department purchased a new 1984 Ford Chassis with a 12' body to replace the special unit. It was equipped with a 25KW generator and lights, a cascade system for filling bottles, an oxygen system on board to give oxygen to 6 persons at a time, 2 Hurst tools, gas and electric and mounted hose reel for each. Much other equipment was also included on this vehicle. After much discussion with the County and our department it was decided that the unit would become Rescue Squad 17. This Squad served the County well until 1995 when it was turned over to the County as a Reserve Squad. A new Rescue Squad was purchased by the volunteers of Laytonsville in 1995.



The new Rescue Squad is on a 1994 Peter-Bilt chassis and a Rescue Master Body. Many heavy rescue tools have been added to this squad and today it is one of the best equipped squads in the County.



In 2001, the volunteers purchased an Engine-Tanker with a Spartan Chassis and a 4 Guys Body. This unit replaced the 1984 tanker, which was sold.



On September 11, 2001, the United States was shaken by a terrorist attack. Terrorists flew two jet liners into the World Trade Center in New York City and one jet liner into the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia.

Personnel from Laytonsville responded to New York to assist at ground zero and spent many hours at their stations at ground zero. The following members responded to New York were: Stanely (Buddy) Sutton, Ryan Gaskell, Chad Aloi, Luke Hodgson, Travis Duggan and Steve Casey.

Personnel also went to the Pentagon and assisted at ground zero there. Again Laytonsville personnel responded to an emergency to perform their duties as necessary. Those that responded were: Curtis Warfield, Mike Rabaiotti, Kevin Shaw, Tom Twigg, Jim Magruder and Tom Musgrove.

In 2003, the volunteers purchased a new brush truck on a Ford Chassis. This unit replaced a County owned brush unit.



April 3, 2004, we celebrate 50 years of "Service to the Community" at the Turf Valley Country Club and Resort.

PAST CHIEFS

PAST PRESIDENTS

Organizing Chairman - Margaret

Williamson

Charter Interim Officer - George Miller

Spencer J. H. Brown, Sr.
Mowatt Windham
Jonathan Barnsley
James Snyder
Glenn Darnell
John Ayton
George Kimble

Charles Murphy Richards, Jr.

J. B. Kline

Thomas Musgrove Harry Webb

Rev. Richard Thompson

Ronald Kile

Kenny Van Hoesen 2004

Charter Interim Officer - Mike Windham

Henry Perry
Oden Hansen
Lewis Kibbee
Francis Barber
Charles Richards, Sr.
Ralph Symmes
James Snyder
Raymond Curtis
Thomas Twigg
Gary Bowles
Stanley Sutton Jr.
Veronica Mariana 2004

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE LADIES AUXILIARY

Josephine Snouffer

Beatrice Doody

Alice Perry

Margaret Montgomery

Jean Kibbee

Velma Oland

Irene Howes

Mary Francis (Sis) Richards

Ruth Bennett

Phyllis Kimble

Alice Perry

Bunny Montgomery

Pat Symmes

Lois Snyder

Margaret Musick

Joanne Richards Lisa Bowles Meredith Smith 2004

Compiled by:

James Snyder Lois Snyder Harry Faith Brenda Faith Curtis Warfield Jr.

Photo credits:

Roger Lamborne James Snyder Dale Johnson Curtis Warfield Jr. Montgomery County Fire Marshal's office

Special thanks to Greg Desoto for his technical help. Thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary for providing information. Thanks to all the membership and friends for providing information.