

# The Western Gazette

August 2020

Volume 31 Number 4

A Publication of the Western Pennsylvania Firemen's Association Secretary's Office  
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Larry D. Abel  
President

John Charles Tedorski  
Executive Director - Secretary

## Meeting Notice

The next Western Meeting will be:

**Sunday August 9, 2020  
9 a.m.**

**Lower Burrell VFW Pavilion  
Westmoreland County**

**Physical Address:  
1601 Wildlife Lodge Road  
Lower Burrell, PA 15068**

From the Pennsylvania Turnpike take Exit 48 Allegheny Valley. Take Rt. 28 North to Exit 14 and follow PA 366 East towards Tarentum. Cross the bridge and follow through three lights to the Taco Bell. Go straight through this intersection and follow to bottom of hill. Bear left and go over the overpass, which will loop you around onto Route 56. Follow Route 56 to the second traffic light and make a right. The VFW will be on your left.

## Annual Convention Cancelled One Day Conference for Business Meetings to be held Sunday, August 9, 2020

At a special Board of Control meeting on June 20, 2020, the board approved cancelling the annual convention and holding a one-day conference to conduct business necessary at our annual meeting. The usual banquets, sporting events, and parade associated with convention were cancelled for the year. The changes were made due to the uncertain nature of the regulations related to large group gatherings in the commonwealth.

Because the business shutdown orders enacted in March which impacted normal operations, the board also approved the following:

**Dues Collection:** Will continue as outlined in the bylaws, (Dues Due by July 31) however, no late fees will be imposed until December 31, 2020. Companies and individuals not paid by January 31, 2021, will be dropped from the rolls.

**Scholarship Reimbursement:** The deadline to apply for reimbursement, which is normally May 30, is extended until September 30, 2020.

**Scholarship Applications:** Were accepted until July 15. Scholarship winners will be notified by mail of their award. They will not be asked

to attend the annual meeting.

**Fire Prevention Contest Winners:** Will be forwarded to the local fire department of the winner. The fire department can schedule a small ceremony locally, with an officer of the association attending to congratulate the winner.

**Awards Nominations:** Will be accepted for valor and fire prevention only this year. Those nominations already received for Service Awards will be retained and considered by the Awards Committee next year. The McEntire Award will also not be presented this year. The deadline for awards applications was extended to July 15.

**Annual Memorial Service:** The annual memorial service, normally held at convention, will be combined with the service next year, with all those to be honored this year included in the ceremony next year.

Related to the one day conference, the schedule presented on Page 2 of this newsletter was approved by the Board of Control. A committee of Past President Shank, Past President Harris, and First Vice President Davis was appointed to find a location and caterer for the event. They obtained the pavilion at Lower Burrell VFW, which will allow us to meet under roof but outside.

This publication was delayed as long as possible to monitor the ever-changing regulations related to group gatherings in the commonwealth. At the time of this publication, outdoor events are permitted to have up to 250 attendees. That will make the event fit within the state guidelines for outdoor events. If the status of state guidance on events changes, the event will be postponed.

## RESERVATIONS FOR THE LUNCHEON MUST BE MADE BY AUGUST 2, 2020.

Please RSVP by emailing [office@wpfa.org](mailto:office@wpfa.org) (Preferred)  
or by calling 724-339-1017.

**Dues cards for 100% companies will be available at the annual meeting.  
Cards not picked up at the meeting will be mailed the following week.  
Individual Members who have not paid dues may pay them at the annual  
meeting or will be mailed a dues notice after the meeting.**

### 2020 Annual Meeting Schedule Information

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|--|---|
| 1. CAUCUS MEETING <b>9:00 AM</b>   | 25. TOPIC & EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE                               |
| 2. CALL TO ORDER <b>9:30 AM OR IMMEDIATELY AFTER CAUCUS MEETING</b>        | 26. FIRE PREVENTION COMMITTEE                                   |
| 3. OPENING PRAYER BY CHAPLAIN  | 27. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  |
| 4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG  | 28. SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE                                       |
| 5. ADDRESS OF WELCOME  | 29. MEMORIAL COMMITTEE  |
| 6. RESPONSE FROM THE ASSOCIATION   | 30. SPORTS COMMITTEE  |
| 7. ADDITIONAL REMARKS OF WELCOME   | 31. PARADE COMMITTEE  |
| 8. NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE  | 32. AWARDS COMMITTEE  |
| 9. APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION BOARD   | 33. FINANCE & INVESTMENT COMMITTEE                              |
| 10. RECESS AND LUNCHEON: (ONE HOUR)  | 34. BY-LAWS COMMITTEE   |
| 11. <b>ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS (12:00 NOON TO 1:00 PM OR ONE HOUR)</b> | 35. CORRESPONDENCE  |
| 12. RECONVENE & CALL TO ORDER  | 36. PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS                                  |
| 13. ROLL CALL  | 37. REPORT OF ELECTION BOARD                                    |
| 14. ELECTION RESULTS   | 38. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS                                    |
| 15. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-SECRETARY'S REPORT                                  | 39. PRESIDENT'S TROPHY PRESENTATION TO IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT |
| 16. TREASURER'S REPORT   | 40. NEW BUSINESS  |
| 17. BILLS  | 41. GOOD OF ASSOCIATION   |
| 18. FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT  | 42. CLOSING BY CHAPLAIN   |
| 19. SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT   | 43. ADJOURNMENT (SINE DIE)                                      |
| 20. THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT  | 44. RE-ORGANIZATION OF BOARD OF CONTROL                         |
| 21. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  | 45. APPROVAL OF CONVENTION PAYMENTS                             |
| 22. LAW & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  | 46. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES FOR 2020-2021                     |
| 23. AUDITING COMMITTEE   | 47. ADJOURNMENT   |
| 24. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE  |   |

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