

# THE DALLAS POST

Covering The Back Mountain  
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Don Shaffer 'roasted'

## Dallas Fire and Ambulance, Inc. installs officers



### It was a good time!

The Dallas Fire and Ambulance, Inc. held its annual installation of officers Saturday night at Irem Temple Country Club. The organization also used the evening as a time to make presentations and as an opportunity to "Roast Don Shaffer," who retired this year after serving the organization as fire chief for the past 17 years. Shown here are some scenes from Saturday night's affair. In the top left photo, Lynn Sheehan, left, assistant fire chief and master of ceremonies, introduces Shaffer. Bill Shaffer provides younger brother, Don, with a rather embarrassing moment as Bill participates in the "roasting" part of the program in the top center photo. A former ambulance member, Shaffer is given back his old ambulance jacket from Wega, ambulance chief, in the top right photo. Wega also presented the retiring fire chief with a membership application to the ambulance so Shaffer will have something to do with all the free time he now has. In the lower

left photo, Brett Slocum, fire captain, receives a certificate for completion of a fire instructors' course from Shaffer. Looking on are Bob Besecker, left, newly-installed fire chief, and Jim Wills, of the Columbia Fire Department, Kingston, state fire instructor. Slocum, who injured his foot playing on the fire department volleyball team, has arrived at the last two fires on crutches. Shaffer displays a watch presented to him from the corporation as Bob Richardson, president, looks on in the top center photo in the bottom row while the bottom center photo depicts Bill Ward receiving an award for serving the fire company for 20 years. In the bottom right photo, Shaffer is speechless after learning the association members had taken a collection and presented him with a 14-foot fishing boat as a retirement gift. Master of ceremonies Lynn Sheehan, extreme right, who promised Shaffer he would be speechless at the end of the evening, enjoys every minute of Shaffer's speechlessness.

Dallas Post/Glenn S. Bodish

## Dodson conducts installation; presentations made

Newly-elected officers of the Dallas Fire and Ambulance, Inc. were installed Saturday evening in a ceremony conducted at the Irem Temple Country Club. The business meeting followed a cocktail hour and dinner. Music for dancing was provided by "Sheer Energy."

Those officers installed included Robert Richardson,

president; Timothy Carroll, vice-president; Lynn A. Sheehan, secretary; Paul Labar, treasurer; Edwin Roth, William Bailer, William Ward, Donald Bulford and Donald Shaffer, directors.

Also, Jack Wega, ambulance chief; Frank Michael, assistant ambulance chief; Larry Carson, crew captain; Robert Besecker, fire chief; Thomas Doughton,

first assistant chief.

Also, Donald Bulford, Michael Burns, Lynn Sheehan, assistant chiefs; Brett Slocum, captain; Francis Barry Jr., Frank Morgan and Christopher Purcell, engineers.

Jack Dodson, chief of the Kunkle Fire Department, served as installing officer and con-

ducted the ceremonies.

The association also conducted a "Roast Don Shaffer" program as Shaffer retired this year after serving 17 years as fire chief. Shaffer, who has been a member of the association for 34 years, was installed as a member of the board of directors during the installation ceremonies.

Upon his retirement as fire chief, Shaffer was presented with a watch and the retiring chief's badge from the corporation. That presentation was made by Robert Besecker, newly-installed fire chief. Shaffer was also presented with a 14-foot fishing boat as a retirement gift from the members of the association.

Several other presentations were made during the evening as attendance awards were made and 32 members of the association were presented with certificates of attainment for completing a 45-hour course in the fundamentals of fire fighting.

## Changes may be made — IF governor's plan passes

By JANE C. BOLGER  
Staff Correspondent

There could be a number of changes locally if Governor Thornburgh's plan to do away with State Liquor Stores and turn the selling of alcoholic beverages over to private industry is approved. Eventually, beer and wine could be sold in supermarkets, butcher markets or any grocery store having an average monthly inventory of \$1,500 in foodstuffs. There would also be specialty wine stores while liquor would be sold at competitive prices in private stores whose owners had obtained the franchises by high bid.

This could all happen over a predetermined five year period if the governor's plan is endorsed by the State House and Senate. Locally, however, there seems to be a definite feeling that the votes to change the system are just not there.

"I don't think it's going to pass," said Shavertown beer distributor Andy Roan. "Milton Shapp tried twice and Thornburgh's tried before."

John Baur Sr. of Dallas, former president of the Independent Association of State Liquor Control Board Employees, went even further back noting, "Governor Pinchot set up the system in 1933 and the very next year, George Earl tried to knock it out." Baur recalled "at least another 10 times since" during his 35-year career with the L.C.B. that attempts were made "to dump the State Stores" and none ever succeeded.

"This is the biggest effort ever

made," conceded Baur referring to the governor's latest proposal. "But I don't think it will pass."

A pamphlet from the governor's office currently being widely circulated cites, among the reasons for the change, "complaints about poor selection, inconvenient locations and illogical price policies."

"We could have one of the lowest prices in the country if it wasn't for the Uniform Mark Up...enacted three years ago by the General Assembly as a 'temporary' tax that was supposed to only last two years, but has

continued ever since and has now been raised to 18 percent," stated Baur. "Pennsylvania is the single largest purchaser of alcoholic beverages in the world," he added.

"And, as such, should have been able to get a discount for quantity purchases but that was forbidden by other legislation at the national level."

Selection, Baur felt, was being helped by "self-service which is already past the halfway mark in the 725 stores in the state." He speculated that, "We might see more changes, stores like Boscov's, that handle selected wines and brandies that you can't buy in Dallas."

Another possible change that could come about, presumably through compromise, is possible outlets in sections that have no service. Baur used Noxen as an example, where customers now have to travel to State Stores in Tunkhannock or Dallas. It would be

possible to have controlled outlets in grocery stores or butcher shops.

The figures cited by the governor's office — during the past three years net profits have declined 42 percent — are given as another reason for the transition because the liquor system could well go into the red and require taxpayer subsidies to operate. On the other hand, Baur contends, "If the system goes, 4,000 state employees will be out of work and collecting Workman's Compensation from the state and therefore, from the people."

To date, no one locally has applied for a permit to go into the liquor business, according to Dallas Township Zoning Officer Leonard Kozick.

"A few people are asking questions about it, wondering whether stores will be put out for bid," Kozick said, adding, "No way is it going to happen. It won't pass."



Dallas Post/Ed Campbell

### Library picnic

Auctioneers of the Back Mountain Memorial Library held their Second Annual Mid-Winter Picnic recently at Irem Temple Country Club. Shown here at the affair are, from left, first row, Harriet Parker, Mickey Aicher, Janel Conlon, Charlotte Oley and Marilyn Rudolph. Second row, Cliff Parker, Nancy Kozemchak, Craig Aicher, Nancy Eckert, Gerry Fritzes, Larry Helman and Moana Helman.

### Post awarded Blue Ribbon

The Dallas Post has been notified of its designation as a National Blue Ribbon Newspaper by the National Newspaper Foundation of Washington, D.C.

The announcement was made by Vernon R. Spitaleri, president, National Newspaper Foundation, upon the newspaper's successful completion of the National Blue Ribbon Evaluation.

The evaluation is an assessment by a panel of newspaper people of the newspaper based on the high standards of community journalism.

In making the announcement, Spitaleri said The Dallas Post has "been given the Blue Ribbon designation in recognition of the alert, progressive and community-minded newspaper you publish."

### DER visits here

The Pennsylvania Department of Revenue will be at the Kingston Township Municipal Building, 11 Carverton Road, Trucksville on Friday, March 16, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

They will provide the residents of Kingston Township with assistance in the areas of Pennsylvania Personal Property Income Tax and the Property Tax or Rent Rebate Program.

Residents are requested to bring all necessary documentation with them in order to complete these forms.

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