

TURN OUT



*Next Stop:
The Lone Star State*

TURN OUT

The Official Newsletter of the IFBA

Published Twice Yearly—Spring and Fall

**The purpose of the IFBA is
“To serve as a common ground for Fire Buffs, active in
promoting the general welfare of Fire Departments, allied
emergency services, their officers and members.”**

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Subscription Information

Turn Out is available free of charge via internet website at www.ifba.org. You may download and print each edition free; however, you may not sell or otherwise profit from selling printed copies.

Those individuals or clubs wishing a printed copy of *Turn Out* in lieu of obtaining through the website should contact Jim Williamson for additional information and pricing.

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Submission Policy

Turn Out has an “open submission” policy. We encourage immediate submission of stories on fires and events “when they happen.” More than one submission per issue is welcomed and encouraged.

Authors are strongly encouraged to submit articles electronically to the e-mail address noted below. As an alternative, articles may be submitted on CD or disk, or as a last alternative, in written form.

Electronic files should be prepared using a major word processing program, such as *Word* or *WordPerfect*. You may always submit an article in “text” format also.

Pictures should be digitized at 300 dpi resolution to allow for sizing. **All photographs must be captioned** and acknowledge the photographer. Of course, photos should be sharp and clear. Full color photos are encouraged.

Once submitted, all articles and pictures become the property of *Turn Out*.

Deadlines

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Cover photos courtesy of Box 4 Dallas.

Roman Kaminski memorial (inside back cover) by Bill Webb, Executive Director, Congressional Fire Services Institute.

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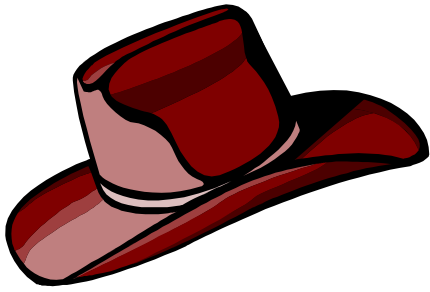
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Presidential Notes ... from under a 10 gallon hat

I am humbled and awe struck to serve as your President for 2013-2014, I will try to work hard for you. My goals for my term are:

- To hold a great convention in Dallas in 2014
- Turn the IFBA over to the next President in as good or better shape than when I found it
- To suggest improvements to improve communication and our fellowship in order for us to keep buffing strong and growing.

Turnout is a wonderful tool in our bag of tools to talk to one another, to learn from each other, and to hear about great activities. I have asked the Board and each club to submit an article to Turnout to tell us about your world. The article does not have to be long, it doesn't have to qualify for the Pulitzer Prize, it only has to let us know you and your clubs are alive and kicking.

To build our fellowship I encourage you to network with your fellow buffs. Call a friend or another club to touch base. Encourage buffs that you know, who may not know they are buffs to participate in IFBA clubs or activities. Let buffs know there are other people out there in the world who are like them and who like them. Let's be a fellowship builder and an encourager. If you are an IFBA Board member or a club member, make the effort to increase the number of buffs. Don't let buffing die.

I notice that my telephone here at home is no longer a crank telephone on the wall that is a shared party line. Let's use some tools that will build our fellowship. Some things you might be using now can be used by your club or your region or you to spread the word and build our fellowship. These items include the internet, a talk group, internet blog, Facebook or Twitter.

Encourage your club or region to:

- Have a webpage
- Have a Facebook page
- Have a Twitter account

Box 4 has entered the social network era and we have a site on Facebook and on Twitter in addition to our web site at www.box4.org.

We are on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Box4Firebuffs Find us and press the Like button.

On Twitter you can find us by searching for @Box4Firebuffs

I am on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WallyBanks Please find my page and press the friends button.

We look forward to seeing you all in Dallas on September 2nd.

Wally Banks



Dallas Box 4 invites all Fire Buffs to come to Dallas to join us at the 2014 IFBA Convention.

Our hotel is the Doubletree by Hilton at Campbell Center at Caruth Haven and N. Central Expressway.

September 3-6, 2014

- **Great Rates:** \$119 + tax per night
- **Free Self Parking**
- **Free Breakfast** for 2 per room per day
- **Lunch Buffet** only \$11
- **Free Shuttle** within a 3 mile radius.
- **Shoulder rates 3 days before and 3 days after our convention**

We have developed a tentative contention schedule for your consideration.

Tuesday September 2

3 pm	Registration Networking at Hotel Hospitality Room
7 pm	Executive Board Meeting Networking at Hotel Hospitality Room

Formal buff excursions will be provided by Box 4 members each night of the Convention to take visitors to stations and departments in Dallas and surrounding areas.

Wednesday September 3

MORNING	Registration Opening Ceremony Memorial for deceased members Business Meeting Convention Preview for Hartford and others
AFTERNOON	Hotel Lunch furnished Featured Speakers including: Assistant Chief Ted Padgett, Dallas Fire Marshall Deputy Chief Stuart Grant, Dallas Special Operations
EVENING	Barbeque Dinner Tour of Texas Fire Museum. Networking at Hotel Hospitality Room

Thursday September 4

MORNING	Dolphin Training Facility: Apparatus display photo op Shop tour Pumper demonstration Burn house USAR Lunch furnished
1 pm	On your own/Siesta
4 pm	Dealey Plaza, JFK Memorial, and 6 th /7 th Floor Museums Supper by Babe's Dallas Fire Museum tour Networking at Hotel Hospitality Room

Friday September 5

MORNING	Dolphin Training Facility: Hazmat demonstrations Wildland firefighting Swift Water Rescue Lunch furnished
AFTERNOON	On your own/Siesta
4 pm	Billy Bob's in Fort Worth Barbeque Dinner furnished Bull Riding and Cowtown Rodeo Country Music Concert Networking at Hotel Hospitality Room

Saturday September 6

MORNING	DFW Airport Tour with Chief Black: ARFF Structure and live fire EMS EOC Stations Lunch furnished
1 pm	On your own/Siesta
6 pm	Happy Hour Banquet with awards and closing ceremony Networking at Hotel Hospitality Room

The Dallas Area Rapid Transit light rail station is within hotel shuttle/walking distance. The Light Rail give you access to downtown, American Airlines Arena, and other areas of both Dallas and the Metroplex.

We plan to emphasize organized buffing groups out of the hotel to various fire stations, departments, and fires. Our members are available to take you blue lighting to satisfy your interests.

We also welcome you to enjoy our area prior to and after the convention, there is too much to see in only four days. Let us show you prior to and after the Convention our museums, the Bush Presidential Library, the Museum of the American Railroad, and some of our 30 professional fire departments in the Metroplex.

Come see us in Dallas, Go Texan!

IFBA CONVENTION

September 3-6, 2014



Region 1

Boston Sparks Assoc., Inc.
Box 22 Associates
Box 41 Associates
Box 52 Association., Inc.
Box 61, Inc., Portland Fire Buffs
Connecticut Fire Photographers Association
Connecticut Special Signal Association
Essex County Fire Wardens Association
Middlesex County Firefighter & Fire Wardens Assn.
Providence Citywide Fire Network
Special Signal Fire Assn.
The Leather Helmet Society
International Fire Photographers Association



BOX 52 ASSOCIATION, INC. BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

ORGANIZED TO PROMOTE FIRE PREVENTION AND
EXTINGUISHMENT IN METROPOLITAN BOSTON

ESTABLISHED 1912
INCORPORATED 1918

The Board of Directors of the Box 52 Association Inc. continues to seek new and interesting programs to improve attendance at our monthly meetings.

The speaker for our September meeting was Past Association President Rick Cutts. As our delegate to the annual IFBA Convention, he gave his required report on the proceedings at the event in Milwaukee. His oral presentation included a power point display of photographs taken at all of the events.

On September 22, the Association sponsored our second annual open house held once again at Boston Firefighters Florian Hall. The open house featured displays of firematic collections of our members, the offering of items for sale by a number of vendors and appearances by some of Boston's newest apparatus. The overcast skies cleared early in the morning to make for an excellent day enjoyed by many buffs.

Our October meeting featured a photo retrospective on the Chelsea Conflagration of 40 years ago provided by member Howie Smith. Honored guests included Chuck Fothergill (son of Chief Fothergill of conflagration fame) and Father Dick DeVeer, retired Chaplain of the Chelsea Fire Department. October was also the Annual Meeting of the Box 52 Association with officers providing annual reports on the activities, financial condition and progress

of the club. The current Officers of the Association were all re-elected with the exception of Tom Tully who had completed his second three year term as a member of the Board. Association rules only allow two consecutive terms. Tom was replaced on the Board by Jeff Brown.

In November, our meeting was a celebration of the 75th Anniversary of our fellow buff club, the Boston Sparks Association, with a presentation by BSA President and Box 52 member Paul Boudreau on their anniversary celebration and recent Rehab experience in connection with the April 15th Marathon Bombings in Boston. The BSA's Rehab Units A-10 and A-11 were present for member viewing before the meeting and members of the Boston Sparks Rehab Team were also invited to attend our meeting.

Our December event was our annual end-of-year meeting at Wayne Alarm in Lynn, MA, with member Captain Rick Conway of the Nashua NH Fire Department presenting another evening of Lynn and North Shore area fire and apparatus photos. The meeting featured a hot buffet meal presented by our host and honorary member Ralph Sevinor who is the President of Wayne Alarm. This meeting is open only to members and applicants of the Association.

As always, the Box 52 Association extends a cordial invitation to all buff club members to visit Boston, attend one of our meetings

and spend the weekend buffing.

Box52.org or “Like” us on Facebook

Please remember to visit our web site www.

Conflagration in Boston

Fire photos courtesy of PETER ALOISI

(Right) Going to work,,, Chelsea E5 was the first due pump on Box 215. (Below) Chelsea L1 along with Boston E8. Fire photos courtesy of PETER ALOISI.



TIME LINE FOR THE BOX:

1556 hrs. Box 215 Arlington & 3rd Streets
1558 hrs 3-box 215 second alarm skipped
1606 hrs 4-215
1627 hrs Chief Fothergill advised Newton Control that the fire was a CONFLAGRATION. This was the first time in history that the notification of a conflagration was sent by radio!



Chelsea E5 1948 American La France 700 Series 1,000 gpm pump. Photo by San Severino.

By: Gerry Mahoney
Past President IFBA

As I write this, most have some recollection or knowledge of some of the circumstances surrounding the Boston Marathon bombing that occurred on Monday April 15, 2013.

The purpose of this article is to give some perspective from “the other side of the river” as we affectionately refer to Cambridge.

Patriot’s Day is a holiday in Massachusetts. We celebrate the ride of Paul Revere when he travelled from Boston to Concord on horse-back to warn the colonists “The British are coming!” It is also the day of one of sports most revered events, the Boston Marathon. Traditionally the Boston Red Sox play a home game on Patriot’s Day. The start time is 11:05am. That way when fans start to empty out of Fenway Park, they head towards Kenmore Square and watch the marathon go by.

The marathon starts in Hopkinton, MA. 26.2 miles from start to finish. The finish line is on Boylston Street by the beautiful Boston Public Library in historic Copley Square.

The marathon starts at noon in Hopkinton. This year, the winner of the men’s division crossed the finish line in 2:10:22. At 2:49 pm, long after the elite runners had entered the finish area, the first of two bombs detonated on the street amidst a large crowd of unsuspecting fans. The second bomb detonated about ten seconds later.

The damage was immense. Three fatalities, several hundred injured and thousands temporarily paralyzed by fear and anxiety.

The week that **HELL** Visited Boston

I was actually in Florida on April 15th. I received a phone call from one of our Deputy Chiefs, who was a spectator directly across the street from the first explosion. His 11 year-old son and dog were with him. Naturally, his first reaction was to get his son to safety. He was nearly out of breath when he told me what was going on. He had been trying to reach members of the Cambridge Police Command Staff as well as the Fire Chief to relay what had happened. Apparent overloading of cell phone traffic wouldn’t allow him to get through.

I immediately texted the Chief, and he was able to call me in Florida. As this was going on, the family members I was with could find no mention on various web sites on their phones. Obviously, this was within the first few minutes, post-blast.

Cambridge Fire Department units immediately responded over the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge to the area. Two Paramedic Squad units and a Division Chief were available as a resource. They assisted Boston Fire and EMS units with triage and treatment.

For many years; a Cambridge Firefighter, Todd Koen has volunteered in a security capacity near the finish line of the Boston Marathon. This year he had nine other Cambridge Jakes with him.

With total disregard for their own safety, these members jumped right into action and went to work saving lives among the chaos and carnage.

Another off-duty firefighter who served several tours in Iraq and Afghanistan later remarked he saw things on Boylston Street he had not seen on

a battlefield.

Within minutes, it was apparent this was the work of terrorists.

Federal law enforcement, with assistance from state and local police agencies, became the lead agency due to the nature of the attack.

The media, while trying to do their jobs, seemed often to be more concerned with being first as opposed to being correct. The rumors and wild speculation were all over the map to put it politely. As Tuesday dawned and the reports of how severely wounded so many victims were, the anxiety and fears of the region were becoming palpable. By late Tuesday or early Wednesday, local police and fire departments were becoming inundated with suspicious package and “white powder” calls. We saw a similar spike following the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

Late Thursday afternoon, the FBI with State and local police held a press conference to update the public with credible information. At this time, I was outside of New York City heading home. New York radio outlets carried the press conference live. The FBI was able to provide actual photos of their two prime suspects. The time was about 5:20 pm.

What transpired over the next 30 hours was something I will never forget.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology is a world-class institution known for its innovation and pioneering research in the fields of engineering, physics and life sciences. It is also, along with Harvard University, one of the largest stakeholders in the City of Cambridge. MIT has a fabulous relationship with the city, and the reverse is also true.

On Thursday night April 18, 2013, MIT Police Officer Sean Collier was sitting in his cruiser adjacent to the Stata Center, on Vassar Street near

Main Street. MIT Police, like all law enforcement agencies in the area had increased patrols and their visibility as a result of the tragic events in Boston three days earlier. By this time, the photos of Suspect #1 and Suspect #2; as they were known, had been transmitted to all public safety agencies throughout the world.

Boston media outlets began to report a shooting on the campus of MIT around 10:50 pm. The local 11 O’clock news led with the story and gave the usual “we have a crew on the way, more details to follow.”

Sean Collier was 27 years old. All he ever wanted was to be a police officer. Sean was going to be appointed to the Somerville Police Department on June 3, 2013. Sadly, he was executed in his MIT police cruiser as he was waiting for his shift to end at 11:00 pm that night. Officer Collier was ambushed as the two perpetrators snuck up behind his car, opened his door, and shot him several times.

Shortly afterwards two men who identified themselves as the “Marathon Bombers” carjacked a young man in his Mercedes Benz SUV in the Brighton section of Boston. They also told their victim they had just shot a cop, and he would be next if he didn’t comply.

For the next 90 minutes or so, they drove on a wild circuitous route around the Brighton and Allston sections of Boston, as well as Watertown and Cambridge. When they stopped for gas and snacks at a 24-hour gas station in Cambridge, the owner of the SUV made a daring successful escape and had the operator of a service station across the street call 911.

The 911 call takers and dispatchers at the Cambridge ECC were able to activate a tracking device on the vehicle and communicate its location to police. A brutal chase and firefight was soon underway. The suspects drove to a quiet residential neighborhood in Watertown, MA. That night;

Watertown Police Chief Deveau would later report, Watertown had five patrol officers and one Sergeant on duty. In the end Chief Deveau's department stood very tall. Aided by Federal, State and numerous municipal departments and their assorted Special Response (SWAT) Teams one suspect was shot dead. Ironically, he was also run over by his younger brother when he tried to escape using the carjacked Mercedes.

Unfortunately, a member of the Mass Transit Police, Officer Donahue was shot and seriously injured. Quick work by Watertown Firefighters and Police Officers saved his life as he was transported to the nearby Mt. Auburn Hospital in Cambridge.

The younger brother was able to get away and elude police on a lengthy, tiresome door-to-door manhunt for nearly twelve hours.

I had arrived home at 10:00 pm on Thursday. Exhausted from a very long drive from North Carolina, I showered and fell off to sleep. My daughter telling me a house in Cambridge was surrounded and one of the bombers was dead, awakened me at 5:00 am on Friday.

I was in Cambridge by 5:30 am. The Governor had ordered a "shelter in place" directive. The drive into Cambridge was eerie. Despite the hour, I am accustomed to seeing a fair amount of traffic every morning. The roads were barren. Public transportation was also shut down. Hospitals were advised to keep their staff on site.

In Cambridge, we have an excellent collaborative relationship between the police and fire departments. Several CFD Paramedics are embedded with the CPD SRT team. They are trained and work alongside CPD to treat any injured member of the SRT team. Our medics put in some long hours during this period.

Three blocks from the quarters of Cambridge Engine 5 is Norfolk Street. Closely built two and-a-

half and three-story wood frame houses line the street. We later learned this is where the devices that killed and maimed so many on Marathon Monday were built. The home that the Tsarnaev brothers shared is set back off the street. It actually almost sits behind another home. I couldn't help but look around as ATF, FBI, Mass. State Police and Cambridge Police were painstakingly examining and photographing everything. We would have probably lost several buildings and lives if one of their devices had detonated in the residence.

At the request of the FBI, we placed an Engine and Truck Company at the corner as they made entry to the house to execute a search warrant.

I remarked to several people at the scene how surreal it all was. It was like being in an action movie and observing on the set all at the same time.

As afternoon started to yield to nightfall, law enforcement was concerned the second suspect had possibly fled the area or was possibly holed up somewhere with hostages. Thankfully, a few minutes after the Governor lifted the shelter-in-place order, a homeowner in Watertown stepped into his backyard to get some fresh air. He noticed the covering on his boat in the backyard had a hole in it. He used a stepladder to look into the boat where he observed the second suspect laying in a pool of blood. His call to 911 resulted in the capture shortly thereafter.

As most people now know, Cambridge was home to the two terrorist brothers. They fled Chechnya for a better life in America. The younger brother became an American citizen on September 11, 2012.

Two weeks after the death of one suspect and apprehension of the other, Cambridge was the focus of more attention related to this incident. In short, nobody wanted a terrorist to be buried in his or her community. Cambridge City Manager Bob



Baseball World Series' trophy was placed at the finish line of the Boston Marathon in honor of those killed and wounded, as well as pride for the way Boston responded. Photo courtesy of WCVB (ABC affiliate), Channel 5 Boston.

Healy stated that as the executive of the city responsible for maintaining the peace of the city, he didn't want Tamerlan Tsarnaev buried in Cambridge Cemetery. He felt this would present an opportunity for desecration of the grave and possibly surrounding graves. He correctly pointed out to the City Council the burial would have perhaps required a 24-hour presence of police at the cemetery to protect the grave.

The body was eventually transported to Virginia for burial in a Muslim Cemetery.

This whole ordeal has left an indelible mark on many people. Almost everybody knows somebody who was a victim or works with, or is related to a victim of this nightmare.

Now, as more time has passed, a sense of

"normalcy" has returned. However in 48 hours, hundreds of thousands of people will gather on the banks of the historic Charles River for one of the nation's finest celebrations of Independence Day, complete with a wonderful concert by the Boston Pops Orchestra and fireworks visible for miles. But the new normal, as a result of the Marathon Bombing, is higher security, more constraints on who and what is allowed where, and perhaps overall a bit more of a hassle when celebrating the freedom and independence of our great nation.

We hate to admit it, but in a sense they have won a significant part of this battle. Our freedom is not what it used to be!



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Web Site – ctfirephoto.org
Facebook – CT Fire Photographers Assn.

FOUNDED 1975

INCORPORATED 1997

By Joe Shefer

When you use the two words Firefighting and tradition together, they are almost synonymous. They both describe something that is done because it brings great personal satisfaction. That is what New England firefighting is all about, and that is why whenever the IFBA has a New England area Convention, the people who attend are quite pleased with their stay. Traditionally the greater Boston area has hosted the event, the 2015 Convention is going a little south this year to the new, yet very historical venue of Hartford Ct.

Hartford Firefighting with its Fire Department dating back to the late 1700's protects a typical New England City that has all the "Big City"

firefighting duties, with the usual New England style 3 deckers, Interstate highways, recreational waterfront, and the modern Glass Tower type building. The area's Fire Museum is a short ride to the east in Manchester. Located in the Cheney National Historic District and housed in a vintage 1901 fire station. The museum displays an operational Gamewell Alarm system, numerous firefighting artifacts, and a still operational 1911 water tower which could quite possibly be supplied by an Early American Steamer. That is real life tradition taking place right before your eyes and lenses to of course. There are also fireground and apparatus

photos by some renowned area photographers such as Jim Peruta, Patrick Dooley, and Rob Ladd. The up to date and modern state of the art equipment throughout the greater Hartford area will give you plenty of apparatus to enjoy, from tillers to tenders. We've got them all.

There are also many other events coupled with an IFBA convention, and the Hartford area has the attractions to prove for non stop activity. While Mark

Twain may have floated down the Mississippi, he made his home in Hartford and we have the museum style house to prove it, and it may not be the Mississippi River, but the Connecticut River runs right thru town and what could be more relaxing than a riverboat dinner cruise

down the river with the skyline of Hartford and plenty of other scenery along the way. There are also numerous restaurants that cater to just about any taste, and there are a couple of large shopping malls just outside the city.

Dates for the 2015 venue in Hartford are yet to be announced and you now have plenty of time to prepare, so watch the future issues, and start thinking tradition for a New England Convention to remember. We are looking at the July or August time period.



Ceremony at the Connecticut Fire Fighter Memorial. Photo by Jim Peruta, www.res23cue.net.

Region

3

Anne Arundel Alarmers Assn., Inc.

Box 234 Assn., Inc.

Box 414 Assn., Inc.

Central Alarmers, Inc.

Central Pennsylvania Fire Buff Assn.

Firecom/Newslink

Friendship Fire Assn.

Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire
Department, Inc.

Ladies Auxiliary of Box 414 Assn.

Old Dominion Fire Historical Society

S. H. C. Assn.



Central Alarmers

By Charles Lewis

A lot has happened with the Central Alarmers since an article was last written for this magazine. In 2010, under the direction of President Frank Ward, A committee was formed to design and purchase a new canteen unit (Rehab 155) to replace our 1996 Ford Grumman vehicle.

The Baltimore County Volunteer Fire Association, of which we are members, provided us with an apparatus grant of \$52,000, which we gave to our first designer to purchase the chassis, a 2012 Ford E-450.

Disaster struck in March of 2012, when, as we thought our wagon was due to be almost finished, we were notified that our first designer had shut down his business abruptly and that our chassis, which no work had been started on our unit, had been repossessed by the bank leaving us with no vehicle and without a refund of our down payment. Due to stipulations surrounding the grant, the company decided that we must move forward and start over with a new vendor.

After a brief search, the company decided to go with Atlantic

Emergency Solutions. We would receive the second canteen unit built by AES, the first going to Savage VFC in Howard Co, who suffered a similar fate at the hands of our first designer. AES performed beyond expectations and on June 10, 2013 we took delivery of our new Rehab 155, a 2013 Ford E450 BearKat Canteen truck. At this time our 1996 unit is operating as Reserve Rehab 152 as we contemplate its future. Any club interested in purchasing this unit can call 410-887-5416.



The 1996 & 2013 Rehab 155's posed together. Photo by Charles Lewis.

On September 28, 2013, Baltimore County Fire Chief John J Hohman officially placed our unit in service at a dedication ceremony held during the annual Volunteer Fire Association meeting. The unit was dedicated to all former, current and future members of the organization

On another note, with the changes made regarding NFPA Standard 1584, our Rehab 153 (2002 Ford E450 bus) has been equipped with medical

supplies that can be used by EMS to assist in performing fire-fighter rehab and any call we respond to. One of these additions is the "Immersion Chair", a spe-



Our immersion chairs set up at a 3 alarm warehouse fire on 7/27/13. This fire occurred 4 hours after placing the new 155 in service. In the background you will see both units responded to the fire. Photo by Chris Oliphant.

cially outfitted chair with sleeves cut into the arm rests that hold bags of chilled water to assist in cooling down the firefighter, especially on extreme heat fires. As a result, we are now in the design phase of a new Rehab 153.



Central Alarms President Frank Ward & Baltimore County Fire Chief John J. Hohman just after Chief Hohman officially placed our unit in service at the Baltimore County Volunteer Fire Assoc annual meeting. Photo by Charles Lewis.

The Central Alarms continue to respond to all working and greater alarm fires in the central and eastern part of the county, as well as water rescues, police barricade situations, as well as other long duration incidents.

D.C. Fire & EMS

By Walter Gold

Washington, DC - - America's first monument to honor fire department arson-investigating dogs was dedicated here on October 23rd near the U.S. Capitol, during a ceremony attended by nearly all 81 American and Canadian arson dog handlers.

The National Fire Dog Monument was permanently implanted in a small, refurbished, park-like setting in the rear of DC Engine Co. 2, one of the busiest in Washington. The life-sized statue, appropriately named "ashes to answers," is the work of 24-year-old Austin Weishel, a trained firefighter/EMT with Windsor-Severance Fire Rescue in Colorado. It was his first such sculpture, he said, during a long interview with the Washington Post, which appeared on October 30th.

The statue, completed more than a year ago, has been stored and displayed in the Washington DC Fire & EMS Museum, operated by the Friendship Fire Association (FFA), the volunteer branch of the DC Fire & EMS Department.

DC Fire Chief Kenneth Ellerbe was among those who spoke at the ceremony, praising the six year efforts of Jerry Means, an agent with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, who spearheaded the concept and raised funds to build the monument, and the Museum for hosting the statue for the past year while a suitable site was located and prepared for its permanent display. Before arriving at the Museum, the statue was taken on a tour across the nation last year under the sponsorship of the American Humane Association and State Farm Insurance, which pays for the training of arson investigation dogs.

After the ceremony, the DC Fire & EMS Museum, also located on Capitol Hill, announced it had just reached a new record of over 1,200 visitors so far this year, as it closes out its fourth full year of being open to the general public. The Museum was given a small replica of the original arson dog statue as a replacement.

(For further information, please contact Walter Gold, Executive Director, DC Fire & EMS Museum (202-439-1936))

Region

4

Box 15 Club, Inc.

Box 27 Associates

Box 42 Associates, Inc.

Extra Alarm Fire Assn., Inc.

Fire Notification Network of Michigan

Western Reserve Fire Museum of
Cleveland Ohio, Inc.



Box 15 Club, Inc. 501(c)(3)

Affiliate of International Fire Buff Associates

P.O. Box 23

Columbus, Ohio 43216

(614) 585-9120

www.Box15.org

Since our last submission, Box 15 has managed to stay pretty busy. Columbus Fire, as well as several other agencies throughout Central Ohio, have really bought into the fact that firefighter rehab is just as important during training as it is at actual incidents. Box 15 is now regularly requested to support training evolutions. Box 15 hosted a Hazmat awareness class, in cooperation with Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security in June and we taught a fire Rehab class for the Franklin County CERT group. Throughout the summer, we were out many times to provide rehab for the current Columbus Fire



Rescue Tech Training - C. Maupin Photo



Rescue Tech Class - Collapse Shoring - B. Barber Photo

exercises.



recruit class, In-service training for Columbus 1 Unit companies and several times during a six week long Rescue Tech class. Add to this, a Unified Command "active shooter" exercise at a local school, a Tri-annual disaster drill at Rickenbacker airport, where we took care of more than 200 volunteers and roughly 120 responders, evaluators and support personnel. Then, just after the Rescue Tech course was completed, we were there for two days of training with the Central Ohio Strike Team, the State's Region 4 USAR group. We also now provide rehab support for the Columbus Fire Auxiliary during some of their training

But we also had a fair amount of activity with fires, gas line ruptures and other incidents. On Sunday, May 5, we had back-to-back runs – a working house fire in Violet Township followed by a 2 Alarm blaze in a multi-car parking garage at an apartment complex that spread to the living quarters. Then on May 15, Columbus Police requested for support during the investigation of an officer-involved shooting. The crime scene was in the parking lot of a Columbus Fire



WG Grinders – J. Gibson Photo

Station, with several firefighter's cars damaged and two suspects shot to death. Box 15 was on scene for several hours providing nutrition and hydration to the investigators. Two days later a 2 Alarm fire occurred in a dollar store in the Northern Lights Shopping Center, followed by a 2 Alarm fire in a WG Grinders store, across the street from Columbus Fire Station #33.

As far as fire activity went, June was pretty quiet with our first run into the City of Delaware on a fire in a historic structure, but we stayed busy with all the support for training evolutions. Saturday, June 22 was the annual Central Ohio Antique Fire apparatus Muster at the Ohio Fire Academy. We had Rehab1 and 2 on display. On July 16, Box 15 was requested when construction crews dug into a high pressure gas main on High Street in far north Columbus. Then two hours later, another construction crew ruptured another gas main, only 3 miles away from the first incident. Two days later, Box 15 responded along with Union County EMA's Rehab Unit, to a 4 Alarm fire in a printing company in Plain City (20 miles northwest of Columbus). Temperatures were in the 90's with high humidity. Units from 10 FD's, including Columbus, responded. Norwich Township brought their Hazmat Decon trailer which we used as an air conditioned shelter. While deployed there, we were requested in Genoa Township in Delaware County for a major fire in a high-value home. Rehab 1 was



Delaware Fire - K. Shop Photo



Used Tire Store Fire – Cols Fire Auxiliary Photo

released by Union County in order to respond to the second fire, 20 miles away. Rehab 2 followed us in, as we were low on supplies. WBNS TV from Columbus did a 50 second spot about Box 15 that evening from the scene. Then early in the morning, a Box 15 member made a POV response to an apartment fire in Worthington, followed later that day by an extra company fire in a used tire shop. Due to the heat, Box 15 was special called. And later that night, another run into Delaware County to a 3 Alarm blaze in an RV dealership. Both Rehab 1 and 2 responded.

It was the middle of August before our next fire response – a fire in a single family residence. This was a POV response by one Box 15 member. Two days later, we had simultaneous runs. The first was a hazmat at a pavement sealing company while the second was another backhoe hitting a high pressure gas main. Summer is the construction season but this year, we've had an extraordinary number of construction crews hitting gas mains. It occurred again on both August 23 and August 29. August 30 was another hot & humid day and Box 15 was in standby mode (automatic response to all working fires) and responded to a working fire in a wood frame duplex.

September activities began with Rehab 1 lined up in Violet Township's Labor Day parade. Then on September 5, there was a 2 Alarm fire in a two story wood frame apartment structure in southeast Columbus. September 11, the 12th anniversary of a day that none of us will ever forget, began with a 2 Alarm fire in another two story wood frame apartment building, destroying 4 units of a 10 unit building – this one in far north Columbus. Rehab 1 responded from Station 1 and was on scene for 4 hours, changing crews during the incident so that we could also cover one day of the Rescue Tech class. Four days later, another 2 Alarm blaze occurred in far northeast Columbus. Again, a two story wood frame multi-family structure was involved.



Condo Fire on Franklin Lane - J. Deal Photo



Burton Metals 3rd Alarm/Hazmat - J. Deal Photo

Friday, October 4 was another day with simultaneous activities. Rehab 2 was placed on display in downtown Delaware as part of their kickoff for Fire Prevention Week. At the same time, Columbus struck a 3 Alarm fire & Level 3 Hazmat in an industrial structure on Columbus' northeast side. We seem to have a pattern of simultaneous runs. On October 10, Rehab 2 responded to a 2 Alarm fire in a condominium in Orange Township (Delaware County) while 2 members did a POV response to a working fire in a large house in Hilliard.

Box 15 is now operates 3 Incident Response Units

With increased activity into Delaware County, we've determined that a third response unit would be beneficial. While Rehab 1 and 2 are still the primary vehicles, we've repurposed the 1991 Sentinel as Rehab 3 (old Rehab 1), using it as a reserve piece with plans to move it into Delaware County, as soon as a suitable location has been secured.

Within the next year, we hope to replace Rehab 3 with something a bit newer. It currently is housed at the Columbus Fire Training Academy, to support the training activities of both the recruits and in-service companies.



Left to Right - Rehab 1, Rehab 3, Rehab 2 - B. Barber Photo

iPads as MDC's? Yes!

Another improvement we've made over the past several months is to mount iPads in Rehab 1 & 2. Not only do they function as MDC's, using Active 911, we link it to a GPS/mapping application that can provide turn-by-turn directions from the responding point to the incident location. By using a tape adapter, we can play audio of the navigation via the radio in the trucks. In addition, crew members can enter their run reports from the terminals, as well as vehicle checkout activity and maintenance reports. We've also loaded the Square application on both, so they can double as checkout terminals for our apparel sales. Using Verizon 3G or Wi-Fi, the units can operate anywhere in the area.



iPad "MDC" in Rehab 2 - B. Barber Photo

Box 15 partners with the Fire Fighters Cancer Foundation

Cancer is an all too common affliction for members of the fire service. It's no different, anywhere you go. The causes are many, the results can be heartbreaking but one core fact is that support and caring are absolutely critical – to the patient and to their family. The Fire Fighter Cancer Foundation is one such support group, bringing international outreach, and support assistance programs for fire fighters and family members that are stricken by cancer. The Foundation is creating state of the art programs for cancer education, awareness, and prevention to ensure the quality of life and retirement of fire fighters around the world.

During the recent Ohio Fire & EMS Expo, held in Columbus, Box 15 worked closely with the Foundation to orchestrate a Cornhole tournament. For the first event, we had 11 teams competing. The elimination rounds were played during Expo hours, in the exhibit hall, while the finals were held that evening during a social session. The tournament was so successful that it will now become an integral part of future Expo's. This year, we raised funds for two central Ohio firefighter families. Unfortunately, one of the recipients lost his battle with prostate cancer, just days before the event.



Teams in action – Cindy Ell Photo

Along with this, Box 15 and the Fire Fighter Cancer Foundation are producing a line of apparel, using the copyrighted hose/ribbon emblem in conjunction with local fire department designs. We can produce these shirts for any fire department or IAFF local. Shown below are 2 samples.



Winners! - Cindy Ell Photo



Dry-Fit Apparel

Firefighters need to stay fit to stay healthy. As such, many departments and stations not only have fitness equipment, but the crews organize pickup games of volley ball, basketball or other sports to keep fit. One thing they do not like to do is to put fire gear on over a soaking wet shirt and respond to a fire. We've introduced a line of "dry-fit" shirts & shorts that are light weight, non-binding and that wick moisture away from the body. They are easy to peel off if the company is dispatched to an incident. Take a look at them in our web store - <http://www.box15.org/store/>



Photo by S. J. Lewis Photography

Action Shots (all Photos by B. Barber)



Put it on your calendars – Upcoming activities & Events

- SPAMFAA convention is coming to Columbus in June of 2014.
- Ohio Fire & EMS Expo in September 2014.

Region

5

Box 4 Fire Buff Assn., Inc.

Firefighting Historical Society, Inc.

Fort Worth Red Helmets

Greater Houston Fire Buffs

Signal “51” Group

BOX 4 DALLAS, TX

By Wally Banks, Dallas, Texas

We are working on the 2014 IFBA Convention in Dallas; since our Convention Committee will submit a separate article on this subject I will give you this advice. Bring your spurs.

The year 2013 reversed the trend of fewer multi alarm fires in the Dallas Fire Rescue Department. So far this year we have made more runs through October than we made in the year 2012. Through October 30, 2013 the canteen made 65 runs which are three more than the number of runs in the entire year of 2012.

Our volunteer members are on call 24/7 and we are available for dispatch by pager, radio, or blue light. We appreciate all those who volunteer and belong to the club. Box 4 continues to function as the largest mobile dispenser of Gatorade in Dallas.

A recap of some significant responses by our club since my last report include:

May 19th was a terrible day; we went to a 6 alarm fire at Box 577513 which was a LODD fire. The Heathwood North condominiums were burning at 12363 Abrams on B shift; it was the final fire for Stanley Wilson. The first alarm was at 0255 which kicked out Engines 28/29/57, Trucks 37/57, Rescue 57, and Battalion Chiefs 2/4, A second alarm was struck at 0300 with a response by Engines 19/20/22/37, Trucks 19/20/56, Battalion Chiefs 3/7, Deputy Chief 806, Rescues 19/28/29, and 684/685/782/829/896/U19. A third alarm was struck at 0333 bringing to the fire Engines 39/55/56, Truck 39, and 784/825/881. A fourth alarm was requested at 0404 sending to the fire Engines 2/31/48, Trucks

41/53, and 600/700/701/802. The fifth alarm was transmitted at 0451 which kicked out Engines 3/11/33/41, Truck 33, Rescues 22/33, and 800/801/813/U33. A sixth alarm was requested at 0522 sending Engines 7/8/15, Truck 11, Battalions 1/6, Rescue 11, and Plano Engine 175/602/803/815/818/848/890/Plano BC 2.

Box 4 served 300 Egg McMuffin/Sausage 'n Biscuit for breakfast. We served 130 Whoppers for lunch. Box 4 bought all of the meals.

Box 4 member Karen Hoskins, who worked the entire fire, went down with heat exhaustion after lunch. She was transported to Dallas Presbyterian by Rescue 28. Karen has fully recovered.

On the 21st, 22nd, 23rd, we went back to Abrams to work overhaul and provide services to the Arson Investigators, ATF, the State Fire Marshal, and the Austin FD arson investigators.

On May 24th we went to Oakland Cemetery to provide canteen service to the members cleaning up the cemetery where our honored dead are buried.

On May 25th we had the privilege and high honor to provide hydration at Stanley Wilson's funeral; we gave out about 1500 bottles of water.

C shift again brought us our next fire on June 17th. We were called to a 4 alarm fire at Box 562523 at 8550 Spring Valley. The Hunters Court Apartments was carrying the mail. The first alarm was at 0458 with Engines 22/29/56, Trucks 20/56, Battalion Chiefs 02/04 and Rescue 56. A second alarm was struck at 0507 with a response from Engines 19/20/28/57, Trucks 19/37/57, Battalion Chief 03/07, Deputy Chief 806, Rescues 19/29, and 684/685/782/821/829/896/USAR 19. The third alarm was at 0513 bringing to the fire Engines 7/37/41, Truck 41, Staff Chief 803, Rescues 20/28, and 784/825/882/885. The fourth alarm was at 0533 which kicked out Engines 02/13/48, Truck 17, Staff Chief 601/701805/812, Rescue

12, and 897.

Thus far in 2013 our 65 runs include 1 six alarm, 1 five alarm, 3 four alarm, 8 three alarm, 25 two alarm, 3 one alarm, 1 Haz Mat, 4 Mutual Aid calls out of the city, 2 SWAT callouts, and numerous other events we were special called to.

We have two probationary members who have joined the club and about 5 prospects.

Box 4 is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2013.

Box 4 has entered the social network era and we have a site on Facebook and on Twitter in addition to our web site at www.box4.org.

We are on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Box4Firebuffs

On Twitter you can find us by searching for @Box4Firebuffs

We look forward to seeing you all in Dallas on September 2nd.

NATIONAL NEWS

2013 National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Memorial Weekend

By Chris Oliphant

Annually the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) <http://www.firehero.org> hosts a Memorial Weekend for Fire Service members who have died in the Line of Duty. It is held during Fire Prevention Week usually the first weekend in October. This year's Memorial Service held on October 6th honored 73 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2012

and 8 firefighters who died in previous years. IFBA Canteen Units have been participating annually since 2001 when an increase in attendance was noted by NFFF Chairman & Friendship Fire Association Member Hal Bruno in 2000.

October 5th & 6th brought thousands of families, friends and firefighters to Emmitsburg, MD. During the weekend there are numerous events



Friendship Fire Association Canteen Unit, Central Alarmers Rehab 155 and Philadelphia 2nd Alarmers SA-5 working at the annual Memorial Service on Sunday October 6. Photo by Chris Oliphant.



Participants enjoy the combined efforts of Central Alarmers Rehab 155 and Rehab 154 & Box 234 Association Rehab 156 and Rehab 157 working together at Walkersville VFC on October 5. Photo by Chris Oliphant.

that take place and despite the Federal Government shutdown which caused the closure of National Emergency Training Center (NETC). In true Fire Department style the NFFF did not let the closure stop the events of the weekend. Usually families, friends, firefighters and workers are housed in the dorms of the NETC but due to closure The Wyndam Hotel located in Gettysburg, PA became the gathering location for most of the families and friends. The firefighters and workers were provided housing by neighboring fire stations and training centers. Vigilant Hose Company was retrofitted to be the cafeteria when needed.

The Annual Red Helmet Ride on Saturday October 5th to honor fallen firefighter and the survivors started as normal with a slight time change. The hundreds of motorcyclists were greeted with coffee and doughnuts in Millersville, MD at the Anne Arundel County Headquarters by **Anne Arundel Alarmers Association CW-1**. The ride started and proceeded to the Walkersville Volunteer Fire Company where additional motorcyclists joined the ride to Gettysburg. Approaching the noon hour the cyclists were provided Hot Dogs and refreshments by **Central**

Alarmers Rehab 155 and Box 234 Association Rehab 156 at the Walkersville VFC. Rehab 155 proceeded to Gettysburg to observe the wreath laying ceremony.

NFFF working closely with the NETC, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the United States Fire Administration (USFA) at the last minute was able to get a 2 hour pass for the families coming in from all over the country to view the actual memorial bearing the names of the loved ones who had died in the Line Of Duty. The **Friendship Fire Association** custodians of the replica of the actual memorial was placed on stand-by. FFA working with the NFFF was prepared to have the replica memorial transported to Emmitsburg if the pass was not granted. This occurred in conjunction with the annual Candlelight Service which usually occurs in the chapel adjacent to the memorial but due to Government closure the service was relocated to The Basilica of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Daughters of Charity right next door. The Daughters of Charity also provided space to relocate the offices and command center.

Also occurring on October 5th was the practice

sessions of the several hundred Bagpipers and Drummers from all around the country that preform during

the Annual Memorial Service was provided snacks and rehydration by **Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire Department Canteen 422**. Canteen 422B was also brought to Emmitsburg to provide additional support as needed. The Annual Memorial Service which is usually held on the campus of the NETC outside at the Memorial was relocated to the “Rainy Day” site located in the PNC Sports Complex located at the nearby Mt. St. Mary’s University. The Canteen’s providing service are usually scattered around the Memorial site but at this remote location the units are lined up going into the entrance of the stadium. Hot and cold drinks, Doughnuts and snacks were provided to all attendees by **Friendship Fire Association Canteen Unit, Central Alarmers Rehab 155 and Philadelphia Second Alarmers SA-5**.

IFBA Region 9’s Philadelphia Second Alarmers was added to this year’s Memorial Service



Walkersville VFC and Walkersville Volunteer Rescue apparatus on display for the Red Helmet Ride.. Photo by Chris Oliphant.

due to the LODD of 2 members of the Philadelphia Fire Department. IFBA Region 3 would like to thank Philadelphia

Second Alarmers for their dedicated service. The NFFF Command staff would like to thank all of the participating IFBA Canteens for their annual participation and dedicated service. The units in attendance are annually coordinated by **Friendship Fire Association** member Vito Maggiolo and assisted by Chris Oliphant.



(Above) Pipers pose for photos in front of the drum stack. Photo by Chris Oliphant.



The drum stack shows many of the bag piper units participating in the 2013 Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial observance. Photo by Chris Oliphant.

Region

6

5-11 Club, Inc.

10-87 Club of Greater Rockford

Box 8 Club of St. Louis, Inc.

Box 55 Assoc.

Extra Alarm Assn. of the Twin Cities

Indianapolis Fire Buffs

Metropolitan Emergency Support Services,
Inc. (M. E. S. S.)

Metropolitan Fire Associates, Inc.

Milwaukee Fire Bell Club, Inc.

Milwaukee Fire Historical Society, Ltd.

Moline Second Alarm Assn.

Racine Fire Bell Club, Inc.

Waukesha County Emergency Support & Inc.

By Chuck Bleck and Mike Penchar

Chicago has seen fewer major fires this year than previous years. Other than the 5-11 and two specials for the January "Ice Palace" fire discussed in the Spring Turn Out, Chicago has experienced only 33 multiple alarm fires through October of 2013. This breaks down into twenty-four 2-11s, seven 3-11s, one 4-11 and one 5-11. The most recent 4-11 occurred on September 11 that destroyed a former rail yard warehouse at 3710 South California. The fire which destroyed several businesses, including a wood pallet supply firm, took several hours to control. The lack of working hydrants in the yard resulted in long lead-outs and in-line pumping.

The CFD has had several promotions of all ranks and bureaus with over 200 firefighters and chiefs promoted. The Academy has graduated over 100 candidates since last year and will start training a new class this Fall. Happy retirement wishes to training director, Chief Peter Van Dorpe, who retired on September 30.

The fire apparatus activity has increased with orders and purchases of several pieces of first line and special equipment. An order for 25 Wheeled Coach ambulances was placed. Most of the units

will be received and assigned by the end of the year. It is our understanding that the new ambulances will be a mix of Type I and Type III rigs with some of the new units having gasoline rather than diesel engines.

The new two piece squad/snorkel units from Rosenbauer are being built and are scheduled to be completed in 2014. Three Spartan-ERV aerial lad-



Refurbed 6-7-3 and 6-7-6 on Ford F350 chassis (Photo by Mike Charnota)

ders are scheduled to be delivered by the end of 2013. It is unknown which truck companies will get the new aerials. Many of the front line Pierce aerials are 13 years old and are starting to show their age resulting in the increased use of spare shop rigs. Two new foam

pumpers for O'Hare Field will be arriving this Fall from Emergency-One. They will replace Engine Cos. 9 and 10. New construction at O'Hare will require a new rescue station. Rescue Station 1, in the southwest corner of the airport, will be rebuilt because of a new air freight terminal complex now under construction. Two Oshkosh Strikers will be in service in the next few months.



Rear view of refurbed 6-7-3 (Photo by Chuck Bleck)

The two smaller turret wagons, 6-7-3 and 6-7-6, were rebuilt by a local fabricator on a Ford F350 chassis. The deluge system consists of two turrets with TFT stacked tip nozzles. The two turrets are rated at 3000 GPM each. The turrets are fed by a new manifold with six four-

inch inlets. The 1976 Mack "B" turret wagon rated at 10,000 GPM, last used at the January 5-11, was put back into retirement. A new mobile air/oxygen supply unit has been built on a commercial chassis by Marion Body and is awaiting delivery this year.

During the recent Fire Academy Muster and Swap Meet in June, the 5-11 Club presented an Honorary Membership plaque to Fire Commissioner Jose Santiago. Many of the events planned for our 60th anniversary celebration would not have been possible without Commissioner Santiago's help. The Muster was well attended despite the rainy weather. We had over 14 fire vehicles in the parade and a bell ringing ceremony was held to honor fallen firefighters of the CFD. On September 28th, the 5-11 Club participated in the annual Fallen Firefighter Memorial at Rosehill Cemetery held by Local Union 2 and The Gold Badge Society



Fire Commissioner Santiago receiving 5-11 Club's Honorary Membership plaque from 5-11 Club VP Jim Mitidiero and President Dennis Ahrens (Photo by Chuck Bleck)

On the canteen scene, the 5-11 Club has been upgrading operations with the purchase of three pop-up tents that will be used on extended canteen operations. We have also recently accepted a donation of a 1986 Ford Econoline van from the Posen Fire Department. After retrofitting the unit to meet our needs, the rig will be used as a supply unit for our canteens. The Club also purchased and pro-



CFD members transporting rehab supplies on one of the new 5-11 Club supplied carts (Photo by Scott Stewart)

vided three four-wheeled carts to the CFD Rehab units located at Engine Co. 49, Engine Co. 68 and O'Hare Field Rescue 1. These carts can be used to transport rehab supplies at fires and other CFD incidents.

Finally, visit our website, www.5-11clubchicago.org, for any club updates, activities and photos. If you are planning to visit the Chicago area, just give us a call to arrange a tour of our City. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in Dallas next year.



5-11 Alarm + 2 Specials 3757 S. Ashland 1/22/2013 - From the J. Mitidiero collection



Milwaukee Fire Bell Club, Inc.

By: Dan Rode

Summer has now come and gone as fall settles in and the distant memories of musters and swap meets fade into the sunset. The Milwaukee Fire Bell Club (M.F.B.C.) enjoyed hosting all of our friends and guests this year at the 60th IFBA Convention. Everyone had a great time, there was enough food to eat, enough apparatus to photograph, and a lot of good company to catch up on old times as well as make new memories. The men and women of the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club will forever be grateful to our friends who visited our great city this past summer. More details of the convention will be released in the upcoming Convention issue, so keep watching ifba.org for its release.

In the meantime, the M.F.B.C. continues to serve local fire departments and law enforcement agencies at both emergency incidents, training exercises, and P.R. events. As of this writing, the club has responded to (8) emergency incidents, (5) training exercises, and (22) P.R. events for a total of 35 runs so far. I will provide a detailed 2013 run report in the Spring, 2014 issue of TURN OUT.

On June 25th, 2013, the club sat down with several other rehab organizations-Racine Fire Bells, Sulli-

van E.M.S. Rehab, North Prairie Fire Department Auxiliary, Southern Wisconsin Emergency Preparedness Team (SWEPT), and Metropolitan Emergency Support Services (MESS) to discuss regional rehab cooperation. In addition, the Waukesha

Emergency Support & Rehab has been included in follow up discussions. With the higher frequency of long duration incidents occurring in Southeast Wisconsin, the groups are working to establish procedures to assist each other at these major events in the future.

Milwaukee Fire Department updates

There is several pieces of information to report since the convention took place. The M.F.D. Repair Shop is currently in the process of putting numerous new pieces of apparatus in service. Five 2013 Pierce Arrow XT pumpers have gone into service at Engines 8, 12, 13, 28, and 30. Two additional pieces are on order and due for delivery in early November, tentatively slated for Engines 24 and 36. One 2013 Pierce Arrow XT 105 ft. rear-mount aerial ladder is being readied for service at Truck 12 while a second piece should arrive sometime in November, tentatively slated for Truck 15. One 2013 Chevrolet Suburban has been put into service at Battalion 5 while two 2014 Ford Explorers have been put in service with Car 1 and Car 2A



New M.F.D. Truck 12, a 2013 Pierce Arrow XT 105 ft. rear-mount aerial (one of two). Photo by Tom Conrad.



New M.F.D. Engine 13, a 2013 Pierce Arrow XT 1500/500 pumper (one of seven). Photo by B.C. James Ley, M.F.D.

(Assistant Chief of Support Services). In addition, a 2013 Polaris Ranger U.T.V. (Utility Vehicle) has been purchased with federal grant money for use at special events. It seats four in the cab plus a seat in the rear for the attendant and a full cot for patient movement. It is designated as Med 22 and currently stationed at Engine 2's quarters in the Downtown area (close to the summertime festival venues). Still on order to arrive are six 2013 Freightliner/Wheeled Coach paramedic units.

As for the statistics, it has been very slow this year with only (13) 2nd alarms and (1) 3rd alarm being recorded so far. One bright spot though is we have only recorded two fire fatalities so far this year. This is the lowest number ever since these recorded statistics (1957) have been documented. This is a true testament to the aggressive public education and fire prevention program promoted by the M.F.D. Through the efforts of the Survive Alive House, both Mobile Survive Alive trailers, Project F.O.C. U.S. (Firefighters Out Creating Urban Safety)-installing smoke detectors in homes in older neighborhoods of the city, and numerous other programs, all the members can be proud that they are truly making a difference in keeping Milwaukee safe

The Training Academy has been busy new members lately. A class of 29 fire recruits began their 16-week training program on October 14th. In addition, a class of 26 fire cadets began their 2-year training program on September 16th. These individuals, ages 17-19, get their E.M.T. and para-



New M.F.D. Battalion 5, a 2013 Chevrolet Suburban. Photo by B.C. James Ley, M.F.D.

medic certification prior to entering the recruit class. During the two years, the recruits get the opportunity to get college credits, assist in fire prevention techniques at the Survive Alive House, and work in the various bureaus/divisions in the department. Good luck to the recruits and cadets in their training.

At the end of September, there were several operational changes in the M.F.D. Engines 4 and 10 are now designated as the Paramedic shuttles as a new class of trainees enter the paramedic program. This resulted in reshuffling sister companies for the three daily brown outs: Engines 11/23, 27/37, and 32/35. In addition, the Compressed Air Supply Unit 1 (previously stationed at Engine 2) is no longer staffed 24/7 and the responsibilities are now



ESU 1 and Rehab 2 on display at the Thiensville Safety Days on 09-14-13. Photo by Chuck Liedtke.

assumed by the Repair Shop.

The Shared Services Initiative discussed in the last issue continues to make great progress in the Greater Milwaukee area. As of this writing, the M.F.D. has been requested 19 times to provide assistance to our neighboring partners for fires, extractions, a gas leak, and even a garage collapse. The



Feeding station established by the M.F.B.C. at the Mitchell International Airport disaster drill on 09-12-2013. Photo by Chuck Liedtke.

M.F.D. has requested assistance 12 times for assistance at fires and a small plane that crashed into Lake Michigan. That unfortunate incident occurred on July 27th when a Piper Cherokee crashed 1 1/2 miles east of the Coast Guard station and resulted in two fatalities. Divers were requested from the Franklin Fire Department, Racine Fire Department, as well as the Racine County Water Rescue Response Team. The South Milwaukee and Racine Fire Departments also provided their boats to assist in the search efforts.

For next year, please consider going to a local muster or swap meet. Fire buffing may become a thing of the past if we do not continue to hold onto the



ESU 1 and Rehab 2 serving the emergency responders at the plane crash on 07-27-2013. Photo by Chuck Liedtke.

traditions of the fire service while trying to adapt to this ever changing technological world that we live in today. That is about it for now. We hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday and stays warm out there.



***Indianapolis Fire Buffs
2205 East 58th Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46220***

By Jerry Traub

Weather has not been a major challenge for IFB members, as our Summer was not the scorcher predicted, and moving into Winter has been a gradual temperature drop. We have been supporting several departments' training sites since July. We have had Rehab Support responses as varied as providing for a Senior Citizens apartment when it lost electrical power and air conditioning on the hottest day of our Summer—103 degrees. We also responded multiple units to a fourth alarm warehouse conflagration in September that threatened to communicate to the surrounding residential neighborhood.

Four members attended the IFBA 60th anniversary Milwaukee Convention. Ed McMichael, Jim Williamson, Wally Walker and Jerry Traub enjoyed a well-planned and well-executed four days. Our experiences varied from Wally's first IFBA convention experience to our President Jim Williamson's well-deserved award as Fire Buff of the Year, 2013, at the closing banquet. That all persons at his banquet table won at least one time during the Door Prize raffle was certainly a record of some kind.

Membership has increased recently, as we have voted in several new members, while mourning the passing of a long time Active member, John T. Burris Jr.

We have not renewed our state Workers Compensation policy, which was a requirement of Indianapolis' city legal department for us to operate on firegrounds. Coverage did not respond to a minor

injury claim since our members are not compensated. We had unsuccessfully countered this several years before. With this claim denied, our position was rendered correct. That policy has been replaced by a broad coverage Accident and Health policy from Provident Life and Accident Insurance, a frequent provider for volunteer departments. We replaced older window air conditioning units at our Reserve station 12 with new, more efficient ones, looking to reduce our summer electric utility costs.

Our elected Secretary Greg Gill announced his resignation from the office, but not the club, as he was beginning EMT classes. Maureen Killilea assumed the office for the rest of Greg's term.

Recently held elections for the 2014 term resulted in the current slate being re-elected: Jim Williamson, President; Ed McMichael, Vice-President; Maureen Killilea, Secretary. Jerry Traub will serve the second year of his Treasurer's office.

Our club was the repeat recipient of a \$500 donation from Michaelis Corporation for the winning Indianapolis Fire Dept BBQ cook-off champs, who were chosen over their friends at the Metro Police Department during a public event. IFD Chief Brian Sanford designated us as his charity of choice. Thanks Chief, again.

As if that wasn't a nice surprise for our credit union account, Indianapolis firefighters have claimed national bragging rights by out-grilling the competition in the National Walmart Steak Over Challenge. Lt. Bernie Mickler, Engineer Jason Smith, Priv Mark Bradley and Priv John Dalton from IFD sta-

tion 11 B shift traveled to Los Angeles for the finals. A portion of their \$20,000 grand prize was directed to the Fire Buffs. Other IFD charities received significant donations from this prize. Winning recipe will be posted at www.indianapolisfirebuffs.org.



(Above and right) Power lines posed a hazard to aerial operations at a two-alarm fire at a storage warehouse facility, located on the east side at 3724 E. 9th Street. The fire was approximately seven blocks from Reserve Station 12, home of the Indianapolis Fire Buffs. Photo above by Rodger Birchfield. Photo on right by Justin Birchfield.

Donations of money, bottled water and Gatorade continue to be received as a result of publicity received from our fleet of four units responding to a gigantic warehouse fire June 15. Damage estimates exceeded \$10 million and suppression lasted two days, with flare-up responses about another week and investigations for several months. In late October, agencies from city fire and police, state fire marshal, and federal ATF ruled cause and origin “undetermined”.

As a follow-up to the massive Nov. 10, 2012 explosion that resulted in two fatalities and 30 homes being demolished because they were beyond repair, the city conducted a multi-agency critique of the city’s response. IFB’s Rehab Units were listed under the “things we did well” column with no suggestions for improvement. It’s nice to be appreci-

Supply and attack lines run along 9th Street as firefighters attack a second-alarm fire. IFB member and photographer Mike Wenzlaff mans a forward rehab station while Rehab Support Unit 1 was stationed a block away. Photo by Rodger Birchfield.



ated!

Our deceased member Randy Brissey was memorialized by decals attached to RSU 4, “Randy’s unit”. Shadow Graphics provided the printing at no charge.

Minor housekeeping issues continue to plague our Reserve station 12. At 98 years of age, not everything is brand new, but members and IEMS occupants are reminded to turn off lights, turn down A/C units, and report maintenance items ASAP.

Our annual Hawaii trip raffle fundraiser has successfully concluded for 2013. A \$2500 grand prize and eleven smaller cash prizes are drawn for active and retired IFD personnel only. Profits are used for Rehab Support, turning the firefighter contributions back where they came from.

We have received arm patches from The Salvation Army, which will be sewn on IFB rehab uniforms as recognition of their support for our units. Decals have been added to the outside of each unit, identifying The Salvation Army as our disaster services partner.

Our IFB Fireground Code of Conduct and RSU Operator Code of Conduct are being revised. Intent is to be sure that all members are aware of responsibilities and limitations while in public and representing our organization and area public safety departments we serve.

Best Wishes for a safe, happy and successful 2014. See you all in Dallas.



Yes Virginia, it snows in Indiana. Firefighters fight an early morning blaze at the former Ritter Inn, a vacant building. They were greeted by large snowflakes from the first snowfall of the season. Photo below shows RSU 1 at the scene with a "ring-side" seat to the action. Photos by Rodger Birchfield.



Heavy, black smoke and flames comes from an accident scene involving two semis. The incident occurred on Aug. 30, 2013, on the Sam Jones Expressway at Bradbury Street, just outside Wayne Township Fire Station 81. Firefighters from Wayne Township, Decatur Township, and Indianapolis Fire Department responded to the scene. Photo by Rodger Birchfield.



September 8, 2013: At Indianapolis' first "official" fourth-alarm fire, firefighters battled flames from an abandoned warehouse building on Van Buren Street. Prior to this fire, preplanning on IFD box alarms went to three alarms. Any incident requiring additional resources were dispatched as "special calls." According to our fire department information officer, preplanning now exists to six alarms. This fire went to several units above a fourth-alarm and looked like it was going to be an all-nighter; however, several hours into the incident, firefighters got an upper hand



(Above) Fire fed by diesel fuel burned out of control as firefighters had difficulty getting between the two smashed trucks on the Sam Jones Expressway.



(Continued from above right) and were able to release most of the companies, keeping a small contingent to take care of hot spots. Investigators called the fire "suspicious," but no arrests have been made to date. Indianapolis Fire Buffs' units operated at two sites during the height of the blaze, and maintained a unit at the scene overnight until about 10 a.m. the following morning. Photos on left by Rodger Birthfield. Photos on right courtesy of Indianapolis Fire Department.

Region

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2-11 Assn. Phoenix Fire Buffs, Inc.
Box 15 Club of Los Angeles
Fire Associates of Santa Clara Valley
Mountain NewsNet
Phoenix Society of San Francisco
Pioneer Hook and Ladder Company
St. Francis Hook & Ladder Society
Seattle Fire Buff Society
Tacoma/Pierce County Fire Buff Battalion



FIRE ASSOCIATES OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY

By John Whitaker

Fire Associates of Santa Clara Valley Responded to Typical Fires of the Season

Calls for Rehab and Canteen service during the late Summer and early Fall months were very typical incidents for the volunteers of Fire Associates of the Santa Clara Valley. The variety of fires ran the whole gamut - from single-family homes to a public storage facility, a lumber yard, and even a 4-alarm inferno involving a huge stack of pallets next to a warehouse.

During this time period, members from the organization also took part in two community service events. One was in conjunction with the San Jose Fire Department's "National Night Out" promotion, and the other involved joining a fund-raising "relay" of classic and antique fire apparatus for the Alyssa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation.

Santa Clara County Firefighters Tackled A Difficult 2-Alarm House Fire

The calm of a warm, Autumn evening was broken for Fire Associates' members when a page was received for help at a 2-alarm house fire. Located at 405 Payne Ave. in Campbell, the fire involved a 2-story home along with 2 vehicles parked in the driveway. Fire Associates

(FASCV) member Don Gilbert quickly responded to the 4:19 P.M. call in Fire Support Unit 2. He was joined on scene by FASCV members Jerry Haag, John Whitaker, and Dan Wong.

First-arriving firefighters from the Santa Clara County Fire Department found the front of the house and vehicles in the driveway fully ablaze



Photo By John Whitaker

with the fire quickly spreading to the second floor and the roof. The interior of the 2-car garage was already burning and the upper roof was threatening to collapse due to the additional weight of roof-mounted solar panels. A second alarm was quickly called, which brought additional fire units and FASCV. The challenge was gaining access to the fire as the 2 burning vehicles in the driveway were hampering access to the fully involved garage. Additionally, the upstairs interior attack was made a little more complicated by the solar panels which were repelling water and adding to the weight of the roof.

Once the fire was knocked down, there was a need for extensive overhaul. FASCV had set up rehab across the street from the incident as firefighters were in need of a place to sit down and lots of cold water and Gatorade on an 80-degree, late afternoon. As the firefighting efforts extended into the dinner hour, Togo's sandwiches were provided to the tired and hungry crews. Additionally, neighbors also arrived with Starbucks coffee and a plate of cookies for the very appreciative firefighters.

As some of the crews were being released, and remaining firefighters were awaiting the arrival of a board-up contractor, FASCV was released at approximately 7:50 P.M.

SJFD Firefighters Were Challenged by A Storage Unit Blaze

Tuesday morning, Aug. 6 at 06:26 A.M., the San Jose Fire Dept. started receiving reports of a structure fire in the area of Interstate 280 and Hwy. 101. Additional callers placed the fire at the Public Storage facility at 925 Felipe Ave., or behind Felipe Ave. on Olinder Ct.

Full first responses were dispatched to both the Public Storage location and the possible 912 Olinder Ct. address. Fire units arriving at Public Storage immediately requested a second alarm to deal with flames shooting out of both floors of the building. Olinder Ct. fire units went to work protecting the exposures on their side of the Public Storage building.

Ultimately, the Olinder Ct. units were added to the Public Storage incident, putting more than 3 alarms of equipment and manpower at the disposal of the Felipe IC.

As is often the case with storage building fires, heavy fuel loads and the varied nature of the things being stored in different units, presented fire crews with many challenges. One of those added challenges was dealing with the extremely tight access space in the driveways between the rows of units. Storage units suffered extensive damage on both floors of the Public Storage facility.

At approximately 7:10 A.M., Fire Associates was requested and Bruce Dembecki responded to the

scene with Fire Support Unit 2. After arriving a little before 7:30 A.M., Bruce was joined on scene by FASCV member Dan Wong.

FSU-2 set up Rehab operations offering cold drinks, coffee and Clif Bars to crews dealing with their early morning start, while Med 30 and Rural Metro EMS crews went through the formal rehab process for fire crews.



Photo By Craig Allyn Rose

By 10:00 A.M., many crews had been released and those remaining had their fresh A-shift crews in place, having replaced their B-shift counterparts on scene. Fire Associates was released from the scene and Support Unit 2 headed back home to SJFD Station 6.

Monterey Road Lumber Yard Fire Went to 3 Alarms

Shortly before 8:00 A.M. on Tuesday, Oct. 8, Cal Fire requested SJFD to assist with a lumber yard and firewood facility fire on Monterey Road. Located at 8149 Monterey Rd., the fire was burning just south of the San Jose city limits.

The owner of Padula's Lumber heard some loud bangs outside his office at around 7:45 A.M. and rushed outside to find two of the buildings in the lumber yard heavily engulfed in flames. He quickly called 911 for assistance.

When fire crews started receiving reports of a fire at a lumber yard on Monterey Road in the town of Coyote (south of San Jose, north of Morgan Hill), they knew exactly where to go and the problems they would face, having dealt with a fire on the same property in the summer of 2012. Once on scene, crews found several buildings fully engulfed in flames, and called for a second and then third alarm response. Additionally they discovered the hydrants in the area were dry, as they had been the previous year.

With a lack of water presenting a problem, Inci-

dent Commander B/C Jamie Norton of Cal Fire/Morgan Hill Fire called for multiple Water Tenders to respond to the scene, and proceeded to set up a water shuttle. Portable tanks were set up by the pumping engines, and a total of 6 Water Tenders from South County Fire, Gilroy Fire, Spring Valley Fire and San Jose Fire worked to maintain the water supply.

Meanwhile, the fire was destroying several buildings on the property, including the lumber yard office. An 1860s era bunk house was badly damaged, and the next door former Union Pacific

railway depot from the 1850s suffered several spot fires on the roof, but was saved by fire crews on the scene. Both the bunk house and the railway depot building were on the Santa Clara County Historic Buildings Registry.



Photo By Cleo Doss

In addition to the initial response and the Water Tenders, the IC called for a second and third alarm, with units from Gilroy Fire, San Jose Fire and Santa Clara County Fire filling out those assignments, together with the first alarm responses from Cal Fire/Morgan Hill/SCC and San Jose.

Fire Associates members Don Gilbert and John Whiteside responded with Fire Support Unit 3 and set up rehab adjacent to the Command Post. They were joined on scene by FASCV members Dan Wong and Bruce Dembecki. FSU 3 provided plenty of coffee and cold drinks, along with a very popular supply of donuts.

By noon, the IC had released units from the visiting agencies, taking care of the remaining over-

haul with South County/Morgan Hill units. Fire Support Unit 3 was released at 1:30 P.M. and back in quarters in San Jose by 2:00 P.M.

FASCV Members Responded to A 4-Alarm Wood Pallet Fire

At approximately 11:00 P.M. on Friday, September 6, the San Jose Fire Department received reports of a warehouse fire in the vicinity of N King Rd. and Mabury Rd. Arriving units discovered a well-involved stack of wood pallets burning at 690 N. King Rd., with fire threatening exposures to a large warehouse. A 2nd alarm was quickly struck.

The area between two different warehouses was filled with thousands of empty shipping pallets. Once these pallets ignited, the fire quickly spread to the roof of an adjacent warehouse. Incident Commanders went into defensive mode and soon called for a third and then a fourth alarm to battle the raging blaze. This escalation also triggered a Fire Associates call out, and members Bruce Dembecki and Don Gilbert responded to the dispatch to collect Fire Support Unit 2 from San Jose Fire Station 6. FSU-2 was staffed at Station 6 within 35 minutes of the original dispatch, and on scene in less than an hour.

Fire Support Unit 2 was met on scene by FASCV member John Whitaker and later joined by Dan Wong. Rehab was made more challenging by the size of the two warehouses, the field of pallets burning and the very large fire ground. A Rehab station was established near the Command Post out on N. King Road, and refreshment stations were set up down Dobbins Rd. at Division Bravo, and behind the complex at Division Charlie.

Firefighters took quick care of the warehouse buildings, but the pallet fire burning between the buildings caused some considerable effort to control. Pallets, of course, are a perfect combination of flammable materials and space for air. They burn very well and fire spreads in stacks of pallets extremely quickly. To get at the fire, the thousands of pallets were pulled out and those that were burnt needed be extinguished. This was a hard, physical job involving lots of manpower. A fork lift and a skip loader were used to some extent, but it was mostly manual work pulling apart the piles.

Eventually, the fire was put out and hot and tired fire crews were rehydrated and refreshed in Rehab. FSU-2 was released and back at Station 6 at by 4:00 A.M.



Photo By Bruce Dembecki

Fire Associates Participated In Annual Burn Relay



Photo By Shonda Ranson

For the second year in a row, Fire Support Unit 2 joined the Peninsula Burn Relay. Staged by the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation (AARBF), the event raises money to enhance the quality of life for burn survivors and promote burn prevention education.

The annual collection of antique, classic and in-service fire rigs travels up the Peninsula from Moffett Field to San Francisco collecting donations at various stops along the way. Escorted by a dozen or more motorcycle police officers, the vehicles all travel with their lights and sirens on as they make their way up the Peninsula. It's quite a sight!

At the conclusion of the event, representatives from the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation said, "Thank you Bay Area for a great Relay! The 24th Annual Peninsula Firefighters Burn Relay raised over \$66,000 for the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation!"

During the Peninsula Burn Relay, Jerry Haag represented Fire Associates and made a contribution from the organization to the AARBF at Mountain View Fire Station 1. FASCV Fire Support Unit 2 was driven by FASCV member Bruce

Dembecki with fellow member John Whiteside along for the journey.

National Night Out - "America's Night Out Against Crime!"

Tuesday, August 6th, was National Night Out - "America's Night Out Against Crime"! To highlight the event, the San Jose Fire Department held a special Open House at Fire Station 6 in Willow Glen. The Open House offered members of the public a chance to meet their firefighters and get an up-close look at the fire engines. The BBQ was run-

ning overtime as hundreds of residents were fed by San Jose's firefighters. Meanwhile, fire station and fire engine tours were popular.

In addition to the station's resident Engine 6 and FASCV Fire Support Unit 2, other fire units on display included Med 30, Truck 30 and one of the San Jose Squads. Also joining in the evening's get-together were several representatives from the San Jose Police Dept. as well as San Jose Fire Department firefighters and administrative ranks.

The public enjoyed their visit to the fire station and the entertainment put on by SJFD and SJPd. To go with the hot dogs, baked beans, and the equipment tours, guests were spotted swinging away at a Pinata, watching a rather fine video presentation, and talking with Fire Associates' volunteer Bruce Dembecki about our group. Later in the evening, Truck 30 came by and showed off San Jose's newest piece of fire apparatus - the new Pierce aerial tiller.

Several hundred people came through the doors of Fire Station 6 on a fine Tuesday evening, and Fire Associates was happy to have been able to participate.

Region

9

Bayonne Fire Canteen, Inc.

Bell & Siren Club, Inc.

Box 54 Club

Fire Nell Club of New York, Inc.

Gong Club, Inc.

Signal 22 Assn., Inc.

Second Alarmers' Assn. & Rescue
Squad of Philadelphia, Inc.

Third Alarm Association, Inc.

South Jersey Fire Photographers Assc.



GONG CLUB, INC.

JERSEY CITY, NJ

by Paul Schaetzle

Frigid February brings Fires!

The month of February has produced some of the coldest and snowiest events over the years. February 2013 proved to be no exception!

Thursday, February 7, 2013 was a cold, cloudy night with the temperature bottoming out at 26 degrees. A major winter storm was forecast to arrive in the next 36 hours but there was no trace of snow that day. Not the worst of winter nights but not necessarily a walk in the park either! As the hour struck 4, Bayview Ave. in Jersey City had a different type of storm – a firestorm to be exact!

Box 733 was struck at 0401 hours for a fire at 210 Bayview Ave., a relatively quiet residential block in the city's Greenville section, made up entirely of 2 family homes separated by 3 foot alleys. The location is a toss up for the first 3 engines; about equi-distant from them all. Although 3rd due, Eng. Co. 22 arrived first to find a 2 ½ story frame dwelling heavily involved. Capt. Robert Deppe reported "We have 2 buildings going; give me a 2nd Alarm". It is a fairly rare occurrence for a company officer to transmit a 2nd alarm. Two minutes later, Capt. Deppe gave an even more rare order, "Transmit a 3rd Alarm"!

Fire was roaring out of every window of the original building and now heading both east and west to similar buildings on either side. Resident of nearby homes fled for their lives as flames leapt high into the frigid night air. However, Ladder Tower 4 set up its master stream and helped save the neighborhood from destruction. 3rd Alarm

companies reported to the rear of the buildings on Wilkinson Ave. and stretched handlines to cover severely exposed buildings on that block. Shortly after his arrival, Deputy Chief Michael Terpak struck a 4th Alarm. Despite the now icy conditions, companies moved in aggressively to confine the fire to the 3 homes originally involved.

Two of the homes partially collapsed, making for a long and tedious overhaul operation. Companies would work on extinguishing small pockets of fire until 1213 hours when the incident was terminated. Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, was chauffeured by Deputy Chief Pat Spellman and a crew of 5 operated for 3.5 hours, serving 7 gallons of coffee and 10 gallons of hot chocolate.

Rundown:

0401 Box 733 Eng. Co. 8-19-22-17 Lad. Co. 4-8 Res. Co. 1
Batt. 2 Div. 1 MSU Car 20
0406 2-2 733 Sqd. Co. 4 Eng. Co. 13-10-9 Lad. Co. 12-9
Batt. 4 Car 3-26
0408 3-3 733 Eng. Co. 15-5-11 Lad. Co. 3 Batt. 1 Car 1-
10-30
0425 4-4 733 Eng. Co. 14-6 Lad. Co. 2
0534 S/C Batt. 3
0616 Fire Under Control

The heaviest snowfall of the year came the next day. Although we were spared the nearly 3 feet of snow that fell in Long Island, NY and the Boston area, a foot of snow blanketed Northern New Jersey making for some treacherous travel. However, no major fires occurred during the storm and fire activity remained relatively light for the following week.

The Presidents' Day weekend brought bright sunshine but bitter cold. By Sunday evening,

February 17, 2013, the thermometer had dropped to 18 degrees. Precisely at 1500 hours, the Hoboken Dispatcher turned out all companies to a working fire at 72 Madison St. How, you may ask, did the dispatcher have such insight? Well, the fire was right out the back door and up the block from the historic Hoboken firehouse on Observer Highway! This is the same house featured on the Fall 2012 cover of TURN OUT, surrounded by the flood waters from Hurricane Sandy.

In fact, the exposure building to the fire had been wrecked by the flood and was sitting there unrepaired and unoccupied. A towering plume of smoke was visible from as far away as The Bronx. Its origin was in a wooden rear porch that lit up swiftly and spread quickly to the vacant building to the north.

Hoboken Batt. Chief Palmisano arrived and called for mutual aid, but help was already on the way! The location is only 2 blocks north of the Jersey City border. Eng. Co. 6 and Batt. 1 were on the air in their district, spotted the column of smoke and headed to investigate. Acting Deputy Chief Michael Borrelli also spied the smoke and took it in. He conferred with the incident commander and called for an FDJC assignment to respond directly to the fire. Eng. Co. 5-17 and Lad. Co. 3 responded and mustered at Hoboken Lad. Co. 2's quarters to join the fight. A tough 2 hour battle

brought good results; the fire did not extend past 72 and 74 Madison St.

The following morning, February 18, 2013, was equally as cold and clear and also equally as smoky! Traffic was light due to the holiday, fortunately, as the action was a short distance from the entrance plaza of the Lincoln Tunnel. This fire was nautical, at a marina at 1500 Harbor Blvd., Weehawken. North Hudson companies responded at 0745 hours to a reported boat fire. The marina is



2/18/13 3-3 1500 Harbor Blvd., Weehawken

North Hudson land companies battle this blaze that heavily damaged 3 pleasure craft (Ron Jeffers Photo)

used year round, but most boats are in storage for the winter. However, a large pleasure craft was heavily involved and, as luck would have it, boats were tied up on either side of the burning vessel.



2/18/13 3-3 1500 Harbor Blvd., Weehawken

A tri-city, bi-state fireboat response was outmatched by shallow water! FDNY Marine 6, FDJC Marine 1, North Hudson Marine 1 (Ron Jeffers Photo)

The clear sky was blotted once again by an inky black column of smoke. F. D. N. Y Marine Co. 1, directly across the Hudson River, saw the smoke and raced across the river in their fast attack vessel, Marine 1A. North Hudson's and Jersey City's boats were underway as well. With 3 boats now ablaze, Deputy Chief Michael Cranwell transmitted a 2nd Alarm, followed by a 3rd Alarm at 0755

hours.

Despite fireboats from 3 Departments and 2 states on the scene, the draft was too shallow for any of the boats to pump. Try as they might, only a muddy slop could be thrown by any of the boats' deck guns. Land companies charged a dry standpipe that runs the length of the main pier of the marina and fought the fire with handlines from the floating docks. The fuel tanks of all 3 craft became involved, requiring foam to be used to complete extinguishment. Jersey City Eng. Co. 10 and the Quick Response Vehicle of the foam task force were special called, but did not see any action. 5 gallon containers of foam and handlines completed the job. Although the marina is nestled between piers with residential and commercial buildings on either side, neither pier was in danger.

Car 26 operated at both the Hoboken and Weehawken fires, with crews of 5 members dispensing a combined total of 7 gallons of coffee and 9 gallons of hot chocolate to the frozen fire fighters.

BACKDRAFT!

Not the popular 1991 movie set in Chicago, but the real deal occurred in Harrison on Sunday March 10, 2013! Traditionally, the second Sunday of March is the day for both the Jersey City and the West Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parades. The Gong Club canteen, Car 26, had been washed and primped for the Jersey City Parade but just as we were about to leave quarters at 1100 hours, the Harrison frequency came alive with a report of a fire at 602 N. Rodgers Blvd. (N. 4th St.). The Harrison Fire Department has fallen on hard times of late and has been running only 2 engine companies. Upon arrival,

Harrison Eng. Co. 3 reported a working fire followed by urgent transmissions for lines to cover the exposures as fire was extending rapidly.

Neighboring Kearny and East Newark both rolled companies immediately. Kearny Eng. Co. 1 and Tower Ladder 2 covered the front while the volunteer fire fighters from East Newark covered the rear, via Davis St. along the south side of the fire building. With fire extending in 2 directions, it was difficult to tell where the fire originated. Investigation following the fire pinpointed the origin to the rear northwest corner of 600-2 N. Rodgers Blvd., a 2 story brick structure with a restaurant on the ground floor and a hall used for religious purposes on the 2nd floor. Pressed for manpower, the companies on scene focused on the exposure building to the north, a 2.5 story structure housing several dwelling units at 604-8 N. Rodgers Blvd.

Not only was the exposure to the north heavily involved, fire was also extending to an occupied,



3/10/13 5-5 600-8 Rodgers Blvd., Harrison

A backdraft at this fire injured 5 Jersey City Fire Fighters. Reality imitates art! Just as in the 1991 Movie, "Backdraft", Eng. Co. 17 (FDJC) is in the thick of the action! (Brian McCaffrey Photo)

attached row of 2 story frame dwellings at 34-8 Davis St. Additional mutual aid was requested by both Harrison and East Newark. Jersey City dispatched Batt. 3, Eng. Co. 17, Lad. Co. 9 and the Mask Service Unit / Safety Officer at 1118 hours. Car 26 diverted from the parade plans and responded as well. North Arlington responded with their Eng. Co. 3, Tower 1 and Rescue 5. The mutual aid companies went right to work, Jersey City to the original fire building and North Arlington to the north.

Car 26 arrived on the scene shortly behind the Jersey City companies. Conditions were deteriorating rapidly and thick, black plumes of smoke blanketed the area. As we scouting out a position to set up rehab operations, a thunderous roar was heard followed by a cloud of black smoke that darkened the corner of Rodgers Blvd. & Davis St. "Backdraft!" the cries rang out! The crew of FDJC Lad. Co. 9 was evacuating the fire building and was blown down a flight of stairs into the street. Batt. 3, Batt. Chief Ken Ratyniak, was in the street but showered with glass from the explosion. All hands focused on the injured fire fighters, who were all transported to the Jersey City Medical Center.

A 4th Alarm was transmitted, bringing FDJC Eng. Co. 22, Lad. Co. 12 and Batt. 4, along with Kearny Eng. Co. 3 and 4. Flames were now leaping into the clear, sunny skies from the 2 buildings on N. Rodgers Blvd. Master streams were deployed, eventually bringing 3 ladder pipes and 2 tower ladders into play. A 5th Alarm was struck, bringing additional companies from North Arlington and Lyndhurst to the fire.

Car 26 operated for nearly 8 hours. A crew of 6 members served 6 gallons of coffee, 5 gallons of Gatorade, 4 gallons of hot chocolate, 3 pizzas and 9 gallons of beef stew. Thirsty fire firefighters also downed some 105 bottles of water.

The backdraft, captured on video by 2 onlookers, was circulated widely on the internet. The incident

also sparked a call from the Chiefs of Department from the other Hudson County municipalities for Harrison to address their manpower situation. Harrison is now running their ladder company again and changes to the mutual aid running assignments have been implemented to dispatch more companies to working fires in Harrison.

TRENCH CUT SAVES THE DAY!

Fires in row dwellings are all too common in the tightly packed streets of Hudson County. These are some of the most difficult fires to fight, all too often resulting in the loss of several buildings. Such thoughts were in the minds of Jersey City fire fighters when Box 678 was transmitted at 1205 hours on Wednesday, March 27, 2013. Less than one year prior, on April 6, 2012, a 6 Alarm fire ravaged 10 buildings on Claremont Ave. April 6th is not a good date! In 1993 on that date, one block to the south of the Belmont Ave. address, a 3rd Alarm fire decimated a row of homes 1t 15-31 Astor Place, also on Box 678.

Squad Co. 4 arrived to find fire belching from the windows of a 3 story row brick dwelling. The fire building was midway in a row of a dozen similar attached dwellings. It was obvious that a lot of help was needed quickly. 2nd and 3rd Alarms were struck within 10 minutes of the initial alarm.

Ladder companies scrambled to the roofs of the exposure buildings and picked out spots 2 exposures down from either side to make their stand. Saws and axes went to work, cutting two wide trenches the length of the buildings. Meanwhile, engine companies stretched handlines into several buildings to attack the fire from within. Fire vented nicely from the top floor windows of the fire building and eventually the top floors of the two nearest exposure buildings spewed flames as well. However, the combined efforts of companies working the interior and cutting the roofs proved successful. Fire was held in check to the 3 buildings. The remaining buildings in the row, although smoke damaged, were saved!

A tip of the helmet to the Bayonne Fire Canteen for assisting at this operation. Rundown for the fire as follows:

1205 Box 678 Sqd. Co. 4 Eng. Co. 9-8-17 Lad. Co. 12-4 Res. Co. 1 MSU Batt. 4 Div. 1

1209 WF 678 Eng. Co. 5 Lad. Co. 9 Batt. 1
1210 2-2 678 Eng. Co. 15-7-6 Lad. Co. 6
1215 3-3 678 Eng. Co. 13-11-14 Lad. Co. 3 Batt. 2
1225 S/C Marine Unit
1228 S/C Batt. 3
1248 4-4 678 Eng. Co. 19-North Hudson Eng. Co. 9
Lad. Co. 8
1502 Fire Under Control



3/27/13 4-4 678 23-33 Belmont Ave., Jersey City

Early stages of a tough fire. Large trench cuts flanking the exposure buildings saved the day! (Ron Jeffers Photo)



EDITOR'S NOTE:

Did anyone notice the photo credit line for the Gong Club's "backdraft" photo?

Wasn't "Brian McCaffrey" one of the main character's name that was used in the movie "*Backdraft*"?

Region ***11***

Metropolitan Fire Assn. of Atlanta, GA

Central Florida Fire Buffs

South Florida Rehab & Emergency
Support Team

Metropolitan Fire Association

ATLANTA, GA

Article by: Jeffrey A. Harwell

Atlanta had two notable fires during the month of May:

May 23, 2013
1174 Euclid Avenue NE
Incident #13035181

1341 E 6,12,19 T 1,10,12 SQ4 B 3,5
1346 Air 7
1351 E 1,10,11,13,15 T 15,16,29 DC1
1354 EMS1 MP11
1406 F728, F729
1504 E 16,29



Atlanta firefighters are pictured operating at a stubborn fire at The Corner Tavern at 1174 Euclid Avenue NE. The fire originated in the attic and went to two alarms plus a special call for two engines on the afternoon of May 23. Photo courtesy Atlanta Fire and Rescue.

This stubborn fire struck the business 'The Corner Tavern' located in Little Five Points. Arriving

units declared a working fire in a one story taxpayer with multiple exposures, followed a short while later with a request for a 2nd Alarm. Initial reports showed the fire to be in the attic with heavy smoke on all four sides of the structure. There were several factors going against the fire department: the structure was between 90 and 100 years old with multiple void spaces and a flat roof system with multiple ceiling layers. It looked like the fire was contained at 1440 hours, but flames soon began showing from the A/B corner as well as the Charlie side. Conditions started improving again around 1458. The official cause was listed as an overheated fan motor in the attic crawl space.

The loss was estimated at \$90,000 to property and \$100,000 to contents.

May 26, 2013
3200 Lenox Road NE
Incident #13035800

0709 E 3,21 Quint 4 T 21,26,29 Squad 4 B3, 6
0715 Air 7
0718 E 11,27,29 T 11,15 B2 DC1
0720 EMS1
0722 F723, F728
0723 T 1
0734 E 15 EMS2
0735 E 1,6,23 T2,25,38
0744 E 26
0752 B 4
0806 T 10
0808 E 10,19
0829 B 5
0836 E 8

1153 E 12, 28, 34
1500 E 22

1635 E 25
1838 E 18

Atlanta's biggest fire so far this year took place during the long Memorial Day weekend in the far northeast part of the city. The address was so far north that Sandy Springs Quint 4 was due on the first alarm through

automatic aid. The scene confronting first alarm companies was an occupied four story, 36 unit apartment building with fire on all floors at the rear of the structure. The time of the alarm – 7:08am on a Sunday morning – meant that search and rescue operations had top priority. There were a number of interior rescues as well as over the ladder rescues off several balconies. While the fires on Floors 1, 2, and 3 were contained during the early stages of the fire, the 4th Floor proved quite challenging. The fire made its way into the attic and crews had to be moved off the floor as fire began eating away at the roof structure. Aerial streams were eventually able to knock down the attic fire. A firewall at the center of the building was able to halt the horizontal fire spread. A total of two ladder pipes, two 2-1/2" handlines, and eight 1-3/4" handlines were used on the fire which resulted in \$500,000 damage to property and \$300,000 to contents. The GMAG mutual aid system was activated to fill vacant Atlanta stations. Units fulfilling this request included engines from College Park, Rockdale County, Fairburn, and Cobb County, with ladders



On May 26th Atlanta firefighters battle a 3+ alarm fire the city's far northeast side. The address of the four story, 36 unit apartment building was 3200 Lennox Road NE. Photo courtesy Atlanta Fire Rescue.

coming from Forest Park, Cobb County, Morrow, and Social Circle. Fire investigators were unable to determine for certain the exact cause of the fire, but the burn patterns in a 1st Floor apartment were consistent with the occupants account the fire started around a plant that had incense in it that had been lit a few minutes earlier. The MFA canteen was requested on this fire and wasn't released until 5:38 pm.

Also in the spring, Atlanta had two fires that would be classified as extra long events. The first took place on the morning of April 22 at the Go Green Recycling complex at 751 James P Brawley Drive NW. Two buildings were heavily involved – one measuring 150' x 50', the other 300' x 50'. Crews operated two ladder pipes, two deck guns and one 2-1/2" handline. The MFA canteen was dispatched at 3:55pm that afternoon and wasn't released until 10:00pm. Ironically, the fire took place on Earth Day. The other fire occurred on May 15th in the junkyard at 598 Wells Street SW. This has been the scene of many fires over the years. This one went to two alarms as units placed two ladder pipes into operation, as well as stingers to protect heavy equipment used to tear apart the debris piles.

Gwinnett County had one notable fire this spring on the evening of May 21st. Around 10:00pm units were dispatched to 6930 Buford Highway for a fire in a two story office/warehouse complex. Engine 1 from downtown Norcross was first on scene and declared a working fire with initial reports of a possible victim still inside the structure. Crews were defensive on the main building and offensive on the exposures in an attempt to keep the fire out of the pre-engineered metal warehouse. The fire eventually went to a 2nd Alarm with a special call for an additional engine and truck.

Things have been rather slow during the summer. Fulton County had a vacant warehouse fire on August 30th at 796 Great Southwest Parkway. A partial roof collapse impeded access to the fire. Tower 11 operated along with the building's sprinkler system. The only other significant fire

took place on September 11th in East Point when all city units as well as engines from Hapeville and College Park went to work at the Classic Mattress Factory on Oakleigh Drive.

Based on the Atlanta FD run totals for 2012, the busiest engine, truck, and battalion chief were Engine 16 with 5,761 runs, Truck 1 with 2,244 runs, and Battalion 5 with 1,316 runs. At the other end of the spectrum, the slowest companies were Engine 27 with 451 runs, Truck 31 with 823 runs, and Battalion 6 with 359 runs.



The grand opening of the replacement station for Atlanta FD Engine 28 was held on June 6th at 1925 Hollywood Road. This photo of the new station was taken the following month. The portion of the building to the right in the photo is used as a mini-precinct for Atlanta PD Zone 2.



April 1, 2013: 2431 Clio Street, New Orleans. NO Fire Department battles a major fire at a two-story brick insulation warehouse. The building was totally destroyed. (Continued next page)





ROMAN KAMINSKI

A Friend of the Fire Service Like No Other



As you know, we have often asked Stuart Nathan with the International Fire Buff Associates, Inc. for an update on Roman Kaminski, a former chair of the National Advisory Committee, at our semi-annual meetings. Sadly, Stuart informed us this past Friday that Roman died of heart attack at the age of 92.

Roman never wore the turn-out gear but he was one of the most dedicated and committed members of the fire service. For many years, he was the IFBA's representative to the CFSI National Advisory Committee. In 1997, his fellow NAC members selected him to serve as the committee's chairman for consecutive terms in 1997 and 1998. Always the consummate gentleman, Roman was highly respected by his fellow NAC members for his integrity, character and dedication.

In his hometown of Baltimore, Roman was truly a giant. He was the former president of Box 414, the Baltimore City Fire Department's canteen unit, and the chairman of the department's Fire Prevention Program for over two decades. For his 70+ years of service to BCFD, he received many honors and recognitions – the highest of which was the department naming the station closest to Roman's former home the Roman Kaminski Fire Station in 2006. Only five other individuals have received such an honor from BCFD.

Kevin O'Connor of the IAFF and former NAC Chair offered these words honoring his fellow Baltimore native. "Roman Kaminski was giant in the fire service in Baltimore and across the nation. Roman lived cross the street from the fire station that now bears his name and where my dad served as a Captain in 1960s. I knew Roman my entire life. He was a leader, successful businessman and benefactor to the community Roman truly made a difference. He will be missed and never forgotten."

