

TURN OUT

SPRING 2014



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- **IFBA Board Forms Roman Kominski Memorial Scholarship**
- **Dallas Hosts IFBA Spring Board Meeting - Including 3-Alarm and 4-Alarm Fires**

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*.

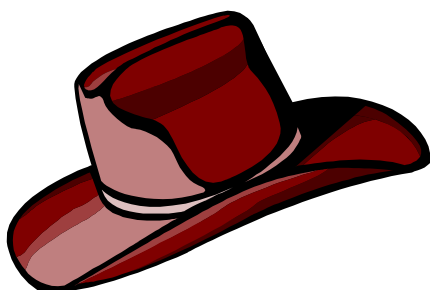
Deadlines

Publishing date November 25, 2014 - **Submission deadline November 1, 2014**
Publishing date May 15, 2015—**Submission deadline April 17, 2015**

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Cover photo courtesy of Box 4 Firebuff Facebook Page.



*Presidential Notes...
from under a 10 gallon hat*

Dear Friends:

The only constant in life is the changes; the practice of fire buffing has changed since we picked up the practice of going to fires and fire stations. Today some of us can no longer hear fire communications, some fire stations are locked down and not visitor friendly, some fire scenes have a barrier tape that does not allow access. All of these problems restrict fire buffing and our fellowship with fire buffs.

At the recent spring Executive Board meeting in Dallas our Treasurer reported on the number of clubs in the IFBA:

Year	Number of Clubs
2010	70
2011	67
2012	69
2013	66

As a result of these numbers and to help us understand where our organization has been and where it is going, I have asked the Regional Vice Presidents to ask each club in their region to give them a census report of the individual club for the last 3 years, i.e. each club report on the number of members in the club for 2014, 2013, and 2012.

If we keep doing what we have been doing we will get the same results. At the Dallas meeting we discussed and examined ways to grow our clubs and the number of fire buffs. I appreciate the efforts of Buffs Karl Brummett of Signal 51 Group and Mark Duval of Box 4 for discussing their clubs efforts to use social media to expand fire buffing. Among the possible answers to growing fire buffs are:

- ◆ Use of the world wide web
- ◆ Facebook
- ◆ Twitter
- ◆ YouTube
- ◆ Zello
- ◆ Paging

We discussed the use of technology to overcome the barriers to fire buffing and the successes some of our clubs have had in using technology. Above all remember that once you were young and a neophyte therefore welcome prospects and new members, mentor them and help them grow in our avocation of fire buffing. It is one of the greatest shows on earth.

I encourage you to have your club join the IFBA in creating:

- ◆ A web page
- ◆ A Facebook page
- ◆ A Twitter Account

Please consider visiting the IFBA at each of the above social media sites that IFBA currently maintains. If you are interested in videos consider visiting the Signal 51 Group website and sample their extensive library of videos. Consider visiting the Facebook page of the IFBA, the Bell & Siren Club, or Box 4 Fire Buff Association. When eating an elephant take one bite at a time, perhaps now is a good time to start trying some of these technologies. A philosopher once said that change must begin with me.

I believe that the Spring Board Meeting is and was a very good time for us to work, discuss, and adjust the sails on the IFBA ship of state. We reaffirmed the use of committees and to expand committee membership to reach a broader pool of workers who are interested in the IFBA and willing to work to create solutions for the good and welfare of the organization. If you are interested in serving on a committee please ask a current or past officer to recommend your nomination and send me your name and your preferred committee and your commitment to attend Board meetings and work to better the IFBA and our clubs.

We test drove the Convention Hotel and found it to be comfortable with a good location and good food. Our members found both the Dallas Fire Rescue and Box 4 to be friendly to visitors and supportive of buffing. We anticipate delivering a convention that will be entertaining.

Please join with me in improving our organization and leaving a healthy atmosphere to those who follow us.

Wally Banks

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Attention All IFBA Members!

At the spring IBA Board Meeting, President Wally Banks further expanded IFBA's committee structure and appointed members to the various committees. If you will recall, former IFBA President Paul Schaetzle appointed many of the current committees, saying a strong underlying committee structure would add to the strength of the organization. Former Presidents Gary Wignall and Carolyn Wignall reappointed the committees during their tenures.

President Banks wants any IFBA member having an interest in a particular committee, and also having an interest in serving the IFBA organization and their fellow members, to communicate their interest to him. His only stipulations are a desire to serve and a commitment to attend scheduled Board Meetings.

Email President Banks at 424-896wgb@verizon.net.

Dallas Convention Information

By Wally Banks Committee Co Chair

Dallas Box 4 invites all Fire Buffs to come to Dallas to join us at the 2014 IFBA Convention. The Convention Registration Packet and Ad Book is located elsewhere in this edition of Turnout which includes the agenda. We are offering an event packed convention with good food and fellowship.

If you stay in our Convention Hotel, you will be provided 13 meals from Wednesday morning thru Sunday morning so that your out of pocket expenses are reduced once you have paid your registration fee. Please appreciate that we traded a higher convention fee for you not paying anything for meals. Our hotel advises that there are only 68 rooms left in our block as of this writing and nights using the shoulder rate are still available, so reserve your room soon before they are gone. If you need assistance in any reservation problems please advise me.

Dallas Fire Rescue is a conventional radio system so your analog scanners should be effective. I encourage you to visit www.RadioReference.com to secure the details and see the many trunked radio systems in the Metroplex. All Fire Boxes are announced in their entirety twice on Channel 1. You will also enjoy the complete sizeups given by the first engine in and the first truck on location and the first two chiefs at the scene and the Deputy Chief.

To summarize the DFR system:

DFR Channel 1 Fire Operations	453.875	Duplex
DFR Channel 2 EMS (Rescues)	453.90	Duplex
DFR Channel 11 Staging	465.6125	Simplex
DFR Channel 12 Fgd Opns	465.6375	Simplex

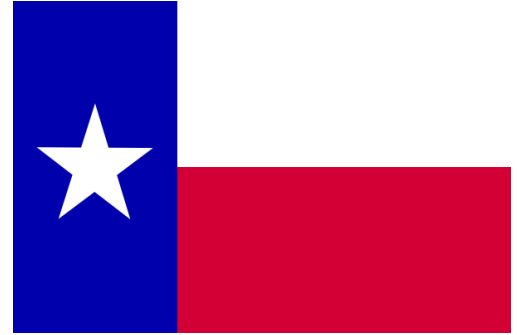
The Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) light rail station is within hotel shuttle/walking distance. The Light Rail give you access to downtown, American Airlines Arena, and other areas of both Dallas and the Metroplex. The DART folks have announced that the DFW Airport light rail station will open August 18th, which means it, is useable for going to and from the convention hotel and DFW Airport. For about \$2.50 you can go from the airport to the hotel without changing trains in a little over an hour versus a \$70 cab ride which due to traffic can take the same amount of time. This is just an alternative solution to your transportation needs.

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. The Incident Page Network has graciously provided free access to their DFW alerts during the Convention at no charge to participants except for text data fees from your provider. You can pick the agencies and types of incidents that you want to be notified of events, e.g. you can receive notification of multi alarm fires in Dallas. We are also looking at Zello which is a Smartphone app that creates a walkie talkie network out of your Smartphone which is a free service except for data usage fees by your provider. At the recent Spring Executive Board meeting we buffed a 3 alarm and later that night a 4 alarm fire, during which the

guests found Dallas Fire Rescue to be very friendly to buffs.

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,



***62nd Annual International Fire Buff Associates Convention
Dallas Texas
September 2-7, 2014***

Tuesday September 2nd

Registration 3 pm – 10 pm
IFBA Region 5 Meeting 3 pm
Executive Board Meeting 7 pm
Hospitality Room and Buffing 3 pm until

Wednesday, September 3rd

Vendor Exhibits 9 am - 4 pm
Opening Ceremony, Memorial, Business Meeting, Convention Previews 9 am
Lunch furnished at Hotel 12 noon
Seminars: Dallas Chiefs on EMS, Special Operations,
Hazmat, Fire Prevention & Investigations, Operations 1 pm – 4 pm
Depart for tour of Dallas Fire Museum 4:30 pm – 7 pm
Supper provided at Dallas Firefighters Union Hall 7:30 pm – 9 pm
Hospitality Room and Buffing 9 pm

Thursday, September 4th

Depart for activities at DFR Training Facility demonstrations
With photo opportunities of EMS, Wildland Firefighting, helicopters,
Tour shops & lunch provided 8 am – 1pm
At ease at hotel and hospitality room 1:30 pm
Depart for tour of Dealey Plaza and 6th/7th Floor Museum 3 pm – 9 pm
Then tour of Texas Fire Museum and supper provided
Hospitality Room and Buffing 9:30 pm

Friday, September 5th

Depart for activities at DFR Training Facility demonstrations
With photo opportunities of Swift Water Rescue, Hazmat,
USAR, ARFF & lunch provided 8 am – 1 pm
At ease at hotel and hospitality room 1:30 pm
Depart by bus for Billy Bob's Texas BBQ supper provided
Cowntown Rodeo and Bull Riding, Country Music concert 4 pm – 11 pm
One bus returns 10:30 pm, 2nd bus returns at 11 pm
Hospitality Room and Buffing 11:30 pm

Saturday, September 6th

Depart by bus for tour of DFW Airport stations 1, 4, & 5 and
Training Center. Talk by DFW Airport DPS Director Allen Black and
demonstrations and photo opportunities Lunch provided 9 am – 2 pm
At ease at hotel 2:45 pm
Reception 6:30 pm
Banquet and Closing Ceremonies 7:00 pm
Hospitality Room and Buffing 9:30 pm

Schedule, Events and Times are Tentative

Hotel Information

Doubletree by Hilton at Campbell Center is located at 8250 North Central Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75206. The phone number is 214-691-8700 or Toll Free 1-800-HILTONS. The website is www.Hilton.com. The Convention Group Code is IAC, which yields a room night rate of \$119 plus tax per night. This rate is effective for the five nights of the convention plus 3 nights before and 3 nights subsequent to the meeting while rooms last. In addition to free covered parking, 2 free breakfast coupons per room per day during the convention, and a free shuttle bus for a 3 mile area around the hotel. The DART Light Rail Station at Park Lane is on the Red Line and the Orange Line, the station is accessible by the free Hotel Shuttle bus. The Orange Line is scheduled during the Convention to run from DFW Airport to Park Lane with a fare for seniors of \$2.50 and \$5.00 for regular one way fares.

Within the free three mile hotel shuttle bus area is Northpark Shopping Center, President George W. Bush Library and Museum, Southern Methodist University, The Biblical Arts Museum, many restaurants, theaters, and shopping.

Easily accessible via the DART Light Rail Line is the West End, Dallas Museum of Art, Nasher Sculpture Center, Perot Museum of Natural History, Dallas Zoo, Union Station, American Airlines Arena, restaurants, shopping, and theaters.

Meals

If you use the Convention Hotel you will receive 13 meals with your registration. Each morning you will enjoy two full breakfast buffet coupons per room per day.

On Wednesday a deli sandwich buffet will be served in the hotel. That evening you enjoy southern country cooking and a choice of either Southern Fried Chicken or Chicken Fried Steak.

On Thursday after your breakfast and a morning watching demonstrations, you will be given a Jason's Deli lunch. In the evening you will enjoy fare from south of the border with a fajita supper.

On Friday again with a breakfast buffet and a lunch at the DFR Training Center in the evening you will attend a Texas BBQ supper.

On Saturday starting with a breakfast buffet, Firehouse Subs for lunch the Convention banquet brings a choice of:

Pan seared spicy Tilapia with a craw fish béarnaise
Herb crusted chicken topped with a sherry citrus reduction
Grilled Pepper Crusted Steak topped a cognac peppercorn demi



Thank you for registering to attend the 2014 IFBA Annual Conference being hosted by Box 4 Fire Buff in Dallas, Texas. We want to make the process as easy as possible.

You will need to complete a *separate* registration form for each individual attending.

Full Name

First Name

Last Name

Address

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Country

E-mail

Phone Number

Emergency Contact Person:

Phone Number:

Relationship:

Medical conditions we should be aware of:

Club Affiliation:

Officer: ☐

Position:

Alternate: ☐

Delegate: ☐

☐ Please check the box to indicate that you attended a previous conference.

Conference Information

Please select the type of registration you would like

- ☐ Full Conference Registration - Prior to July 15, 2014 - \$395USD
- ☐ Full Conference Registration - After to July 15, 2014 - \$425USD

Per Event Pricing for guest of paid attendees

- ☐ Wednesday - Dallas Fire Museum & Union Hall - \$45USD
- ☐ Thursday - 6th Floor Museum and Texas Fire Museum - \$60USD
- ☐ Friday - Billy Bobs Texas - \$90USD
- ☐ Saturday - Closing Banquet - \$40USD

Hotel Information

Hotel Name: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Dallas - Campbell Centre
Hotel Address: 8250 H. Central Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75206-1888
Group Code: IAC
Rates: \$119 + tax per night
Phone Number: 214-691-8700

Free Self Parking
Free Breakfast for 2; per room; per day
Free Shuttle within a 3 mile radius.

Meals

All Conference Registrations include the following meals:

Wednesday: Lunch and Dinner
Thursday: Lunch and Dinner
Friday: Lunch and Dinner
Saturday: Lunch and Dinner

Dietary Restrictions:

Payment (USD Only)

Please send payment in USD and registration form to:

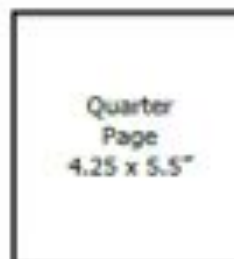
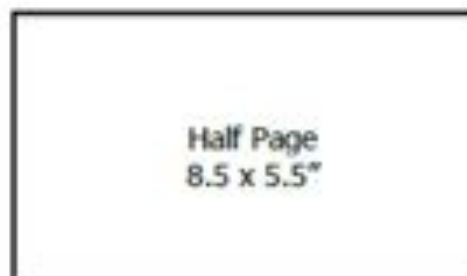
- ☐ Check
- ☐ Money Order

Box 4 Fire Buff Association, Inc.
c/o Karen Hoskins
225 Fox Hollow Blvd.
Forney, TX USA 75126



Box 4 Fire Buff Association, Inc.

2014 IPBA Convention
c/o Karen Hoskins
225 Fox Hollow Blvd.
Forsyth TX USA 75126



Program Book Ad Order Form

_____ Full Page 8.5 x 11"	\$ 75.00 USD
_____ Half Page 8.5 x 5.5"	\$ 50.00 USD
_____ Quarter Page 4.25 x 5.5"	\$ 25.00 USD
_____ Business Card 4.25 x 2.75"	\$ 10.00 USD
_____ Inside Front Cover	\$100.00 USD

Preferred format: High resolution PDF file

If submitting electronically, please complete this form and mail with payment to our address below
Send via email to: ksd573@aol.com

If submitting hard copy, please complete this form and attach your logo or ad copy (no staples please) with payment

Please Complete

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Signature: _____ Solicited By: _____

Please make your check out to: "Box 4 Fire Buff Association, Inc."
c/o Karen Hoskins
225 Fox Hollow Blvd.
Forsyth TX USA 75126

Advertising copy and check/money order in USD must be received by July 25, 2014

Incident Page Network

Incident Page Network (IPN) has graciously agreed to give access to their service free during the convention for all attendees. You will receive all Dallas Fire Rescue multi alarm dispatches.



Executive Office, International Fire Buff Associates, Inc., 11017 N. Redwood Tree Court, Mequon, WI 53092-4338

April 5, 2014

To: All IFBA Member Groups and Associate Members

Subject: Nominations for the "Henry N. Wilwers Fire Buff of the Year" Award – 2014

According to Article 8 of the IFBA By-Laws, all Active Member Groups and Associate Members are eligible to submit nominations for the "Henry N. Wilwers Fire Buff of the Year" award to be presented at the Convention in Dallas, Texas, on Saturday, September 6, 2014 at the convention banquet.

Names of candidates for the award along with a resume stating the reasons for the person's nomination must be received by the Executive Office no later than July 1, 2014 in order to be considered by the Fire Buff of the Year Committee for the 2014 presentation. The IFBA operates on a fiscal-year basis, July 1 to June 30, for this award.

The Executive Office urges you to make this subject a top priority. This is a very great honor for the recipient and we are asking all clubs to put forth their effort in submitting these resumes. Surely you all have outstanding fire buffs in your midst that are deserving of this honor. If your candidates name has previously been submitted but not selected, that name may be re-submitted. Only members of IFBA Member Groups and Associate Members are eligible for this award.

Please refer to the attached information regarding this award as provided by the "Fire Buff of the Year" Committee and the list of previous honorees. You may contact me at the below address for any information concerning this award.

It will be greatly appreciated if the nominations and resumes are forwarded to this office at the below address as soon as possible to allow the Fire Buff of the Year Committee sufficient time to study these nominations and make their final selection. Any names that are submitted after July 1st. will not be considered.

If your nominee has previously been nominated, but not selected, it is not necessary to complete an entire re-nomination but rather a letter on official stationery asking that your previous nominee be reconsidered is all that is necessary. Note: Do not submit these resumes to any member of the committee as they must be officially logged in with the Executive Office for the permanent file. Otherwise, they will not be considered. We appreciate your attention and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely yours in good Fire Buffing,

William M. Mokros, Executive Vice President
11017 N Redwood Tree Ct, Mequon, WI 53092
E-mail executiveoffice@ifba.org



“HENRY N. WILWERS FIRE BUFF OF THE YEAR” AWARD

We, the members of the “Fire Buff of the Year” Committee, would like to take this opportunity to re-emphasize IFBA’s interest in the continuation of this Award for many years to come, and to expand somewhat on the information contained in the accompanying letter from the Executive Vice President regarding the nominations for the 2014 Award.

The “Fire Buff of the Year” Award, as it was first known, was established in St. Louis in 1967 to honor the man or woman who best exemplifies the qualities that distinguish a Fire Buff’s outstanding achievements in the interests of the IFBA and/or the avocation of Fire Buffing. It has been awarded annually since that time. In April 1976 the name of the Award was changed to further honor its first recipient, Henry N. “Hank” Wilwers.

Any Active Member Group or Associate Member may nominate a member of an IFBA Member Group or an Associate Member to receive the honor. Nominations must be made, in writing, to the Executive Office, as described in the attached letter.

There are no specific “qualifications” or “standards” that must be met. The Committee considers (among other attributes): service to IFBA, service to the local buff club or clubs, service to local fire departments or agencies, service to national fire agencies, assistance to the fire service community in general. The “key word” is, of course, “**service**.” A simple resume, supported by letters of recommendation, is all that is required by the Committee.

If a nominee is not selected, this does not signify a “pink slip” rejection for all time. It simply results from the fact that only one candidate is chosen annually. Should the nominator(s) wish a nominee to be re-considered the next year (or at a later date), a letter to that effect is the only requirement (all files are maintained for a number of years). The Committee does not automatically review these files each year - a re-nomination must be made.

The Committee protects the confidentiality of its deliberations and the identity of the honoree is not made public until the Award Ceremony at the annual convention banquet, nor does the Committee divulge the rationale for its selection, beyond the biographical data presented at the banquet, when all present learn of the accomplishments of the Award winner.

We would like to urge all IFBA Regional Vice Presidents and Member Group officers to make their constituents more aware of this fine opportunity to honor one of their own with this prestigious award. There are many IFBA’ers who are qualified to join the previous honorees who have been recognized for their accomplishments.

Stuart M. Nathan, Chairman
Tom Pelaia
Noel Kerkhoff
Ed McMichael



Executive Office, International Fire Buff Associates, Inc., 11017 N. Redwood Tree Court, Mequon, WI 53092-4338

To: All IFBA Officers, Member Groups and Associate Members

From: Executive Vice President

TO ALL CONCERNED: The IFBA Executive Office operates on a fiscal year (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014). Please note and adhere to the dates noted in this letter.

This is to officially announce that the IFBA Annual Business Meeting will be held at 10am on Wednesday September 3, 2014 at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Dallas, Campbell Center, located at 8250 Central Expressway, Dallas, TX 75206

At this meeting the officers will make their reports for the past year, conduct all business that will be placed on the meeting agenda by prior notice to this Executive Office, and will hold the election of new officers for the coming year.

THIS LETTER IS ALSO A REMINDER FOR THE FOLLOWING. PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY:

DUES PAYMENTS-Active member groups are reminded that unless all past and current years' dues are paid prior to the start of the Annual Meeting, their delegates shall be denied voting privileges.

LETTER OF APPOINTMENT- Prior to the annual meeting, each active member group planning to attend, is requested to furnish a letter, on its official stationary, containing the names of its official delegate and alternate to the Annual Business Meeting. THIS LETTER SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO THIS EXECUTIVE OFFICE AT THE BELOW NOTED USPS or EMAIL ADDRESS BY NO LATER THAN July 1st 2014. DO NOT SEND THIS INFORMATION TO THE IFBA SECRETARY OR THE DALLAS CONVENTION GROUP.

MEMORIAL SERVICE-Since the 17th Annual Convention, it has been the custom to honor the memory of deceased members of member groups and associate members. Please be sure to submit the name(s) of your members that have answered their last alarm. Those submissions must be sent to the Executive office no later than August 1st..

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS- All names of candidates for all offices should be submitted to this Executive Office, by no later than July 1st, for transmittal to the Nominating Committee for action. All concerned are reminded that nominations for Regional Vice Presidents are to be made by the member groups at their regional meetings and submitted to this executive office for presentation to the Nominating Committee. Nomination of other candidates for any office, other than Regional Vice President, may be made from the floor of the Annual Meeting provided that: 1) The candidate thus nominated has agreed, in writing to serve if elected, and that 2) The nomination is made, in writing, by a delegate and seconded, in writing, by two other delegates.

In the event that no nomination for candidate for the office of Regional Vice President is forwarded to the Executive Vice President and properly presented at the annual meeting, the incoming IFBA Executive Board shall have the power and the responsibility of appointing a member of one of the active member groups within the region to serve in the office of Regional Vice President for the coming year.

CONTINUED

NEW BUSINESS PROPOSALS-Any region or member group intending to submit new business proposals, other than amendments to the Constitution, for consideration or action at the 62nd Annual Business meeting, must submit an outline of the proposal, in writing, to this office by no later than July 1st, so that the item(s) may be placed on the meeting agenda. The Executive Board has ruled that no new business may be presented from the floor at Annual Business Meetings unless prior notice has been given, in writing, to the executive office.

FIRE BUFF OF THE YEAR AWARD- Due to the nature of the selection process and award trumpet preparations, The Henry N. Wilwers, Fire Buff Of The Year award nominations are due in the Executive Office no later July 1st, 2014. There can be **no exceptions** to this date.

E-MAIL ADDRESS- Please provide the Executive office with an active E-Mail address for your organization. By active, I mean an e-Mail address that is checked on a regular basis. If you have not already done so, a current list of your club officers is also requested at this time.

Your prompt attention and response by the appropriate dates, to these requests, will be appreciated. Please forward all information to the below noted address. We look forward to seeing you in Dallas.

Sincerely,

William M. Mokros, Executive Vice President
11017 N Redwood Tree Ct.
Mequon, WI 53092
(262) 512-0234,
E-mail: executiveoffice@ifba.org

Cc: All Members of the IFBA Executive Board,
Committee Chairpersons, and Past Presidents

Note: This notice was sent via E-Mail to all groups that have provided an E-Mail address. If you received this notice via USPS, please provide the Executive Office with a valid E-Mail address.

Turn Out Service Reminder

Turn Out is available on-line at www.ifba.org. Downloading and printing speeds vary, depending on your internet connection and your computer and printer.

For those who have experienced printing delays, - remember that *Turn Out* is also available in a printed, magazine format, mailed to you, at a subscription rate. For more information or to subscribe, contact Jim Williamson, Circulation Editor, at e-mail turnout@ifba.org.

Unofficial Minutes from Spring Board Meeting, Dallas - April 12, 2014

(Editor's note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Executive Board at their next regularly scheduled meeting)

[Called to order by President Wallace Banks at 9:15 a.m.]

Singing of Canadian and American National Anthems by Irving, TX Fire-fighter Les Pratt.

United States Pledge of Allegiance

Greetings from Dallas Chief of Department Louie Bright III.

Roll Call of Executive Board

President Wally Banks
Executive Vice-President Bill Mokros
Treasurer Paul Schaetzle
Secretary Gerard Mahoney
First Vice-President Mike Hoskins
Second Vice-President Karen Hoskins
Director of Publicity Stuart Nathan
Past Presidents Comm. Tom McDonald
Resource Comm. Ira Cohen
Convention Facilitator Rick Cutts
Region 1 VP Bob Sherwood
Region 3 VP Chris Oliphant
Region 5 VP Mike Hoskins
Region 6 VP Vickie Mokros
Region 9 VP Conni Spellman
Turn Out Editor Jerry Traub
Turn Out Co-Editor Ed McMichael
2015 Convention Chair Ken Beliveau

Also in attendance:

Karl Brummett; Signal 51 Group, Shreveport, LA
James Carey; Gong Club, Jersey City, NJ

Representatives of DoubleTree Hotel addressed group and answered questions related to hotel and area attractions.

Room Rate of \$119.00 (plus tax) including complimentary breakfast and parking confirmed. Rate will also be honored for shoulder dates.

Executive Board members broke into Committee Caucus groups.

Minutes of July 2013 Executive Board Meeting were read and accepted as read.

President Banks appointed a Committee to discuss and review future convention sites/agendas:

Wally Banks
William Mokros
Vickie Mokros
Tom McDonald
Chris Oliphant

No communications received.

Treasurer's Report by Paul Schaetzle. Motion made to accept report, passed.

President Banks requested that all Regional Vice-Presidents report back by the July 2014 Conference Call on the number of clubs and number of members in each club in their respective region. The intent is to see what trends there are for clubs and memberships.

Treasurer Schaetzle reported the following historical data on number of

clubs:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Clubs</u>
2010	70
2011	67
2012	69
2013	66

Vigorous discussion on the topic of membership numbers in the individual clubs. Executive VP Mokros will develop a questionnaire for all member organizations on membership trends.

Presidents Report: Convention Planning

The Chair announced that pursuant to Article 8; Sec. 2 of the By-Laws, the host club has nominated Chief Louie W. Bright III of the Dallas Fire-Rescue Department for the 2014 IFBA Firefighter of The Year Award. Executive Vice-President Mokros will take care of ordering the plaque. Due to new regulations with respect to Savings Bonds the Treasurer will work with the Executive Vice-President on a suitable substitute. The Strategic Planning Committee will consider an amendment to the By-Laws as well.

Executive Vice-President: Report to be delivered at convention.

Constitution and By-Laws: Chris Oliphant, No report.

Education: Gary Wignall, Not present, no report.

CFSI: Stuart Nathan. CFSI has recognized the passing of Roman Kaminski in FEMSA News and FAMA Flyer. CFSI Dinner is May 1, 2014 in Washington, D.C.

Convention Facilitator: Rick Cutts, report submitted electronically. Nothing planned beyond 2015 in Hartford, CT.

Historical: Bill Mokros, nothing to report

Resources: Ira Cohen, nothing to report

Finance: Paul Schaetzle, shopping for better rates as CD is about to come due.

Insurance: Paul Schaetzle, Policy formerly issued by Zurich. Zurich has sold that line of business to Foremost Insurance. The policy was issued in December 2013, fee was \$535.00.

Strategic Planning: Tom McDonald. Key to recruitment will lay in social media avenues. Discussion on whether to expand the term of the IFBA President. This is in keeping with earlier discussion regarding continuity of operations for the organization.

Publicity: Stuart Nathan. Discussion on getting IFBA information into publications and social media.

Turn Out: Jerry Traub. Written report submitted. Deadline for Spring 2014 issue extended to April 19, 2014.

Committee Assignments: President Banks, after securing the comments and opinions of each person in attendance, determined that pursuant to Article I; Section 1 of the By-Laws during his term of office the organization would use the "Committee System" and expand committee membership to reach a broader pool of workers who are interested in the IFBA and willing to work to create solutions for the good and welfare of the organiza-

tion. Based upon the input of those present the following committee appointments were made.

He asked the officers and former officers solicit the membership about serving on a committee and to recommend their nomination by notifying the President the name of the individual along with the committee they so choose. Those volunteering should be able to commit to attending Executive Board Meetings and to work for the betterment of the organization. He further stated his intent is to expand our workforce and knowledge skills and abilities. This is a "working job" and not an honorific appointment, we want diligent workers on the committees.

TURN-OUT:

Jerry Traub
Ed McMichael
Jim Williamson

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA:

Bill Mokros
Chris Oliphant
Wally Banks

FIRE BUFF OF THE YEAR:

Stuart Nathan
Tom Pelaia
Noel Kerkhoff
Ed McMichael

MEMBERSHIP:

Vickie Mokros
Ira Rubin

NEWSLETTER/AWARDS:

Ira Cohen
Rick Cutts

STRATEGIC PLANNING:

Tom McDonald-Chair
Stuart Nathan
Ed McMichael
Jim Williamson
Paul Schaetzle

EDUCATION:

Gary Wignall
Mike Hoskins
Peter DeJesse

FINANCE:

Chuck Liedtke
Ira Rubin
Len Williams

MEMBER SERVICES:

Ken Beliveau
Bob Sherwood
Mike Hoskins

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY:

Gerry Mahoney
Bob Sherwood
Tom Pelaia

Regional Vice-President Reports:

Region 1-Bob Sherwood, no report

Region 3-Chris Oliphant. Central Pennsylvania Fire Buffs status in question. Will submit a proposal for 2016 convention later in meeting.

Region 4-Not Present

Region 5-Mike Hoskins, No report.

Region 6-Vickie Mokros. Lot of activity, particularly in Indianapolis. Received good feedback on 2013 convention. Milwaukee Fire Bell Club will be noted in United Way literature as an organization to donate to.

Region 7-Not Present

Region 9-Conni Spellman. Fire Bell Club 75th Anniversary. Bayonne Fire Canteen conducting fundraising for members injured in an accident. Area canteens supported funeral services of Gregory Barnas a Wallington, NJ firefighter killed in the line of duty.

Region 10-Not Present

Region 11-Not Present

A presentation on social media and options for the IFBA to increase publicity was held. Karl Brummett of Signal 51 Group in Shreveport, LA (sfd5104@gmail.com) and Mark Duval of Box 4, Dallas, TX (425@box4.org) spoke at length on the pros and cons of Twitter, Facebook, websites etc.

President Banks reviewed the Convention Agenda. Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for 7:00pm on Tuesday September 2, 2014. General Business Meeting is Wednesday September 3, 2014 following the Opening Ceremony at 9:00am. Thirteen meals are included in the registration.

Convention Registration fee is expected to be \$400.00. On or about July 15 the fee is expected to be \$425.00.

2015 Convention Report: Ken Beliveau. Host hotel is Radisson at 50 Morgan Street. Room Rate is \$129.00 per night. Convention Dates August 12 through 15. Executive Board will meet on Tuesday August 11 in the evening. Spring Executive Board Meeting April 24 through 26, 2015.

2016 Convention Proposal submitted by Chris Oliphant on behalf of Central Alarmers Association. Proposal accompanied by a letter of support from the Chief of the Baltimore County Fire Department. Exact location and dates are TBD at this time. A motion to accept the proposal was made, seconded and approved.

New Business:

Three organizations eligible for recognition at 2014 Convention.

Seattle Fire Buff Society; 50 years
Fire Bell Club of New York; 75 years
Box 41 Club; 100 years

Executive VP Mokros noted it's time to order President Badges for the organization.

Box 4 extends an invitation to hold the fall business meeting on Tuesday September 2, 2014 at 7:00 pm at the Double Tree by Hilton Campbell Center. Dallas, TX.

Chris Oliphant and Ken Beliveau spoke about the use of the Zello App, which is available for use on Smartphones and Tablets for communication. Operates in a manner similar to Nextel.

Motion made, seconded and approved to establish the Roman A. Kaminski Memorial Scholarship to pay the registration fee for attendance at the annual convention. The awards committee will determine criteria for prospective recipients.

Motion made, seconded and approved to award the first Roman A. Kaminski Memorial Scholarship to Maria Crichlow.

Motion to adjourn at 4:17 pm.

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

Greetings from the Hub of the Universe, the home of the Bean and the Cod

Our very active Board of Directors continues to believe that a well planned schedule of entertainment at meetings is the best thing we can do to insure attendance of our members

In January we were fortunate to have as our presenter one of our newer members, Mr. Mike Boynton, the webmaster for MASSFireTrucks.com. Mike displayed an eclectic assortment of apparatus photos from his website and taken from around the country on his vacation trips. Mike was able to display at least one piece of apparatus from every fire department in Massachusetts.

In February our presenter was Board member Jeff Brown. Jeff is the Senior Fire Alarm Operator for the Salem Massachusetts Fire Department and a professional photographer. Jeff presented photos from major fires in Salem and those taken on buffing trips to the Baltimore area. Jeff is known for the commemorative CD he prepared for the Association's 100th Anniversary.

In March, our newsletter Editor Frank San Severino displayed photos he has in his personal collection of Special Operation Division apparatus from around the country. Included was the Coroner's Mobile Morgue from New York City and the NY Department of Sanitation Mobile Command Post. It was a very interesting presentation that will not be soon forgotten. On March 26th the Association was

very saddened to learn of the tragic Line of Duty Deaths of two Boston Firefighters. We were honored to learn that the canteen units from two of our sister IFBA Association's, the Boston Sparks and the Providence Special Signal, played an important part in the services for the firefighters. Please see a complete story on the tragedy authored by our Treasurer Bill Wilderman elsewhere in this issue.

Our April meeting was held outside of Boston in Brockton Massachusetts. We were the guests of Retired Chief Ken Galligan and the Brockton Historical Society. Those in attendance were treated to a tour of the Brockton Fire Museum and allowed to hold our meeting in the Society's Shoe Museum. Brockton runs a great Museum and they are to be congratulated for the efforts to preserve the history of the fire service.

Future meetings are being planned to feature a presentation on the Detroit Fire Department and a visit to MASS Task Force One (MATF-1, one of the FEMA Teams) in Beverly. We continue to encourage visiting buffs to attend our meetings and "Like" our Facebook page.





FF Michael R. Kennedy



Lt. Edward J. Walsh, Jr.

March 26, 2014, 9 Alarms-Box 1579, 298 Beacon Street Boston, MA

Two Boston firefighters, Lt. Edward J. Walsh, Jr., 43, and Firefighter Michael R. Kennedy, 33, were killed, after becoming trapped in the basement, March 26th while battling a nine-alarm blaze that raced through a brownstone at 298 Beacon Street in the Back Bay neighborhood of the City.



The two men were stationed at Engine 33 and Ladder 15 on Boylston St. only a few short blocks from the fire location. Ed Walsh, Jr., 43, was a 9 ½ year member of the BFD, married with two sons and a daughter under the age of ten. Michael Kennedy, 33, was a 6 ½ year member of the BFD and a Marine Corps. Veteran who had served in Iraq prior to becoming a member of the BFD. Both men were very active outside the firehouse in their communities.



Memorial grows in front of E33/L15 Quarters

"Today's a sad day in the history of the Boston Fire Department," said Fire Commissioner John Hasson. "Our hearts go out to the families. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them."

Firefighters responded at 1443 hrs to the four-story brick building, where a fire was spreading upward from the basement, fanned by winds gusting at times to 45 miles per hour.

Deputy Fire Chief Joseph Finn, who was the incident commander, said the strong winds blowing off the nearby Charles River appeared to contribute to the rapid spread of flames throughout the building. "In 30 years, I've never seen a fire travel that fast," he said.

The two firefighters were found in the basement of the building, where the fire apparently started. They had advanced a line into the basement, down the interior stairs to battle the flames. Within two or three minutes they ordered a May-day, signaling that they were trapped. Firefighter's attempts to enter the building initially to rescue the two men were blocked by a heavy fire condition at the entrances and windows. When Firefighters were able to get in the basement about half-hour into the fire, they found Kennedy and transported him to Massachusetts General Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Fire officials knew that Walsh remained in the building but could not get to him as the fire raged, Finn said, calling it a "tough call" but a necessary one.

Later in the evening, Walsh was found in the basement by the front stairs. He was pronounced dead at the scene. His body recovered from the building as a group of firefighters stood on either side at attention.

A team of federal and local investigators will be looking for answers. Authorities disclosed the cause and origin of the blaze was ignited by sparks from welders working on an iron handrail next door at 296 Beacon Street. It appears the workers had been working without a city permit, or a fire detail.

"What happened is the sparks from the welding operation got in under the boards, the shingles, festered there for a while, the fire ignited, it got rolling, was fed by the wind, and ultimately consumed the whole building," Hasson said.





Firefighters from all over the world pay their respects to their 2 fallen brothers.

The Box 52 Association would like to close this article with a few words from member Michael Boynton:

On March 26, 2014, our hearts were broken and souls saddened at the news that the Boston Fire Department tragically lost members in the Line Of Duty at a 9-Alarm Fire on Beacon Street. Words cannot describe the hurt and devastation that are felt by the families of those lost, and of the amazing Family that is indeed the Boston Fire Department and all their brother and sister firefighters throughout Massachusetts and the Nation. That morning these public servants reported for duty as they have many, many times before. But as we now know, the end of their watch arrived far too early. Despite the danger, they did their jobs with pride, professionalism, and honor, and tonight have left us too soon. The Supreme Sacrifice has again been made by the Bravest, and we honor their souls, their memory, and their heroism. We indeed pray tonight that God has welcomed them to his Kingdom. That He will comfort and bless their families, friends and all loved ones, that He will bring full and rapid healing to those who were injured, and that He will watch over all members of the Boston Fire Department and the Fire Service as a whole.

Most importantly, let us never forget. Heaven now has two new angels.
May God Bless Them!

-Michael Boynton, March 26, 2014



Connecticut Fire Photographers Association

To improve the recognition of fire photography operations as an important adjunct and tool in the fire service by municipal fire departments.



Irions 2 Smoke Moosup (Plainfield) Ct

Moosup Fire was dispatched around 09:50 to 20 Aldrich Ave for a house fire. First due found a 2-1/2 story duplex with heavy fire from the front of the building. Crews made a knock down the first floor, but the fire gained control of the void spaces and attic. Facing a strong wind condition, firefighters were pushed back and exterior operations were ordered. During this time, a 2nd Alarm had been dispatched. (Left)

Both photos by Robert Ladd.

Willimantic Ct Willimantic 3rd + Alarm

Around 18:30 Willimantic fire was dispatched to St. Marys Church for smoke coming from the building. First due found heavy smoke coming from the building. In a short time a 3rd alarm was requested. Crews made entry to with a 2.5 hose line to attack the fire as 4 towers and a ladder set up. After a while the conditions deteriorated and command evacuated the building and went defensive with master streams. The fire ran the roof line for several hrs, the master streams held it in check. (Right)



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

Box 15's Annual Report for 2013 is available at our website www.Box15.org.

IT'S BEEN A BUSY WINTER.

The winter season has been one for the record books. It was one of the coldest and one of the snowiest on record in Central Ohio. Due to what has been referred to as a “polar vortex”, we began 2014 with several days with temperatures below zero and wind chills ranging to -40. This may not be cold to folks in Minnesota or North Dakota, but it was darn cold to us. And we had plenty of fire activity to go with it.

Box 15 has a cold weather protocol that specifies when the chill factor is at or below zero; members will staff at least one rehab unit with a crew on standby at the fire station. They will then automatically respond to all working fires. In January alone, the protocol was in force for 10 days.

In December, we responded to 3 working fires in single family homes and a second alarm fire in a large apartment building. All four were on nights when the wind chill factor was below zero. Then January came and we were called out eight times in the first eight days of the new year. The first was a single family home in the City of Dub-



House fire in southwest Columbus - B Goldstein Photo



East Columbus Apartment Fire - J O'Brien Photo

lin. The 2-story, 2600 sq. ft. home was heavily damaged on January 2nd, with fire extending from the first floor through the roof. Weather conditions included snow, a 10-15 mph north wind and chill factor well below zero. Later, the same day we were called for a deep-seated fire in an office/warehouse complex on the east side of Columbus. The next day, January 3, we were turned out for two more fires – the first in a single family home in Reynoldsburg, east of Columbus, followed three hours later by another residential fire – this one in southwest Columbus. Actual temperatures were in the single digits and chill factors again below zero. January 4 brought another run. This time it was a 2-story wood frame apartment building, when a plumber attempting to thaw frozen pipes set fire to insulation in the wall. The fire extended from the ground floor into the

attic. Damage was extensive and 16 families were displaced.

The extended stretch of cold weather took an unusual toll when a 24" water main ruptured in downtown Columbus, the night of January 6. The massive volume of water flooded the basements of several structures as well as underground transformer vaults. While most businesses were closed, it did affect one hotel and a hospital that is a Level 1 Trauma Center, who both boiler feedwater. Box 15 was on the scene for several hours, serving Fire, Police and various personnel from the City's Water Division, AEP and Columbia Gas.

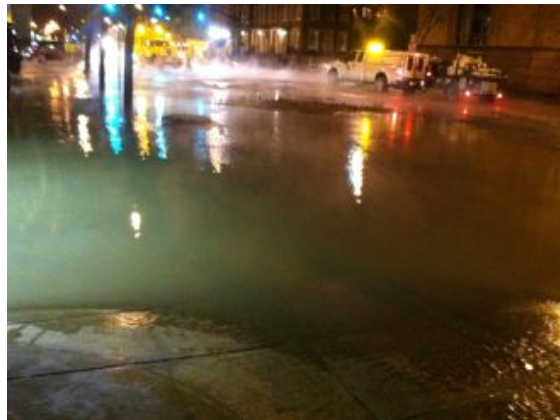
January 7 – weather is still bitter and another house fire in Dublin. This one, a 2-alarm fire in a 3,600 sq. ft. home. It was heavily damaged by the fire and Box 15 was on scene for several hours while wind chills ranged from -5 to -20. Then in the early morning of January 8, a fire in a Hilliard home prompted another call for Box 15. At both the Dublin and Hilliard fires, the fire departments also arranged for school buses for us to use as rehab shelters. Columbus Fire also made one of their shuttle buses available during the cold nights, which we used to great advantage.

The severe weather slacked a bit in February however we still had 4 nights with below zero temps. During the month, we were called out for a 2-alarm and four working fires. As of this writing, Box 15 had responded 29 times so far in 2014. That's well ahead of 2012, our busiest year on record.

NEED REHAB? WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED IN CENTRAL OHIO

We are blessed in Central Ohio when it comes to firefighter rehab. We have a total of 6 rehab groups operating in a 7-county region. In addition to Box 15, serving Franklin and Delaware counties, there is also Support 401, operated by the West Licking Firefighters Association in Licking County. Box 65 supports the fire departments in Pickaway County. To the west, we have Box 49 in Madison County, Box 13 in Champaign County and the Union County EMA operates firefighter rehab in Union County. As an aggregate, we serve 75 fire departments in the region. We cover more than 3,100 square miles with a population of more than 1.7 million residents and nearly 5,000 firefighters.

Union County EMA operates two units, both buses. One is front line; the other is kept in reserve. They have a total of 28 responders, most of whom are volunteers, all are rehab trained. Equipment includes four pop up tents, one Zumro inflatable tent, two Mr. Hero Heaters and two misting units. They serve



24" Water Main Break in downtown Columbus - J O'Brien Photo



Front line Rehab bus - B Gilbert Photo



On scene at a winter structure fire - B Gilbert Photo

eight fire departments in Union County (pop. 52,700). They average around two incidents per month for rehab but they also provide emergency lights and generators, traffic control, as well as maintain the county Haz-Mat trailer and Mass Causally trailers.

Pickaway County - Box 65, originally formed as the “Circleville Fire Auxiliary Scene Support Unit”, the group is now known as BOX65.

In September, 2010 the Circleville Fire Department formed the Circleville Fire Auxiliary Scene Support Unit now known as BOX65. Though BOX65 is part of the fire department, the function of BOX65 has limited financial support from the city and the department. We operate mainly on donations. All 19 members of this unit are volunteers. BOX65 has 3 objectives. First and most important is firefighter rehab. Equipment consists of rest station shelter, food, water/drinks, warmth in cold weather and cooling in hot weather.



Box 65 unit newly lettered - M Adkins Photo



Box 65 working at warehouse fire - M Adkins Photo

Our second objective is our Mobile Incident Command Center. We are working on having this up and running by the spring of 2015. The third objective is to have the ability to refill Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) bottles.

Box 65 operates one rehab unit, a re-purposed medic vehicle. Equipment includes generators, infra-red heater, 4 misting fans, 10 x 20 tent, folding

table, folding chairs, waters / power drink, energy bars, ice chests, coffee urns, socks and work gloves. Run volumes have grown from 2 in 2012, to 8 in 2013 and 10 already in 2014. Box 65 is dispatched by the Pickaway County Sheriff and the Circleville Fire Department. BOX65 covers 13 fire departments in and around Pickaway County. Pickaway County has a population of 55,000 and covers 506.55 sq mi.

Madison County - Box 49

Box 49 is the firefighter rehab service operated under the auspices of the Madison County EMA. They have one converted medic, donated by the Jefferson Township Fire Department plus a Chevy Tahoe for short-term responses. Equipment includes tents, folding chairs and a misting unit. Their staff is only 3 people but is expected to grow as the service “catches on”. Madison

County has a population of 44,000, served by 7 fire departments. Box 49 serves all 7 departments. They are dispatched by the Madison County Sheriff office. In an average year, they will respond on about a dozen incidents, but they also turn out for a lot of community events, in order to raise the public awareness of their



Box 49 Rehab Unit - K Schneider Photo



Rehab Support Unit - K Schneider Photo

service.

West Licking Firefighters Support Units 401 and 402 are operated by members of the West Licking Firefighters Association and Ladies Auxiliary. The Associations primary source of funding is the Annual Pataskala Street Fair which they have sponsored and operated for almost 70 years. They have also received grants and funding from the Fire District. The most recent grant from the Round Up Foundation



Original Support 401 & Tent - West Licking Photo

assisted in the purchase of our new trailer. (Support 402). The Association continued with their new purpose of supporting the Fire District. Over the years we have purchased

Hurst Tools, overhead doors, thermal imagers and two Fire Safety

Houses. On

occasion we may still purchase or help with the purchase of other items, as needed. In 2004 the Fire Chief suggested we begin operating a Rehab Unit for the District.

The membership decided to take on this task and we out-

fitted the unit as a Support Unit with coolers, a coffee maker, folding chairs and a couple pop-up shelters. Overtime we have added a misting fan, blankets towels, hand warmers and prepackaged snacks.

We purchased a 10' x 20' Inflatable Shelter and the Fire Board purchased a Ram Fan Furnace for the



Support 402's first run - R Johnson Photo

shelter. In 2011 the District offered us a newer Medic Unit with a new engine to replace the unit we had. We accepted this unit but it was decided that the shelter took up too much room in the truck and that we should obtain a trailer to carry it on. We had Farber Specialty in Columbus outfit the trailer with a restroom, cabinets and running water.

This trailer is known as Support 402. Both units are

equipped with Honda generators. Our primary response

area is the Fire District which covers Pataskala, Kirkers-

ville, Etna TWP, Harrison TWP and part s of Reynolds-

burg, New Albany and Jersey TWP. This is an area of ap-

proximately 109 square miles; however we are also available, upon request, to the rest of Licking

County. With the help of the Fire Board we have purchased new fire pagers and have our own tone on the West Licking channel. We are dispatched by the Licking County 911 Center. We have 30 members

plus 15 members of our Ladies Auxiliary that help out with the units. We have 3 crews of 4-5 who work a rotating duty of a week at a time. We also have a pool of members who want to help but don't want to

be on a crew. Recently we joined into an alliance with Box 15 and the other Central Ohio Rehab Units to better prepare the area for a major incident.



Support 401 in Action - R Johnson Photo

Champaign County - Box 13

Like Box 49 and Box 65, Box 13 uses a number derived from the numeric County designations. Ohio has 88 counties and they are numbered sequentially. Adams County is #1. Wyandotte County is #88. However, Box 15 predated that system and derived their number from the original number of members when the club was organized in 1947. Franklin County is actually County #25.

Box 13 was organized in 1956 but did not register as a Corporation until 1961. The purpose of the association was and remains today, to support and assist the Urbana Fire Division. They operate one rehab unit, a re-purposed medic vehicle, donated by the Urbana Fire Department. The group currently has 5 volunteer members, but is always looking for other individuals who are willing to put in the effort. They meet monthly to conduct their business as well as training.



Box 13 working at a house fire - M Kelly Photo

The response unit contains an Inverter to run a coffee maker, or fans or other equipment that requires 120 volt power. We carry Kore-Kooler chairs, and a pop-up tent. Products on-board include coffee, bottled water & granola bars. In addition to firefighter rehab, the rig is equipped with a 4-bottle cascade system and 2-bottle fill station, so they function as “air supply” as well. One of the members is a registered nurse and serves as their EMS coordinator. Members are trained to take blood pressure readings.

While the mission is to support the Urbana Fire Division, we do respond to neighboring fire departments as part of Urbana’s mutual aid agreement. Urbana dispatches us but we can also “auto-respond” when it is known to be a working incident. Future plans include acquiring a 10-16 passenger bus.

Franklin & Delaware County – Box 15

Box 15, serving the largest metropolitan area is also the longest serving. Organized in 1947, we have been providing support services to firefighters for 67 years. We currently operate two front-line trucks plus a reserve unit, all fully equipped and stocked. Equipment includes pop-up tents, misting units, box



(L to R) Rehab 1, Rehab 3 (reserve), Rehab 2 - B Barber Photo

fans, propane heaters, rehab towels, folding chairs & tables, battery chargers, bulk water tanks and portable generators. We serve coffee, tea, hot chocolate, sports drink & granola bars. We even carry spare socks & gloves. Box 15 currently has 22 active and 13 affiliate members, nearly all of which are trained in Incident command and Hazmat Awareness. We use Pulsepoint and

Active 911 as well as text messaging for dispatching our members.

Although not assets of any of the region’s rehab services, we can special request a decontamination trailer from Norwich Township Fire. It has both heat and air conditioning and the interior is large enough to seat approximately 16 firefighters. We can also request a 12 passenger shuttle bus from Columbus Fire for responses in severe cold weather. Columbus’ hazmat team also has two Zumro inflatable tents that can be requested for long-term incidents.

Bottom line – if you’re a firefighter in Central Ohio, we’ve got your back.

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

The winter of 2013-14 was one of Chicago's coldest and snowiest in over 30 years; however, multiple alarms for 2013 were almost average with 26 2-11s, six 3-11s, two 4-11s and the Ice Palace fire of January 2013 which was a 5-11 and two specials. So far, through March 2014, the City has experienced 16 multiple alarms. Many of these were upgraded because of high winds and extreme cold temperatures or frozen fire hydrants.

On November 15, 2013, at approximately 4 p.m. on a Friday afternoon, rush hour, a fire in a strip mall at Peterson Avenue and Lincoln Avenues on the north side ended up as a 4-11 with several special alarms called. The fire started on the roof of the 18,000 sq. ft. mall when roofers spotted flames coming from an area that they had been working on with torches. The merchants in the mall reported flames and smoke filling the interiors of their stores. Within several minutes the entire east half of the building which housed a mattress store and warehouse, was totally involved. A fire wall and aggressive firefighting stopped the fire from extending into four other stores. The fire was one of the most spectacular blazes in the 10th Battalion in years. Nineteen pumpers and 10 aerials eventually responded to the scene.

Apparatus deliveries for the CFD will begin arriving this spring. Twenty-five new ambulances are said to be powered by gasoline rather than diesel engines. The units were built by Wheel Coach using F-450 cabs. Two more rear-mount 103 ft. aeri-

als from Spartan-ERV will be assigned in the next few months. The three new snorkel squads (2-piece units) are under construction by Rosenbauer-America. Details have not been verified and we

will have more information in the next issue. Several new pieces of special apparatus have been assigned to the Fire Academy and Air Mask Service. New chief cars using sedans and SUVs are also being assigned.



Early view of 4-11 at Peterson and Lincoln (Photo by Mike Penchar)

At O'Hare Field, two ARFF Oshkosh 4500 crash units are to be finished and placed into service in the next few months. Sometime this

spring, Engine Co. 9 and Engine Co. 10 will receive new Emergency-One 2,000 gal. gpm pumpers with 1,000 gal. booster tanks and 250 gal. foam tanks. A reorganized Engine Co. 12 using a 2012 Spartan/ERV, 1500 gpm pumper, was put into service at Crash Station 1. At the same time, a reserved crash truck was retrofitted and became unit 6-5-10 and was also assigned to Crash Station 1. The mobile command van 2-7-8 was moved to Crash Station 3.

The 5-11 Club remains very active and at the January meeting, Fire Commissioner Santiago sworn in the officers and directors of the 5-11 Club for 2014. Dennis Ahrens was sworn in President, Jim Mitidiero as Vice President, Harold Klein as Recording Secretary, Mike Vanderwalker as Corresponding Secretary, Paige Van Vorst as Treasurer. Also sworn in were board of directors Chuck Bleck, Jack Conners, Russ Harmon and former president John Divita.



5-11 Club President Dennis Ahrens presenting Firefighter William Miller, shown with his son, the 5-11 Club Firefighter of the Year Award for 2013 (Photo by Bud Bertog)

On March 26, 2014, the Club presented Firefighter of the Year Award to FF William Miller of Engine Co. 42. FF Miller was fishing at Diversey Harbor while off duty and noticed another fisherman had slipped off the pier into the frigid water. FF Miller rushed to his aid, holding him above water with one hand while dialing for help with the other. FF Miller remained in control of the situation until help arrived around 15 minutes later.

This spring, the 5-11 Club members will be busy with several events including the 100th Anniversary of Engine Co. 120, EMS Week at the Fire Academy in April and the 20th Annual Fire Muster and Flea Market, to be held at the Fire Academy on June 14. The Muster will have over 60 vendors and will feature an apparatus parade and a bell-ringing ceremony as a tribute to fallen firefighters at 9:30 a.m. The Muster runs from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and, as always, is free to the public.

On the canteen scene, the 5-11 Club canteens responded to 67 requests for service in 2013 and over 20 requests in the first quarter of 2014. A fund-raising project for the Fire Museum of Greater Chicago, called the Ken Lit-

tle Library Fund, is for the repair and remodeling of the second floor of the museum for their offices, a library and a resource center. Please check out the Fire Museum website for more information. The museum is located at 5218 South Western Avenue and should be a "must see" for visitors to our City.

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 at the convention.



4-11 at Peterson and Lincoln (Photos by Mike Penchar)



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

By Jerry Traub

Since we last chatted about the Circle City, many of our members experienced the greatest outdoor temperature extremes in their lives. Area winter low was -15 degrees and an early spring warm-up almost hit 80 degrees. Snowfall total for the winter was within 2 inches of breaking the previous record before it quit for the season. Many municipal budgets are being rewritten to cover significant costs of salt, sand, chemicals and worker overtime. Now the challenge is to effectively patch the many chuckholes and pavement fractures from the freezing and thawing cycle. Wheel and tire and front-end shops have had a great start for 2014 sales.

Effective in 2014, new radio numbers have been assigned to IFD department cars, and new county designations have been started for those surrounding Marion County. Several IFD stations have been given house numbers from previously closed stations, i.e.: 61=23; 62=26; 63=35 (new); 64-34. Seven battalions that went as high as 14 before are now one thru seven. RSU 1 thru RSU 4 retained their ID. Copies of changes and new battalion maps will be available upon request. Please send SASE to TURNOUT mailing address.

Rehab Support Unit responses for 2013 totaled 326. We served an estimated 11,673 police, firemen and citizens. Highest numbers of calls were: Box alarms; Training Assistance; Box alarms + extra company; Special Details (public gatherings, "500" Festival events); and Urban Search (combined IFD and IMPD). We provided services every 1.1 days. New uniform shirts are on order. We hosted 20 Fire Science students from Hobart,

IN at our Reserve station 12 during FDIC. They did OJT-type service at the Convention Center and HOTS training sites. Multiple units again provided Rehab support at HOTS training sites during 2014 FDIC. An estimated 32,000 registrants were in our city during that week.

IFD Chief Brian Sanford has announced his retirement from active duty on IFD for medical reasons (ALS). He will become an assistant to Public Safety Director Troy Riggs and work as long as his health allows. As always, rumors are swarming about his replacement (local?/ national?/ civilian?). No announcements yet.

Membership has grown in the first part of the year. Dennis DeBruhl, Marc Parton, IFD f/f Matt Bennett, IFD Chief Doug Abernathy, Ed Orr and Randall Cox have joined as Active or Associates. Our 1968 Maxim engine served as a sleigh for Santa during Christmas season. It also transported members and friends in the St. Patrick's Day parade. Chauffeur Dennis Chambers also assisted at IFD member's wedding in late March.

Winter month utility expenses (natural gas and electricity) for our Reserve station 12 are going back down after spiking during our super-cold winter. Have any other clubs found a means of controlling winter expenses, short of wrapping the building in plastic wrap? We don't have that option as Indianapolis EMS is a tenant and runs 24-hour ambulance service from one of our bays. Our station location served as a polling place for two precincts during the Primary elections in early May.

IFD members Ed McMichael and Jerry Traub attended the IFBA Spring Executive Board meeting

in Dallas. President Banks and Box 4 members provided good hospitality at the Convention hotel and visits to DFD and Union Hall locations. Friday night included two multiple alarm fires.

Our April monthly business meeting was rescheduled to welcome back Dave Palin and his department friends from upper New York state, in town for FDIC. Interesting stuff was told about a department and response area much different from Indy. Dinner at the Rathskeller restaurant was a pleasant change from our usual IFD station locations,

Point of information: this is the 23rd printing of Spring, Fall or Convention issues of TURNOUT by the Indy Publishing Group. You are welcome to comment about our efforts turnout@ifba.org

Hope to see you in Dallas in September for this year's convention. It promises to be a first-rate event at a first-rate city and a first-rate department served by a first-rate club. See IFBA website for complete information and registration.

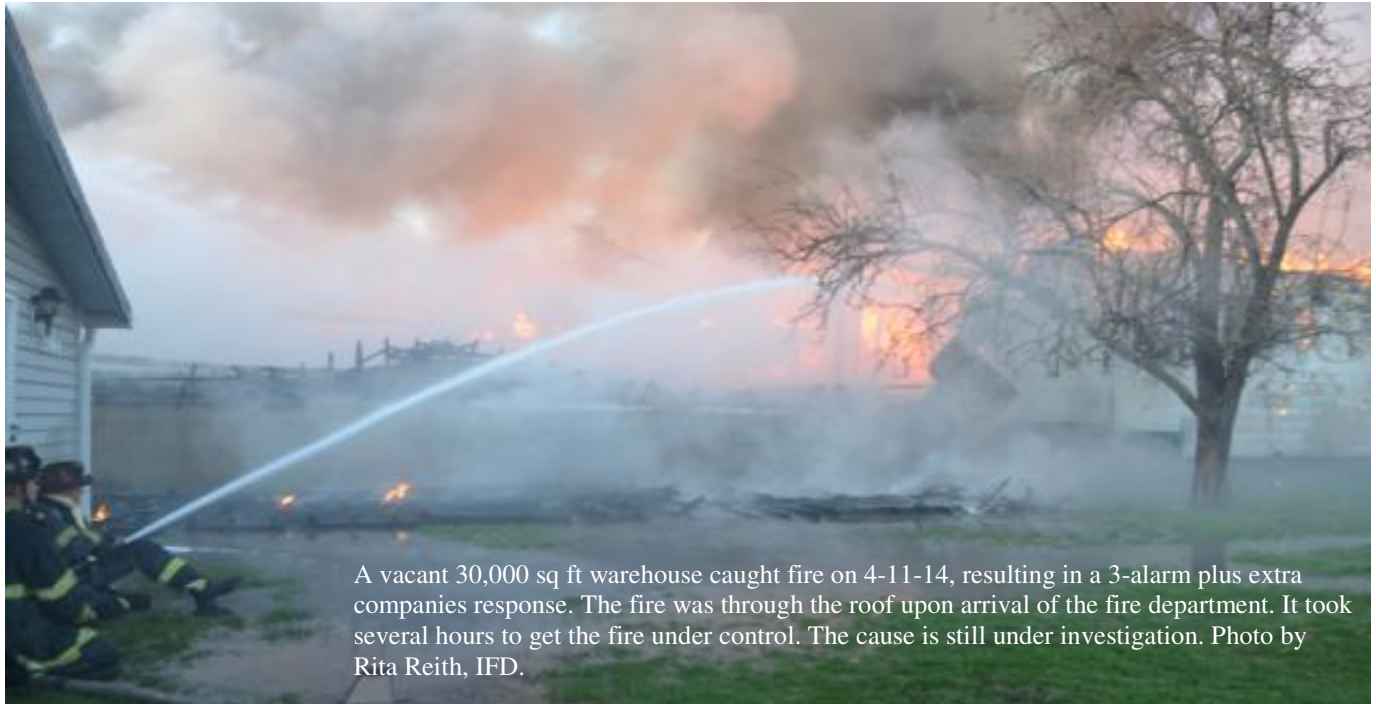
HOT TIMES AROUND INDY



2-19-13 - Firefighters reported smoke on arrival at this tire shop on Lafayette Road. The fire quickly escalated into a 2-alarm defensive attack, taking about two hours to get under control. Firefighters from Indianapolis Fire, Pike Fire, and Speedway Fire were used. Photo by Tod Parker, www.phototac.com.

11-15-13 - Firefighters from three area departments fight a box alarm apartment fire at 1329 Old Town South Drive. Photo by Tod Parker, www.phototac.com.





A vacant 30,000 sq ft warehouse caught fire on 4-11-14, resulting in a 3-alarm plus extra companies response. The fire was through the roof upon arrival of the fire department. It took several hours to get the fire under control. The cause is still under investigation. Photo by Rita Reith, IFD.



(Left and below) Multiple calls to the dispatch center upgraded this fire to working. A second alarm was requested shortly after arrival of the first engine. The brick building was under renovation; it had been a bank. Attack was defensive, and firefighters had to deal with bitterly cold temperatures, high winds, and icy conditions. The fire occurred on 11-23-13 and was located at 30th and Clifton Streets. Photos by Tod Parker, www.phototac.com.





1506 E. Hoyt Avenue - Firefighters retreat from the roof after cutting a vent hole on this working residence fire. One civilian was injured. Photo by John Buckman.



Who knew famed photographer (and IFB member) Tod Parker is also an artist? Tod inked this drawing to sell at the recent FDIC convention as a 20"x30" poster. It is now available on his website, www.phototac.com. All proceeds from the sale of the poster are being donated to the *Courage and Valor Foundation*.



3519 E. Terrace - An early morning 3-alarm fire at the Indy Drum Company taxed firefighter efforts on 5-7-14. The company cleans and recycles industrial drums, so there was concern about a very "colorful" water runoff while fighting the fire. Hazmat responded and determined the color was a non-toxic blue dye used to color 55-gallon drums. Fire fighting efforts were hampered by difficult access, long hose lays, and low water pressure. Photo by Tod Parker.



Indianapolis Fire Buffs President Jim Williamson congratulates Kerry Davis, the grand prize winner of the 2013 Fire Buffs' Raffle. The grand prize is a trip to Hawaii or \$2,500. A steak dinner for the winner and his firehouse is an additional award. The raffle is conducted in the fall and is the major fund-raiser for IFB. Photo by Rodger Birchfield.





Milwaukee Fire Bell Club

Serving the Community since 1947



CHARTER MEMBER

By: Dan Rode

fire)

Milwaukee Fire Bell Club activities

Now that the long, cold, snowy winter is behind us (hopefully, we still have to make it through April and May), a new season is upon us. The recent weather kept the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club (M.F.B.C.) busy taking care of the firefighters and first responders working in bone chilling temperatures and snow up the knees. 2013 was another busy year the club with 38 responses including (9) emergency responses, (5) training exercises, and (24) P. R. events. A list of 2013 responses are below for your review:

Emergency incidents

- 01-30 33102 S. Honey Lake Rd., City of Burlington (MABAS Div. 102 5th alarm + 3 Inter divisional Boxes + 1 Tender Box for a fire at Echo Lake Farm Produce Co.)
- 02-05 W63 N144 Washington Ave., City of Cedarburg (MABAS Div. 119 3rd alarm for a fire in a restaurant in a strip mall)
- 03-16 2239 W. Fond du Lac Ave., Milwaukee (3rd alarm for a 2-story mixed occupancy)
- 06-13 11113 W. Wildwood Ln., City of West Allis (MABAS Div. 107 Box alarm for an apartment building)
- 07-10 348 E. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee (Haz-Mat incident)
- 07-27 2420 S. Lincoln Memorial Dr. (Dive incident for a plane crash into Lake Michigan)
- 08-25 1009 Arrowhead Rd., Town of Grafton (MABAS Div. 119 3rd alarm for a brush fire)
- 08-27 27th & Michigan (Major natural gas leak)
- 12-25 11805 N. Farmdale Rd., City of Mequon (MABAS Div. 119 3rd alarm for a barn

Training exercises

- 03-06 2034 N. 30th St., Milwaukee (M.F.D. Fire Recruit final burn)
- 03-07 2034 N. 30th St., Milwaukee (M.F.D. Fire Recruit final burn)
- 05-30 10820 S. 27th St., Oak Creek (House burn)
- 09-12 Mitchell International Airport disaster drill
- 10-05 Medical College of Wisconsin (Active Shooter/M.C.I. drill)

P.R. events

- 01-01 2400 N. Lincoln Memorial Dr., Milwaukee (Polar Bear plunge)
- 01-24 Funeral for Milwaukee Fire Bell Club member Arthur Nunemaker
- 03-14 6680 N. Teutonia Ave., Milwaukee (M.F.D. Fire Recruit graduation)
- 04-10 Funeral for Town of Brookfield Police Officer Donald Bishop (Line of Duty death)
- 04-11 Funeral for Town of Brookfield Police Officer Donald Bishop (Line of Duty death)
- 05-05 M.F.B.C. Vendor Fair at West Allis Knights of Columbus Hall
- 06-01 Bayshore Mall Safety Days
- 07-03 July 3rd Fireworks at the Lakefront
- 07-13 15th Great Milwaukee Muster
- 07-17 Pink Heals Tour 2013 Milwaukee event
- 08-03 Lakefront Air & Water Show
- 08-04 Lakefront Air & Water Show
- 08-07 St. Francis Safe Night Out
- 08-10 U.S.A. Triathlon, Milwaukee Lakefront
- 08-11 U.S.A. Triathlon, Milwaukee Lakefront
- 08-21 Milwaukee Fire Local 215 Retirees Picnic at Maier Festival Park
- 08-30 Harley-Davidson 110th Anniversary Fire fighter Appreciation Day, Milwaukee Lakefront

09-13 Miller Park First Responder Day
 09-14 Thiensville Safety Days
 09-14 Operation Impact fundraiser
 10-05 Mequon Safety Days
 10-10 M.F.D. Awards Ceremony, B.I.T.
 11-27 Hunger Task Force/CBS 58 Food Drive,
 Miller Park
 12-06 Firefighting Seminar, M.A.T.C.-South

As for 2014, the club has had seven emergency responses and two P.R. events. This year is starting to shape up to becoming another busy year. The weather has been no help at several of the fires that the club responded to.

On Saturday, March 1, the Greenfield Fire Department (located southwest of Milwaukee) responded to a reported structure fire at 7325 W. Southridge Drive shortly after 1 p.m. On arrival, crews found a basement fire in a 2-story 16-unit apartment building. Crews advanced a line into the basement where they found rapidly deteriorating conditions- heavy heat, zero visibility, and inability to locate the seat of the fire. Unable to adequately ventilate the basement, the Incident Commander made the decision to pull the crews out of the basement. Eventually, an M.A.B.A.S. 3rd alarm was struck which brought numerous resources from the City of Milwaukee and neighboring departments. Access around the building hindered the placement of apparatus for the defensive operation. Cold weather and a snow storm added additional situational factors that affected the operation. Crews worked well into the night to knock down the fire which spread up the walls and into the cockloft.

Two days later, early in the morning on Monday, March 3, the club responded to assist the Belgium Fire Department (located in Ozaukee County, directly north of Milwaukee County) at another M.A. B.A.S. 3rd alarm. The fire was located in an old 2-story wood frame farmhouse at 7245 County Hwy. LL in a very rural area with no fire hydrants. Temperatures this time were in the negative digits with wind chills in the -20 to -30 below zero range. Fire completely gutted the house as fire departments

had to establish a tender operation and initiate an exterior attack. Crews worked in punishing conditions to knock this fire down.

The most recent response occurred on Friday, April 11th, again in Ozaukee County. This time a M.A. B.A.S. 2nd alarm fire occurred in a garage/barn type structure in the Town of Grafton. Crews again had to establish a tender operation and prevented the fire from spreading to exposures on the farming property.

Since then, the club has been busy in cleaning and maintaining the rigs in anticipation of another busy summer.

Milwaukee Fire Department updates

There have been several operational changes in the Milwaukee Fire Department (M.F.D.) since the last report. The M.F.D. took a severe hit in the 2014 budget with the loss of four companies. On December 22, the following companies were permanently disbanded:

Engine Co. 5, 1313 W. Reservoir Ave.
 Engine Co. 11, 2526 S. Kinnickinnic Ave.
 Engine Co. 35, 100 N. 64th St.
 Truck Co. 14, 2130 W. Oklahoma Ave.

The apparatus were reassigned as follows:

Engine 5>23>47
 Engine 11>10>43
 Engine 35>49
 Truck 14 was assigned to reserve status.

Currently there are 32 engines and 14 trucks in service through out the city. The brown outs which have been a reoccurrence for the past 3 years have now been eliminated due to the cuts. Addition changes with the cuts included the following relocations:

Engines 12 & 23 have switched firehouses.
 Rescue Co. 1 & 4 have relocated to the new En-

engine 12 firehouse at 2130 W. Oklahoma Ave.

Car 14 (Fire Investigation) has relocated to the former quarters of Engine 5.

Another operational change was the formation of a Surge House at the new Engine 23 firehouse, 1400 S. 9th St. Engine 23 is now staffed with two Tactical Paramedics (minimum) on a daily basis and can respond to any tactical situation or active shooter incident immediately. In addition, there are 2 Med Units stored at Engine 23 which can be activated immediately due to an increase in the E.M.S. call volume placing a response strain on the 12 Med Units in service daily. Speaking of active shooter incidents, the M.F.D. recently established response protocols for this ever growing challenge in the fire service. All M.F.D. members were trained in these protocols for the past 3 months, working side by side with the Milwaukee Police Department. Both agencies now have a better understanding of what their expectations and responsibilities are at these incidents.

A new Incident Management Plan has also been introduced this spring in the M.F.D. which is in co-operation with our neighboring fire departments in M.A.B.A.S. Division 107. All agencies involved will now operate under the same guidelines, terminology, and communications plan as the Shared Services Initiative continues to be a successful endeavor by all participating agencies (M.F.D., Greenfield, North Shore, Oak Creek, St. Francis, Wauwatosa, and West Allis). Speaking of Shared Services, for the year 2013, the M.F.D. ended up sending resources to our partners on 26 separate occasions while participating suburbs provided assistance to the M.F.D. on 18 fires. This year so far, the numbers are steadily increasing with 20 responses out of the city and 14 responses into the city. All seven departments continue to form strong alliances as they work with each other on a daily basis and provide the highest level of service to their constituents. Expectations for 2014 include increased training, communications exercises, and daily interaction in the field.

As for fires, 2013 was actually a slow year compared to the previous year with only (16) 2nd alarms and (1) 3rd alarm for a total of (17) greater alarms (down from 33 in 2012). As of this writing, there has only been (2) 2nd alarm fires in 2014. The M.F.D. had a record low 2 fire fatalities (since 1957 when records were being kept) which is a testament to the proactive fire education programs, smoke detector installations, and home inspections being performed by the field companies on a daily basis. Unfortunately, in 2014, there has already been two fire fatalities recorded. In both cases, there were no working smoke detectors in the residences. The M.F.D. performed smoke detector inspections in the immediate neighborhoods of the fire fatalities.

On the apparatus front, all the new apparatus from 2013 has been assigned as well as the bump downs of equipment as follows:

Engine 8>22>48
Engine 12>45
Engine 13>17>46
Engine 24>4>41
Engine 28>44
Engine 30>40
Engine 36>7>42

Truck 12>11>7>24
Truck 15>8>13>5>22

Med 3>30
Med 5>31
Med 6>35
Med 7>15>33
Med 13>Disposed of (due to accident)
Med 16>14>undetermined

NOTES: Engines numbered in the 40's are reserve.
Trucks numbered in the 20's are reserve.
Med Units numbered in the 30's are reserve.

The Repair Shop has done an outstanding job of putting the new apparatus in service while processing the bump down apparatus to other active com-

panies or reserve status. The Shop will get a break this year as there are only 2 engines, 3 med units, and 1 heavy rescue on order for 2014.

Congratulations are in order to several senior staff chiefs. Chief Mark Rohlfing recently received the approval by City Hall for a second 4-year term as the Chief of Department of the M.F.D. Assistant Chief Mike Romas, in-charge of E.M.S./Training/Education, retired on February 15th, and took a job as the Chief of the Sheboygan Fire Department (located 60 miles north of Milwaukee). And Dep-

uty Chief Dan Berendt is now Acting Assistant Chief in place of the recently retired Chief Romas. Congratulations to Chief Rohlfing on his reappointment and to Chiefs' Romas and Berendt on their new positions.

That is about it for now from Milwaukee, hoping all of our friends have a great summer and get a chance to fire buff, shoot apparatus pictures, go to a muster, or attend the I.F.B.A. Convention this year in Dallas, Texas. Until then, keep your scanners turned up...



(Above) Crews establish a defensive attack on the A side as fire vertically spreads in the Greenfield apartment building on 03-01-14.



(Left) Heavy smoke pushing from the B side of the apartment building, 03-01-14.

(Right) Fire breaks through the roof on the C side of the building as Greendale Truck 4's water tower is readied for operation on the B side, 03-01-14.

All photos by: Chuck Liedtke





As night fall sets in, fire still burns in the cockloft and crews prepare to salvage and overhaul, 03-01-14.



Greenfield Truck 92's tower goes to work on the A side as fire advances throughout the cockloft, 03-01-14.



(Left) Fredonia's water tower attacks fire in the roof of the farm house while a tender operation is established, 03-03-14.

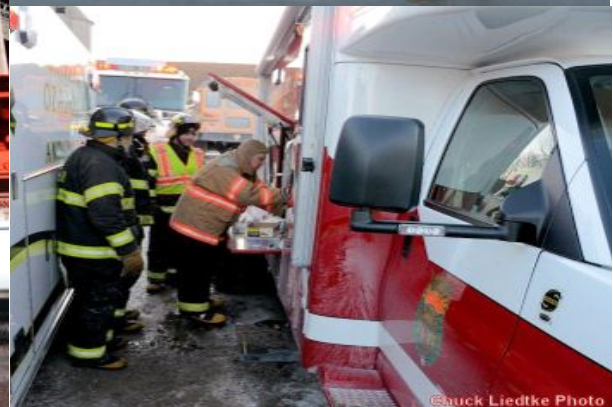
(Below) As day breaks, remnants of the farm house in the background while in the foreground, crews begin to disassemble the drafting pools, 03-03-14.

(Bottom Left) An excavator has been brought in to access collapsed portions of the house to allow for wetdown, 03-03-14.

(Bottom Right) Crews get a well deserved break on this frigid morning while visiting M. F.B.C. Rehab 2, 03-03-14.



Chuck Liedtke Photo



Chuck Liedtke Photo

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

Multi-Alarm Fires and An Overturned Tanker Truck Were Just Part of A Busy Start to 2014

By John Whitaker

In a normal 3-month period, members of Fire Associates of Santa Clara Valley would respond to between 15 to 20 emergency incidents. However, at the start of 2014 that number shot up to 33 calls for assistance. Among the highlights were a 5-alarm warehouse blaze and a 4-alarm restaurant fire (both in the city of San Jose), and an overturned gasoline tanker truck that closed all southbound lanes of a freeway just before the rush hour.

5-Alarm Blaze Engulfs Huge San Jose Warehouse

As fires go, this was big!

San Jose firefighters were just wrapping up operations at a previous blaze on S. 17th Street, when reports came in that a warehouse was on fire near downtown. Located near the intersection of N. 28th Street and E. Julian Street, the first-arriving Truck Company quickly called a second and third alarm -- all in the same radio transmission. That was a clue that this was going to be a long morning.

The fire was burning in a partially abandoned warehouse. Firefighters estimated that the building was approximately 80,000 to 100,000 square feet in size. By the time the first 3 alarms of

equipment were on scene, the building was totally involved and threatening a row of nearby homes. In addition, there was an adjacent private school and other assorted warehouses, sheds, and small office buildings. To say that this provided a challenge would be an understatement.

Arriving with the first wave of firefighters was Fire Associates' Fire Support Unit 2. Don Gilbert was driving with John Whiteside as a passenger. Arriving with FSU-2 was John Whitaker in his personal vehicle. These FASCV members had



A San Jose Truck Company is silhouetted by 5-alarm warehouse blaze.
Photo by Craig Allyn Rose.

been on scene of the earlier house fire 11 blocks away on S. 17th Street. Eventually, FASCV members on scene included: Don Gilbert, John Whiteside, John Whitaker, Dan Wong, George Hoyt, and Bob Gundrum.

Once on scene, John Whiteside jumped out to scout out the area for a Rehab location. It was obvious that there was no immediate need for Rehab as every available firefighter on scene was actively involved with putting water on the blaze.

Rehab was eventually located adjacent to the Battalion 2 vehicle where chiefs were beginning to gather. The original IC site was located closer to the fire on Wooster Ave., but it was soon moved to the Battalion 2 location at the intersection of Wooster Ave. and E. Julian Street as the fire grew in size. Additionally, exploding propane tanks made the move to a site further away more prudent.

By the time the fire fight was at its peak, 5 alarms had been called and there were at least 6 aerial ladders pouring water on the structure. Reports on scene said that the warehouse was still partially occupied with roof tile, sheetrock and plumbing companies, as well as a hay barn, but a large portion was vacant. The operation was totally defensive from the start as the building was quickly collapsing into a burning pile of rubble. Fire apparatus and/or personnel joining the battle from other departments included the City of Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, and Gilroy.

As Fire Associates members were waiting in the IC area for the first firefighters to arrive in Rehab, they began to look for other ways to contribute. As the

chiefs were trying to get a handle on the layout of the fireground, using hand-drawn maps to try and describe the area, John Whitaker "called up" Google Maps on his iPhone and offered it to the

IC. Using that resource, the fire operations officers were able to get a much better handle on the physical layout of the area.

At about that same time, a light mist of rain began to fall, making the horizontal whiteboard table on the back of the Battalion vehicle almost useless. Water and ink on whiteboards gets to be pretty messy. John asked the

chiefs if the FASCV "E-Z Up" awning would be of help, and the quick reply was, "YES!" The awning was quickly erected and the whiteboard was back in service. It was well into the event before the SJFD Incident Command Van arrived on scene and was put into use.

Rehab operations were slow to start, but once it



TV news crew was one of many on scene at a San Jose warehouse fire. Photo by John Whitaker.



At daybreak, smoke still billows out of a San Jose warehouse as several master streams try to douse the blaze. Photo by John Whitaker.

got going, pots of coffee, water, Gatorade and Clif Bars were flying off the shelf! With 5 alarms of firefighters on site, Rehab became a very busy place. A guesstimate of the number of pots of coffee brewed would be impossible! As lunch time rolled around, a SJFD courier arrived with bags and bags of Togo's sandwiches which were all served by Fire Associates to tired and hungry crews. FSU-2 remained on scene until the last of the embers were extinguished. Rehab was broken down and FASCV members released at approximately 3:00 P.M.

"Flames" Coffee Shop Goes Up In, Well ... Flames

After a busy night, and two fires already under their belts, firefighters at San Jose Fire Station 9

slipped back into quarters at 6:00 A.M. to take a quick nap before the end of their shift. At 6:22 A.M., however, they were awakened by some-

one pounding on the front door. The chef at "Flames" coffee shop was alerting them to the fact that the restaurant was on fire. It didn't take the Station 9 crew long to see what he was talking about. Engine 9's Captain looked (literally) across the street to see that the popular restaurant was fully involved in flames. He quickly got on the radio and requested a full-first and second alarm response.

What apparently started as a grease fire in the kitchen quickly turned the whole building into an inferno. Flames were shooting 60 feet or more into the air from the structure located at 1812 Hillsdale Ave. Before the fire-

fight was over, the incident had

escalated to a 3rd and 4th alarm. It took an extended defensive attack to finally quench the blaze. Given the size of the fire, it was fortunate that no one was injured during the incident.

As this was all unfolding, Fire Associates member Bruce Dembecki was heading to San Jose Fire Station 6 to bring Fire Support Unit 2 to the scene. Arriving on scene at approximately 7:00 A.M., Bruce was met by Fire Associates members Don Gilbert and Larry Carr, and later in the morning, Dan Wong and Cliff Smith also worked on scene. Directed by the IC to establish Rehab



San Jose's Truck Co. 9 puts water on the final embers at a San Jose coffee shop fire. Photo by Bruce Dembecki.



Firefighters are in a surround-and-drown mode as San Jose's "Flames Coffee Shop" burns. Photo by Bruce Dembecki.

across the street from the fire in the Target parking lot, the FASCV team quickly set up hot and cold drinks for crews still working across the road. While the surround-and-drown effort was going on, fire crews came through Rehab, where hot coffee was particularly popular. As happens from time to time at an incident like this, a passing citizen dropped off a supply of donuts - which were consumed very quickly!

By 10:00 A.M., the fire was most definitely un-



A tandem-trailer gasoline tanker rests on the side of the freeway after being hit by the car in the foreground. The second tanker truck is pumping fuel out of the twin 4,000-gallon tanks before the damaged truck can be towed from the scene. Photo by John Whitaker.

der control and most of the fire crews had been released. FSU-2 was released from the incident and returned to its "home" at San Jose Fire Station 6 by 10:15 A.M.

Tanker Truck Accident Closes Lanes of Hwy. 101 Near Morgan Hill

Fire Associates members never know what to expect when called to an incident. That was certainly the case on Thursday morning, February 27!

FASCV members were already on the scene of an early-morning, 3-alarm fire in San Jose when the emergency radio crackled with a re-



Fire Support Unit 3 gets pelted with rain during the early morning hours. A rare sight as California remains in the middle of a severe drought. Photo by John Whitaker.

quest for FASCV in Morgan Hill. The Morgan Hill Fire Department had been dispatched to an overturned gasoline tanker on southbound Hwy. 101. Located between Tennant Ave. and San Martin Ave., the tanker was fully loaded with gasoline (8,500 gallons) and in a ditch on the right-hand shoulder of the freeway. And, worst of all, the commute hour was soon approaching - and the tanks were leaking!

The accident occurred shortly after 1:00 A.M. when a driver of a Nissan 350z lost control of his car and spun into the tanker truck and trailer. The big rig jack-knifed and slid off the roadway. After arriving on scene, Morgan Hill Fire and the California Highway Patrol quickly established



Fire Associates' support unit is set up in a rehab area that was established in the fast lane of a usually busy freeway. Photo by John Whitaker.

the "101 IC" joint command.

After assessing the situation, the IC called for the Santa Clara County Fire Department Hazmat task force along with assistance from Cal Fire and the nearby Gilroy Fire Department who were also called to the scene. As the event progressed, it became obvious that the incident was going to last through the morning hours, so Fire Associates was requested.

Fortunately, Fire Support Unit 3 was close to wrapping up operations at a previous call in San Jose. With the seriousness of the Morgan Hill incident becoming clear, Fire Support Unit 3 was released from responsibilities at San Jose's 3-alarm fire and responded to the 101 incident. John Whiteside drove FSU-3 to the scene, with John Whitaker following in his private vehicle. Don Gilbert also left the San Jose fire in his vehicle and stopped en route to pick up 3-dozen donuts. Rehab was established in the fast lane of the freeway where Santa Clara County fire had already set up their portable shelter (did we mention it was raining?) and benches. John Whiteside parked FSU-3 at that location and FASCV members provided an additional portable shelter, hot beverages, donuts, and breakfast service. It's not often that Rehab is set up in the lanes of a freeway!

Rehab support was in great demand throughout

the morning. There were not only representatives from the previously mentioned fire agencies, there were also representatives and workers from: the Morgan Hill Police Dept., Calif. Dept. of Fish and Game, Cal Trans, Gilroy OES, several different tow companies, and representatives from the tanker truck's owners. And, all of them were served in Rehab at one time or another.

During the clean-up operation, Hwy. 101 was completely closed in the southbound direction and the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Dept. conducted evacuations in the neighborhood nearest the freeway. The CHP arranged for another tanker to come and pump out what fuel they could from the tandem-trailer truck before any attempt could be made to remove it from the heavily-traveled freeway.

After the fuel tanks of the tanker had been safely emptied (about a 2-hour operation), the CHP was anxious to open up one southbound lane. So, all personnel who were not directly connected to the salvage operation were asked to leave the scene. Two lanes of the freeway were to remain closed so that the big rig tow companies could remove the wreckage. Fire Associates was one of those organizations whose services were no longer needed, so Rehab was disbanded at approximately 9:00 A.M.

phoenix society
of san francisco

On March 11, 2014, a fire was reported at a construction site at 4th and China Basin Streets at 16:57 hours. This was a wood frame five story with a mezzanine on the top floor (6 levels) over one story with a mezzanine (2 levels) of concrete construction, 172 unit apartment building. This building spans an area of one block long. Crews found a small fire on the upper floors of the southeast corner of the building. As crews began their attack, fire quickly spread throughout the building requiring the need of five alarms within a half an hour. The City's 100+ year old High Pressure system was used to put out this fire.



phoenix society of san francisco

5 Alarm Fire



Truck 3 arrives on the third alarm. Background shows the second alarm truck, Truck 13 setting up for a ladder pipe operation.

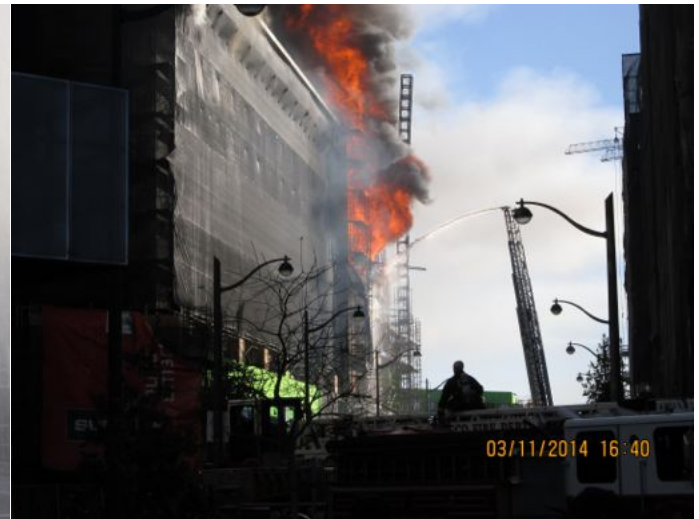
Truck 13 sets up for their ladder pipe operation.



**All photos by
Milton Yuen**



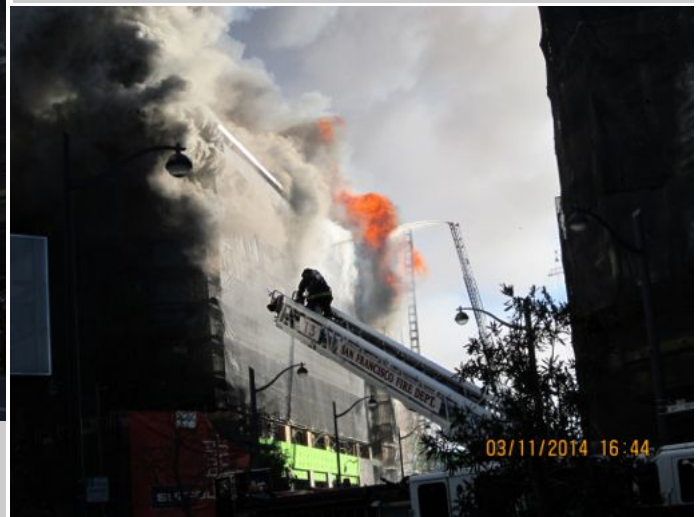
Truck 3 sets up for their ladder pipe operation as fire extends down the street towards them.



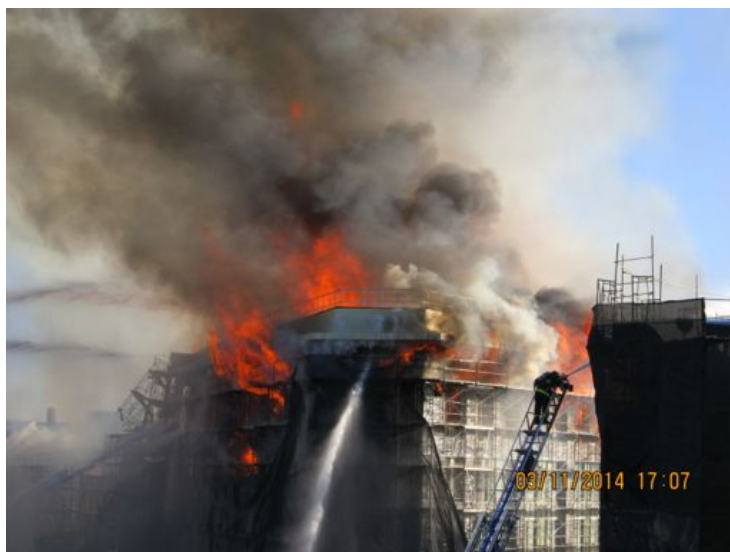
Truck 2 operates their ladder pipe in a 20 wide street that separates another wood frame apartment building under construction. Note the construction man lift towers is beginning to twist due to the heat.



Truck 3 relocates from the initial position which was in the collapse zone.



Truck 3 sets up their ladder pipe again, Truck 2 operates their ladder pipe in the background.

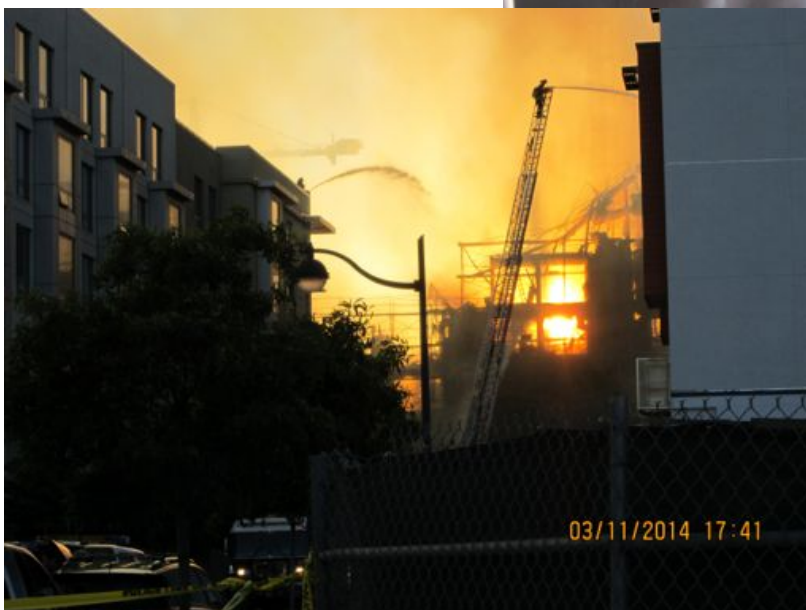


Truck 3 uses their ladder pipe as a water curtain to keep the exposure building (under construction) cool.



Truck 3 ladder pipe on the exposure while the fire is being attacked by deck guns.

Truck 3 tillerman exchanges air packs. The other ladder pipe is truck 2 which had to be relocated from the 20 ft wide street where the truck was in the collapse zone.



Truck 13, operates their ladder pipe as the sun sets. Truck 13 had to be relocated off of 4th street (60 feet wide) due to the collapse danger.

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 and Ron Jeffers

10° = 6 ALARMS

The first major blaze of the New Year struck on the late night of January 23, 2014 in Union City. A rapidly moving fire tore through several buildings, routing scores of residents in bedclothes into the street. A resident of 519 19th St. had turned in for the night but saw an orange glow in her apartment after she had put out the lights. She then saw flames at her bathroom window and ran screaming into the hallway; her apartment door slamming shut behind her. The woman's pet Chihuahua was locked behind the door and would later perish in the fire.

North Hudson companies turned out at 23:30. Batt. 1, Batt. Chief Anthony Venezia was met by a violent flashover as he exited the car, showering the street with shards of glass and debris. Chief Venezia saw he had 2 buildings going and immediately struck a 2nd Alarm. Companies attempted an interior attack, but were driven back. Fire was now racing down the block, engulfing #521 and #523, all frame dwellings. A 3rd Alarm followed quickly and operations soon shifted to an exterior attack, with several handlines, a ladder pipe and a deck gun brought into play.

To make matters worse, an errant stream took out the command board, sending the magnetic chips flying and turning the board into a block of ice! Meanwhile the fire continued with a vengeance, extending to #517, an attached 2 story frame dwelling. Deputy Chief Nicholas Gazzillo took command and promptly transmitted 4th and 5th Alarms. Units assigned included companies from Jersey City, Hoboken and Bayonne.

As if they didn't have their hands full already, soon after the 5th Alarm, another fire erupted at 11th St. & New York Ave. some 8 blocks south of the now raging inferno. North Hudson Sqd. Co. 1 ended up leading the attack on that fire, joined by a hodgepodge of mutual aid companies, including Jersey City, Harrison, Kearny and Secaucus! The second fire was brought under control in short order, but the fire fight on 19th St. would persist through the night. The fire was declared under control at 05:30 but with scores of frozen fire fighters nearing the point of exhaustion, a 6th Alarm was transmitted for relief purposes.

Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, had the Club's Deputy Chief, Patrick Spellman, at the wheel that night, serving 6 gallons of coffee and 8 gallons of hot chocolate. The harsh winter of 2014 would not spare North Hudson fire fighters. Car 26 has made 6 runs to North Hudson so far, including a 5th Alarm at 217 Hackensack Plank Rd. on February 18th. That building nearly touched a building at 228 Maple St., scene of a 3rd Alarm 2 days earlier on February 16, 2014!

A TRIPLEX OF TROUBLE

The last day of February 2014 was yet another frigid day in this seemingly never ending winter. The temperature stood at 9 degrees as the Friday dawn neared; but at least it would be a sunny, clear day with the next snowstorm not due until Sunday. More than 200 fire fighters from around the State were up early, heading to Mountain Creek Ski Resort in Vernon, NJ for the 27th Annual NJ Fire Fighters Ski Race. Some 42 teams would be completing in the event, organized by a group of Jersey City fire fighters to benefit the St. Barnabas Burn Center. However, a good

number of them stopped in their tracks when the lead story on the morning news programs told of a 2 Alarm fire in Wallington, NJ, a small community 15 miles northwest of Jersey City, in Bergen County.

A veteran fire fighter had fallen off the roof of a Japanese restaurant at 457 Paterson Ave. during the 1:30 AM blaze and had died. Instantly, many thought, "Oh no; not Barney", but sadly the reporters announced that Gregory Barnas had paid the supreme sacrifice. A 42 year member of the Wallington Volunteer Fire Department, Greg was appointed to the Jersey City Fire Department in 1985 and currently was the Captain of Ladder Co. 6, Group A. Both his sons, Kevin and John, are Wallington fire fighters, with Kevin also a member of the Jersey City Fire Department. They were both operating at the fire which claimed their father's life. A frequent visitor to the Gong Club, Greg had started his career in the FDJC at Ladder 12, working alongside legendary Gong Club member Charlie Choffey.

The heart-breaking news had not even begun to register yet when Box 571 was struck at 05:36 hours for a fire at 984 West Side Ave. An easy run for "The Journal Square Express", Eng. Co. 15 and Lad. Co. 9 turned out of their Sip Ave. quarters, sailed down the hill 3 blocks to West Side Ave., took a quick right and they were there. A column of black smoke was already in the sky as they arrived; "Working fire" reported Capt. Joseph Di Tommaso of Eng. Co. 15. Originally the home of the Lafayette Sign Co., the large 1 story commercial structure had been converted to

the Al Tawheed Islamic Center about 20 years ago.

Typical of many Jersey City streets, a hodgepodge of electrical, telephone and cable wires precluded the use of aerial ladders. As ground ladders were raised to the roof, fire belched out the south side windows, licking against the soffit of a 2.5 story frame dwelling exposure. Batt. Chief Richard Casella, Batt. 4, ordered the 2nd Alarm as the black smoke grew higher and darker in the now brightening sky. A strong odor of burning wood hung throughout the Bergen and Lafayette neighborhoods to the east, with a few boxes being sent for "smoke in the area".

Despite the size of the building and the frigid conditions, companies were making good progress within 1 hour of the initial alarm. Box 747 was transmitted for another report of smoke at 637 Ocean Ave., about 1.5 miles southeast, at 06:24 hours. Deputy Chief Kevin Stewart, mindful of the extreme cold and the large amount of overhauling that would be needed, struck a 3rd Alarm a few minutes later. Almost simultaneously, Eng. Co. 19 arrived on Ocean Ave. and found this was not smoke from the 3rd Alarm! The 2nd Battalion companies had their hands full with smoke showing from the 3rd floor and cockloft of a 3

story brick attached mixed occupancy at the corner of Ocean and Claremont Avenues.

With all chief officers now occupied at the 3rd Alarm, Chief of Dept. Darren Rivers sped off to take command of the 2nd fire. Additional companies were special called, bringing companies from Bayonne and

North Hudson from their relocation assignments at



2/28/14 3-3 571 984 West Side Ave., Jersey City
Roof operations in the early stages of the Al Tawheed Islamic Center fire
(Jersey Journal Photo by Joe Shine)

Eng. Co. 19 and Eng. Co. 15 respectively. Group A chief officers arriving for their day tour were pressed into service, designated as Battalions 5 and 6, with Deputy Chief Wayne McCarthy assuming command at Box 747. Battalion chiefs from Bayonne and North Hudson also responded to the 2nd fire.

Both fires were placed under control by 08:00 hours. Since the first fire involved a house of worship, agents from the ATF and the FBI responded to work with the Jersey City Fire Investigation Unit to determine the cause. Group D members of all first alarm companies were relieved at the scene by their Group A counterparts. Car 26 operated for over 5 hours, the 11th run for the month of February for the Gong Club canteen and the busiest month in nearly a decade.

Rundown:

05:36 Box 571 Eng. Co. 15-9-7-17 Lad. Co. 9-3 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 3-4 MSU
05:39 WF 571 Sqd. Co. 4 Lad. Co. 11 Marine Unit Car 30
05:43 2-2 571 Eng. Co. 11-8-10 Lad. Co. 6 Batt. 1 Car 3-26
06:24 Box 747 Eng. Co. 19-13-22 Lad. Co. 8-12
06:28 3-3 571 Eng. Co. 14-6-2 Lad. Co. 2 Batt. 2 Car 1-5-10
06:34 WF 747 Bayonne Eng. Co. 6-8 North Hudson Eng. Co. 1 Bayonne Lad. Co. 3 Car 3 Bay Batt. 2 NH Batt. 1

GRAND TRAGEDY

Grant – Grand; Dwight – Bright; Wegman – Stegman. These are just a few streets in Jersey City with similar sounding names. Throw in Van Reipen and Van Reyden, River St. and River Dr., Freedom Way (2 of them!) and Freedom Pl., it's a wonder how travelers find their way.

Such was the situation in the wee hours of March 6, 2014. The 9-1-1 lines came to life with a report of a fire that was understood to be on Grand St. Box 114 was transmitted at 01:07 hours for 27 Grand St., one block east of the Hudson River. Eng. Co. 2 arrived to find not only nothing showing but no building at that location. As more calls began to

light up the circuits, Eng. Co. 2 asked for an address check. Batt. 1, Batt. Chief Michael Monaghan instinctively ordered somebody to check Grant Ave. Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Paul Drennan, and Eng. Co. 9, last due on the box, suspected the same and peeled off their response Downtown and headed to Greenville.

Fire Dispatch redirected the companies to Grant Ave. nearly 3 miles southeast of the Grand St. address. Dispatchers also called Eng. Co. 8 to respond to 27 Grant Ave., 2 blocks south of their quarters. Other 2nd Battalion companies, Eng. Co. 17 and Eng. Co. 19, came on the air and said they were responding to Grant Ave.



3/6/14 4-4 747 20 – 30 Grant Ave., Jersey City
First arriving companies had their hands full at this fatal fire
(Jersey Journal Photo by Joe Shine)

Batt. Chief Drennan and Res. Co. 1 were the first to arrive and found a roaring inferno at 28 Grant Ave. Obscured by the volume of fire, Chief Drennan later said he didn't realize that 2 buildings were ablaze. No matter what, he knew he had a serious situation and struck a 2nd Alarm quickly followed by a 3rd Alarm at 01:15. Eng. Co. 9 entered the block and went to work, making a desperate attempt to locate occupants who were reported missing. The fire, however, was intent on devouring everything in its path, quickly extending to the exposure buildings. The heat was so intense the lettering burned off the side of Eng. Co. 9's apparatus. If things weren't bad enough, the temperature hovered around 16°, quickly turning

the street to a sheet of ice.

Deputy Chief Richard Lapinski arrived and ordered a 4th Alarm as fire engulfed a total of 6 buildings. Not until daybreak did the flames subside after being battered for hours with hand lines and Ladder 11's ladder pipe. Sadly, the worst fears proved to be true. Companies worked through the day to locate a total of 4 missing people. After hours of tedious work, searching the rubble of the now collapsed buildings, fire fighters located the remains of the owners of 28 ½ Grant Ave., a couple in their 80's and their 2 sons.

Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, provided some relief from the numbing cold. Chauffeur Pat Spellman and a crew of 2 dished out 4 gallons of beef stew, 10 gallons of hot chocolate and 6 gallons of coffee.

Response:

01:07 Box 114 Eng. Co. 2-5-10-9 Lad. Co. 2-6 Res. Co. 1
Div. 1 Batt. 1-4 MSU
01:12 Units redirected to Box 747 Eng. Co. 8 also assigned
01:14 2-2 747 Sqd. Co. 4 Eng. Co. 22-17 Lad. Co. 11-8
Car 3-26-28-30
01:15 3-3 747 Eng. Co. 19-13-10 Lad. Co. 12 Car 1-5-10
01:22 4-4 747 Eng. Co. 15-7 Lad. Co. 9

A GRAND SEND OFF

Later that afternoon, thousands of fire fighters from across the state gathered in Wallington for the wake of Captain Gregory Barnas, Lad. Co. 6. Capt. Barnas made the supreme sacrifice operating as a Wallington volunteer fire fighter at a 2nd Alarm in that community on February 28, 2014. Mourners were directed to park in neighboring Garfield, where shuttle buses transported them to the funeral home in Wallington. Despite freezing temperatures and many who had fought the 4th Alarm in Grant Ave. that morning, a steady stream of mourners filed in to pay their respects. The Box 54 Club and the



Captain Gregory Barnas
1957 – 2014
Appointed June 1, 1985
Made the Supreme Sacrifice Feb. 28, 2014

Bell and Siren Club served during the calling hours

The large throng who attended the wake paled in comparison to the seemingly endless sea of blue that turned out for Capt. Barnas' funeral on Friday, March 7, 2014. Traffic was effectively banned in the tiny borough that day with those attending directed to park in shopping areas or fields in Wallington, Garfield or Rutherford. Three busloads of Jersey City fire fighters departed from the Caven Point Athletic Complex.

Nearly 4,500 fire fighters formed along Paterson Ave., Wallington's main street, in silent tribute as the procession marched to Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. Lead by the Jersey City Police Motorcycle Squad, the cortege included the entire fleet of the Wallington Fire Dept., the Wallington Emergency Squad and FDJC Battalion 1 and Ladder Co. 6. A restored 1952 Mack pumper carried Capt. Barnas' remains, escorted by hundreds of bagpipers representing bands throughout the area. The Wallington and Jersey City Fire Departments marched in formation to the church, stretching as far as the eye



The Funeral of Capt. Gregory Barnas 3/7/14
Restored 1952 "B" cab Mack served as a caisson. (Ron Jeffers Photo)



The Funeral of Capt. Gregory Barnas 3/7/14
The Jersey City Fire Department's long blue line as far as the eye can see. (Ron Jeffers Photo)

could see.

Following the Mass of Christian Burial the procession reformed and marched to Wallington Truck Co. 1 for a final salute. Two New Jersey State Police helicopters flew overhead, the massed bagpipe bands played in unison, a 21 gun salute was fired and FDJC Dispatcher 23, Gong Club Member Ira Rubin, transmitted the Last Alarm over the airwaves. The ceremonies saddened the soul yet instilled a swelling sense of pride in all who took part.

The Funeral of Capt. Gregory Barnas was also one of the largest operations in Gong Club history. Car 26 reported to the command post in Wallington at 07:00 hours and was assigned to Paterson Ave. & Union Place, midway between the church and the firehouse. 11 members were present at the funeral, serving some 31 gallons of coffee and 20 gallons of hot chocolate. The Box 54 Club was positioned elsewhere along the route while the North Hudson fire fighters handled the post funeral repast at the Wallington Ambulance building.

CENTRAL AVE. FARM FIRE

A farm on Central Ave. in Jersey City? The main shopping district in the Heights section of Jersey City has been the scene of many a spectacular fire over the years. Although the fire activity is not as busy as other sections of the city, when a fire

breaks out in the commercial district it is usually a challenge. The early morning of March 28, 2014 would prove no different.

At 00:21 hours Box 423 was transmitted for 333 Central Ave., a venerable old wood structure that bore the legend "Spingarn 1895" on its façade. The same name appears on two better known office buildings at the Five Corners in Jersey City, which date to 1925. The lesser known Spingarn building was typical of the 1890's construction in many business districts of the Northeast; 3 stories; retail store on the ground floor and attached to similar occupancies on either side. This structure had been altered to stack the deck against a successful fire fight. All windows had been removed from the upper floors on the front façade and had been completely covered with aluminum siding. The current occupant of the ground floor store, a fruit and vegetable store dubbed "Central Ave. Farm" had removed the storefront glass to provide an open air feel to their customers. In the off hours, the front was secured with a steel roll down gate with a half dozen narrow slits in the center.

"Batt. 3, receiving numerous calls" was the first message Batt. Chief Robert Daly received as he turned out of quarters on Summit Ave., about 10 blocks southwest of the fire location. Batt. 3 arrived simultaneously with the first due companies and calmly reported "We have a 3 story Class 5; store on the ground floor; apartments above, attached on the B and D sides. We have a Working Fire. Transmit a 2nd Alarm."

Those narrow slits in the roll down gate were glowing cherry red; as if one were looking in the observation port of a furnace. Greyish – black smoke was pushing out the sides of the gate and at the roof level. Rescue 1 set to work with their saws to cut the locks off the gate while engine companies stood by at the ready with charged lines. Ladders 3 and 7 raised their sticks to the roof and started cutting holes topside. 2nd Alarm companies scrambled to check the exposures; a 3 story vacant brick to the south and a similar attached frame

structure to the north. Deputy Chief Kevin Stewart assumed command and asked for reports from the units on the roof and the exposures. “Heavy smoke but no fire” were the initial reports, but Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Richard Casella reported from the frame building to the north, “We have fire extending on the top floor. I need lines up here and truck companies with hooks”. D. C. Stewart acknowledged and then transmitted a 3rd Alarm.

Companies had advanced 2 handlines into the fruit store but were making no progress. In fact the smoke was getting thicker and heavier by the minute. Engine 5, 2 and Ladder 6 had made their way over fences and alleys off Griffith and Lincoln Streets to attack the fire from the rear. They now reported heavy fire showing from the rear of the fire building. D. C. Stewart ordered the fire building evacuated; “We will be going defensive on the main fire building and defensive in the exposures. Transmit a 4th Alarm”. It was now 36 minutes since the initial alarm was transmitted. Ladder 3 lowered their aerial, set up a ladder pipe and commenced an exterior attack. Lines withdrawn from the store were set up to attack from the street.

Meanwhile Batt. 4 and the companies in the exposure were fighting a losing battle. The top floor windows lit up with fire



3/28/14 5-5 423 329-39 Central Ave., Jersey City
Car 26 is front and center for this Central Ave. spectacular!
(Ron Jeffers Photo)

blowing out into cold night air. A strategic repositioning from that building was in order. Likewise the order to evacuate the fire building proved to be a wise one. Shortly after 02:00 the fire building collapsed in a thunderous roar! Fortunately it was a pancake type collapse with the debris filling the sidewalk but not extending past the curb.

Next in line was a substantial brick building at the corner of Central Ave. and Lincoln St. The building was a Woolworth’s in its heyday but had been retrofitted to house a Rite Aid Pharmacy on the ground floor. 4th Alarm companies focused on that building. Ladder 11 raised their stick to the roof and a big line was stretched up the aerial from Eng. Co. 7.

Units found that fire was extending along the roof and began attacking the fire with a vengeance. A 5th Alarm was struck, followed by a special call for Ladder Co. 2. Every company in the city was now at work; an unusual event for the FDJC!

Engines 13, 19 and 17 joined the companies making a stand at the corner building. Ladder 8 deployed their ladder pipe to beat the flames back from the now raging inferno that was 335 Central Ave. Their determination worked. The fire was held in check to an area of the roof and the Rite Aid was saved. More importantly, The Lincoln Inn, a favorite dining spot of local and visiting buffs alike, located



3/28/14 5-5 423 329-39 Central Ave., Jersey City—The original fire building collapsed at the height of the blaze. (Adolf Paasburg Photo)

directly behind the Rite Aid, was spared!

Fire was declared under control at 04:11 but all companies continued to operate for hours. A 1st Alarm assignment worked until Noon and then 2 companies would rotate to the scene for several more hours until demolition was complete. Although the temperature hovered a few degrees above freezing, it was a long, cold, tiring night for the troops. Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, chalked up its longest operation of the year thus far, more than 11 hours of service. A crew of 5 served 6 gallons of coffee, 10 gallons of hot chocolate, 5 gallons of Sqwincher, 72 bottles of water, 6 gallons of beef stew, 20 snack cakes and 20 pounds of cookies. A half dozen or so of hand warmers were also dispensed.

Response:

0021 Box 423 Eng. Co. 11-7-14-5 Lad. Co. 3-7 Res. Co. 1
Div. 1 Batt. 3 Safety/ Batt. 4
0025 WF 423 Sqd. Co. 4 Lad. Co. 6 MSU Marine Unit
0027 2-2 423 Eng. Co. 6-15-9 Lad. Co. 9 Batt. 1 Car 3-
26-30
0040 3-3 423 Eng. Co. 22-2 Lad. Co. 12 Batt. 2 Car 5
0057 4-4 423 Eng. Co. 10-8 Lad. Co. 11 Car 2
0148 5-5 423 Eng. Co. 13-19-17 Lad. Co. 8
0211 S/C 423 Lad. Co. 2

Coverage into the city was unusual as well. In addition to the normal relocations from the surrounding communities, County Fire Coordinators (FDJC Chief Darren Rivers and Kearny Chief Steven Dyl) conferred at the scene and decided to call 2 task forces from Essex County as well. A total of 14 engines and 6 ladders moved into Jersey City. Relocations were as follows;

To Eng. Co. 5 / Lad. Co. 6:

North Hudson Eng. 13, Hoboken Eng. 2; Hoboken Lad. 2
Essex County (0420 hours)
East Orange Eng. 3, Belleville Eng. 3, Bloomfield Eng. 1; Montclair Lad. 1

To Eng. Co. 7 / Lad. Co. 3

North Hudson Eng. 1-9; Secaucus Lad. 1
Essex County (0355 hours)
Irvington Eng. 43, West Orange Eng. 1, Millburn Eng. 52; Nutley Lad. 1

To Eng. Co. 19 / Lad. Co. 8

Bayonne Eng. 5-6; Bayonne Lad. 3

To Eng. Co. 15 / Lad. Co. 9

Kearny Eng. Co. 1-3; North Hudson Lad. 4



**Philadelphia Second
Alarmers' Association**



Region

11

Metropolitan Fire Assn. of Atlanta, GA

Central Florida Fire Buffs

South Florida Rehab & Emergency
Support Team



by: Jeffrey A. Harwell

MFA member Hugh Quarles advises the DeKalb County Fire & Rescue Department is now operating with 22 engine companies, 4 quints running as engines (at Stations 17, 19, 21, and 24), and seven truck companies out of 26 stations. Trucks 16, 18, and 25 are actually quints that are operated as truck companies. Trucks 2, 20, and 23 are American LaFrance tractor drawn tillered aerials. Truck 18 is currently operating with a 100 foot Sutphen tower ladder. Station 24 also has a heavy rescue. Engines are a mix of Pierce, KME, and Toyne, with the newest Toyne engines at Stations 7, 11, 13, and 14.

DeKalb County recently got out of the ambulance business and only has one rescue ambulance still in service. Rescue 22 responds to medical calls in it's own territory, as well as all working fires, and any call that involves an injury to a firefighter. Minimum manning is three per engine company and four per truck company. The heavy rescue also operates with four firefighters.

Apparatus on order for the next year include five new Pierce pumpers, a new quint for Station 24 (Sutphen tower ladder), and a new 100 foot Sutphen tower ladder for Truck 18. The county is currently working on specifications for a new heavy rescue and tillered aerials which should be put out for bids soon.

With all the apparatus in the county, you might find it hard to believe what one incident commander was told by dispatch when he requested an additional two engines and one truck company for a working apartment fire at 4103 Wesley Club Drive on the evening of January 28th. Dispatch advised command there were only five engines and zero truck companies available in the whole county! The great ice storm of 2013 was underway and all departments in the metro Atlanta area were being taxed to the limit. Command eventually decided he'd make due with what he had on scene, which was a good thing. A little while later dispatch called command advising they were getting calls of a house fire just down the road. Command looked down the road and advised this would be a working fire due to heavy black smoke visible. The second fire was in a fully involved one story vacant house.

Multiple alarm fires in DeKalb County include the following (all 2nd Alarms):

- 12-20 95 Meadowood Terrace, heavy fire two story apartment/condo
- 1-23 2436 Dunwoody Crossing, units on scene included E18,15,8,2 Q21,19 T18,2
- 1-28 4131 Memorial Drive, two story office building, partial roof collapse
- 2-1 2000 Bouldercrest Road, 3 story garden apartment, T20 & T16 flowing

- 2-2 2938 Toney Drive, house fire
- 2-2 1024 Oak Park Circle, 3 story condos, T1 & T18 flowing
- 2-15 1427 North Cliff Valley Way, 2 story garden apartment
- 2-25 Peachtree Road & Colonial Drive, two connected 2 story buildings
- 3-20 10 Perimeter Summit Blvd, 4 story apartment, chasing fire in walls
- 3-27 2931 Panthersville Road, woods fire threatening two story wood apartment bldgs

The MFA canteen did get called out to a long duration incident in the city of Atlanta on January 7 when businesses in the 1100 block of Euclid Avenue NE began smelling gasoline fumes.

All businesses were evacuated and the gasoline was eventually traced back to a Chevron station that was losing gasoline due to a damaged pipe. Foam Unit 28 was brought in to flow foam into several manholes.

The Atlanta Fire Department was busy during the ice storm just like everyone else. One of the more unusual dispatches heard over the radio

was for Quick Response Units 16 and 17 to move up to Station 28 and 26 respectively. This action was taken due to the number of civilians who sought shelter in these two fire stations. There were roughly 30 citizens in each station. That night the city modified responses to structure fires to only 2 engines + 1 truck on house

fires and 3 engines + 2 trucks + 1 battalion chief on apartment fires.

Multiple alarm fires in the city of Atlanta are as follows (all 2nd Alarms unless noted):

11-8 North Avenue near Boulevard, vacant two story boarding house

11-29 50 Inwood Circle NE, 3 story apartment, difficult access

12-24 631 Spring Street NW, fire 2nd floor of a two story taxpayer, severe exposures

2-21 1301 Joseph E. Boone Blvd, 2 story apartment

3-3 1881 Myrtle Drive SW, retirement high rise

3-6 Pelham Street NW, 2 story wood frame

3-13 1616 Huber Street NW, 150x200 commercial, sprinklers operating

3-23 1177 Constitution Road SE, 3rd Alarm for two 2-story garden apartment buildings



Truck 11 - Then & Now: Photo 1 shows Atlanta Truck 11 as it appeared back in 1982 - a 1979 Seagrave pulling a 1966 Pirsch Tillerred aerial. Fast forward to 2013 and Photo 2 shows Truck 11 is operating this Rearmount platform from Pierce. The crew is practicing in the back of their new station located at the corner of 16th Street and the North Expressway.



3-25 834 Lullwater Road NE, large mansion
25% involved on arrival, 4 firefighters in-
jured

3-31 Arthur Langford Parkway, large grass/
brush/woods fire, East Point E2 also on
scene



DeKalb County recently decided to exit the ambulance business, and scenes like this are no more. Rescue 2, which operated this unusual Spartan Furion/Braun rig, is pictured on a medical call off Roxboro Road in the summer of 2013. Photo 4 shows Engine 2 on the same incident with their 1000gmp/500gal/30gal foam Rosenbauer rig. Rosenbauer delivered five new engines to DeKalb County in January of 2012. The other engines went to Stations 11, 15, 16, and 25.



"Henry N. Wilwers Fire Buff of the Year" Award

Year presented	Recipient	Convention
1967	Henry N. Wilwers	St. Louis, MO
1968	William H. Perkins	Chicago, IL
1969	Edward R. Damaschke	Annapolis, MD
1970	William A. Brennan	Indianapolis, IN
1971	Albert J. Burch	Philadelphia, PA
1972	Charles C. Price	New York, NY
1973	Keith F. Franz	Milwaukee, WI
1974	John I. Hruska	Boston, MA
1975	Arthur D. Devlin, M.D.	Columbus, OH
1976	James H. Blomley	Baltimore County, MD
1977	Henry G. Nathan	St. Louis, MO
1978	Roman A. Kaminski	Toronto, Ontario, Canada
1979	Walter M. P. McCall	New Orleans, LA
1980	Edward A. Massmann	San Francisco, CA
1981	William "Pop" Porter, Sr.	Indianapolis, IN
1982	Duane W. Troxel (posthumously)	Detroit, MI
1983	Denis E. Williams	Milwaukee, WI
1984	G. Grant Miller	Boston, MA
1985	Donald H. Cheu, M.D.	Columbus, OH
1986	Harold L. Holtzman	Seattle, WA
1987	William F. Noonan	St. Louis, MO
1988	Harry W. Knodel	Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
1989	Jan C. Faulstich	Secaucus, NJ
1990	Malcolm S. "Bill" Ketchum	St. Paul, MN
1991	Gerald J. Hourigan	San Jose, CA
1992	Frederick M. Hill	Westlake, OH
1993	L. Murray Young	Milwaukee, WI
1994	George "Smokey" Bass	Universal City, CA
1995	William M. Mokros	Baltimore, MD
1996	George B. Ottley	Nashville, TN
1997	Stuart M. Nathan	Chicago, IL
1998	Herb Pearlstein	Columbus, OH
1999	Owen P. "Phil" Reid, Jr.	Tacoma, WA
2000	Ralph Decker	St. Louis, MO
2001	William "Bill" C. Celentano, Jr.	Houston, TX
2002	Paul Schaetzle	Moline, IL
2003	Steven C. Hansen	Milwaukee, WI
2004	Leonard W. Williams	Quebec City, Canada
2005	Gary M. Heathcote	Indianapolis, IN
2006	James Rasmussen (posthumously)	Seattle, WA
2007	Jerry Traub	Cambridge, MA.
2008	Bob Deibler	Racine, WI
2009	Hal Bruno	Washington DC
2010	No Award Presented	
2011	Rick Cutts	Hasbrouck Heights, NJ
2012	Charles Liedtke	Toronto, Canada
2013	James Williamson	Milwaukee, WI

