



FALL
2011

TURN OUT

TURN OUT

The Official Newsletter of the IFBA

Published Twice Yearly—Spring and Fall

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

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Subscription Information

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

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

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Submission Policy

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

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

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

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

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

Deadlines

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(Cover Photo by Rodger Birchfield)

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Box 41 Associates
Box 52 Assn., Inc.
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Connecticut Fire Photographers Assn.
Connecticut Special Signal Assn.
Essex County Fire Wardens Assn.
Middlesex County Firefighter & Fire Wardens Assn.
Providence Citywide Fire Network
Special Signal Fire Assn.
The Leather Helmet Society
TAC-9 Radio/Paging



BOX 52 ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

ORGANIZED TO PROMOTE FIRE PREVENTION AND
EXTINGUISHMENT IN METROPOLITAN BOSTON

ESTABLISHED 1912
INCORPORATED 1918

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

In 2012, the BOX 52 Association will mark the
100th Anniversary of our founding.

We are now in the formative stages of planning
a banquet to commemorate this event.

Monitor our web site (Box52.org) or our
Facebook page to learn the date of this event.

As we approach our Century mark of existence,
the club is strong with an active membership.
We have our full allotment of members (104)
with a few on the waiting list. At our October
7th. meeting we installed our new officers: Alan
Macdonald as President, Pat O'Connor Vice
President, Mike Kass and Bill Wilderman
remained as Secretary & Treasurer. Joining the
Board of Directors are Bob Fitz Jr and Frank
Barry. We wish these gentlemen well as they
lead our Association into the future.

The Association continues its support of the
Shriner's Burns Hospital in Boston. Memorial
donations are made following the passing of a
member or a domestic relative.

We continue to have very interesting guest
speakers and presenters which accounts for our
well attended meetings. Many visiting buffs
have had the opportunity to join us at our
programs. In September, Chief Blanchard of the
Saugus Fire Department described his
department's response to an 8 alarm tanker
rollover and fire on U.S. Route 1. Flowing
gasoline on fire entered a storm drain that fed a
small brook. This subsequent fire in the brook
destroyed a number of structures including a
large commercial greenhouse. Each of the

structure fires was a greater alarm on its own.

In October we were lucky enough to have Chief
Dave Traiforos of the Franklin Park IL Fire
Department with another of his fine
presentations on buffing fires in Detroit. In the
past we have been fortunate to have Chief
Traiforos present for us when he was in the City
thanks to the efforts of Pat O'Connor.

November is our annual Boston night. A
commemoration is held at this meeting of the
Great Boston Fire of November 9 and 10, 1872.
Former TV videographer Nat Whittemore
presented a DVD made of the black and white
movies recorded by legendary Buff and former
Box 52 Member Julian Olansky, The DVD
featured original narration by Julian recorded by
Nat at one of Julian's last appearances before
his passing.

December is our annual meeting in the alarm
museum operated by member Ralph Sevinor at
the Wayne Alarm Company in Lynn. This is
always a well attended event that is limited to
members only. The program by Lt. Richard
Conway of the Nashua Fire Department
included many Lynn area fires.

In the early planning stages is a late spring bus
trip of Boston and its mutual aid partners. It is
hoped to have a tour of the new BFD Boat John
S. Damrell. Our bus trips have been well
attended in the past due to the superb planning
done by our facilitator and Newsletter Editor
Frank San Severino. Our trips are opened up to
members of other clubs and guests after our
members have had first opportunity to reserve



Fireboat John S. Damrell, 2011 Metalcraft Marine of Kingston, Ontario Canada. It has a top speed of 40 mph, and is rated at 12,000 GPM and has a low platform at the stern for support of SCUBA operations. Photo by Box 52 member Michael Worley

rewards of serving others that makes the Association so worthwhile but it is also calling so many people from around the country, friends. I have been fortunate to know a number of the previous recipients of this fine honor and I consider myself lucky to become one of their number.

Meetings and bus trips of the Box 52 Association are open to visiting buffs except our December meeting.

On a personal note, I wish to thank the International Fire Buff Associates and the Box 52 Association for awarding me the Fire Buff of the Year at the New Jersey Convention. As has been said by many others it is not only the

Check the web site, for the date and site of our next meeting, or contact one of our officers for information. **Remember to 'Like' us on Facebook.**



New Orleans, LA, 4/13/2011: Old Gentilly & Press Streets. 4-Alarms Vacant, 2 story wood apartment building in a complex, vacant since Hurricane Katrina, was a total loss. Photo by Chris E. Mickal.



Region

3

Anne Arundel Alarmers Assn., Inc.

Box 234 Assn., Inc.

Box 414 Assn., Inc.

Central Alarmers, Inc.

Central Pennsylvania Fire Buff Assn.

Firecom/Newslink

Friendship Fire Assn.

Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire
Department, Inc.

Ladies Auxiliary of Box 414 Assn.

S. H. C. Assn.



Friendship Fire Association

C/O DCFD Engine Company 3
439 New Jersey Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001



NOVEMBER 9, 2011

STATEMENT FROM THE NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION ABOUT DEATH OF HAL BRUNO, CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

Former ABC News Political Director Who Moderated Vice Presidential Debate

It is with deep sadness that the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation announces that Chairman Emeritus, Hal Bruno, died last evening, Tuesday, November 8, 2011. He was 83.

For more than 60 years, Hal Bruno served as an active member of the fire service community, giving selflessly as a dedicated volunteer firefighter, advocate, commentator and leader. He is renowned for his commitment to fire safety initiatives and his compassion for the members of the fire service and their families.

Bruno was appointed chairman of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation in 1999, a distinction he held until his retirement in 2008. Under Hal's leadership the NFFF expanded services and resources for the survivors, including workshops, conferences and

scholarships. He guided and supported the Foundation in developing safety initiatives for firefighters and advancing safety practices that will help to reduce the number of line of duty deaths and injuries.

On Capitol Hill and at the White House, Bruno was admired and respected for his integrity and ability to work with Democrats and Republicans alike to address important issues impacting our nation's firefighters and rescue personnel. He was a staunch advocate for passing the Hometown Heroes Survivors Benefit Act which provides federal death benefits to the families of firefighters who die in the line of duty from heart attack or stroke.

A native of Chicago, Bruno enjoyed an illustrious 60-year career in journalism, retiring in 1999 from ABC News where he was Political Director and host of the weekly talk show, Hal Bruno's Washington. He frequently appeared on debate panels and served as moderator of the vice-presidential debate in, among others, the 1992 campaign. He covered every national election since 1960, most recently as the senior political analyst for Politics.com and as a guest commentator on CNN and other television programs.

He was one of the first journalists on the scene of the tragic Our Lady of the Angels

elementary school fire in Chicago on December 1, 1958 in which 92 students and 3 nuns died. His report that the fire spread so quickly because of the open stairwell led to significant changes in fire safety and building standards and codes.

Mr. Bruno received numerous awards and recognition from the fire service for his dedication and commitment. In October of 2011 he was awarded the National Fire & Emergency Services Hall of Legends, Legacies and Leaders Award.

The Congressional Fire Services Institute's Board of Directors selected him as the recipient of the 2008 CFSI / Motorola Mason Lankford Fire Service Leadership Award and in 1999 he received the "President's Award" from the International Association of Fire Chiefs. He was named "Fire Service Person of the Year" by the Congressional Fire Services Institute in 1995 and in 2009 he received the Fire Buff of the Year Award from the International Fire Buff Associates. He is also a 2008 inductee of the Washington, D.

C., Pro Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists Hall of Fame.

Bruno was a reporter, Chicago Bureau Chief, News Editor and Chief Political Correspondent for Newsweek magazine where he covered such matters as the civil rights movement, the 1968 Democratic National Convention and Watergate. He got his start at the DeKalb (Ill.) Daily Chronicle, moved to the City News Bureau of Chicago - where he covered the fire and police beat - and was



Hal Bruno at the 2009 IFBA Convention at the awarding of the Fire Buff of the Year Award. (Photo by Chuck Liedtke)

also with the Chicago American newspaper. Bruno was a war correspondent who covered the 1956 Suez crisis, the Cuban revolution and the Chinese-Indian war. He was a graduate of the University of Illinois, served as an Army intelligence officer during the Korean War and was a Fulbright Scholar to India.

Hal is survived by his loving wife Meg, his sister Barbara and his sons Harold and Daniel, and their wives, Brenda and Susan and four grandchildren.

REMINDER

The IRS requires that all non-profit organizations file a Form 990 or 990-N annually to keep their non-profit status. To be timely filed, the return should be submitted by **May 15**. Electronic filing is available. See www.irs.gov.

Region 4

Box 15 Club, Inc.

Box 27 Associates

Box 42 Associates, Inc.

Central Ohio Fire Buff Associates

Extra Alarm Fire Assn., Inc.

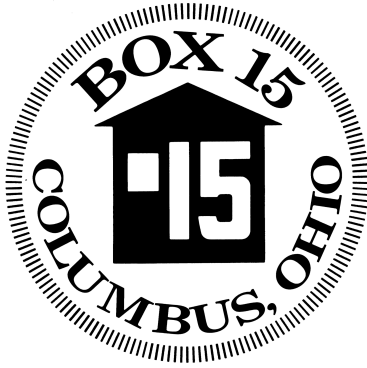
Fire Notification Network of Michigan

Fire Page Ohio

Hamilton Fire Relief Co. 20

Western Reserve Fire Buffs Assn.

Western Reserve Fire Museum of
Cleveland Ohio, Inc.



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

Affiliate of International Fire Buff Associates

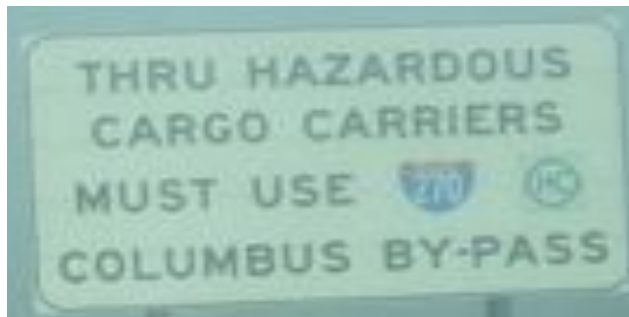
P.O. Box 82510

Columbus, Ohio 43202-0510

“Hazmat Season on I-270”

Interstate highways 70 & 71 intersect on the Southside of Downtown Columbus, Ohio. This section of highway built in early 1960's, carries hundreds of thousands of vehicles per hour, 24/7. Cars and heavy trucks frequently cross over 3 to 4 busy lanes to transition from one ramp to another. Through roads with a 55 MPH speed limit leads to ramps with 25 MPH advisory speeds. In the mid-80's a tanker truck overturned on a ramp at the height of rush hour, closing the interchange completely down. Access to the nearby county court house complex and the county jail was restricted; and Columbus Children's Hospital was threatened with a complete evacuation. As a result, the City of Columbus passed an ordinance preventing trucks carrying hazardous materials from passing through downtown Columbus and requiring them to use the beltway I-270 to travel around the intercity area.

I-270 was built between 1960 and 1975. When it was planned, it was well outside the Columbus City Limits and went along wooded areas and farmland. I-270 connects with other interstate highways at 5 points and has 10 interchanges with other major highways. Since the road was built, much of the open land has been replaced



with major shopping centers, industrial parks, apartments, and family homes. In fact, some of the most densely populated parts of the Metro Columbus area back up to I-270. Yet, many sec-

tions of the roadway are still just 2 lanes each way. Most of the inter-sections with major highways are unchanged since they were designed 40 to 50 years ago and the ramps have 25 MPH advisory speeds. On an

average commuter day,

some of the biggest traffic backups occur on this “by-pass” freeway. Wage earners and parents taking kids to soccer practice, creep in traffic with placarded trucks. Hazardous material runs and Interstate 270 would become a common theme for Central Ohio hazmat responders and Box 15 this year.

At the end of evening rush hour on April 11, 2011, Columbus Fire responded to an overturned semi truck on the ramp from I-70 WB to I-270 SB on the east side of the city. Arriving units reported an overseas container unit from the truck had a large pool of unknown fluid underneath it. A working hazmat incident was declared and Box 15 was called to assist about 90 minutes into the incident. The weather was cold for April in Ohio and rainy. Box 15 personnel were on the scene until 3:30 in the morning providing shelter, snacks, and beverages for 50 some members of police, fire, EMA, and recovery agencies. Because of this incident, warning signs of the re-

duced speed of the ramp were enlarged and had amber warning lights added to them.

On afternoon of May 9th, a tanker truck with over 8000 gallons of denatured alcohol over-



turned on the ramp from I-71NB to I-270WB on the southern edge of Franklin County. Jackson Township Fire requested Box 15 to provide rehab services. Our crews were on scene for 4 hours, assisting with feeding emergency providers than included an airport foam unit from nearby Rickenbacker ANGB.



Box 15 photo by Bob Hess

May 23th was a morning of hard heavy rain during the A.M. rush hour. Emergency responders were meeting at the

Franklin County EMA offices on the Northeast of Columbus for a table top hazmat drill. The planned scenario was a tanker truck sliding off the freeway during a heavy rain. Just as the drill was starting; on the opposite side of town a



Box 15 Photo by Brett Barber

truck carrying an intermodal tank with Al- phamethylstyrene was cut off in traffic as it traveled southbound on I-270 from Cemetery Road and slid off the roadway. First due units found the truck on its side with the tank nearby. Pools of unknown liquid were under and downhill of the tank. Several people at the tabletop drill (including Box 15 members) left the EMA offices to respond in a case of real imitating drill. By the time Box 15 Rehab 1 arrived, police had a 6 mile section of freeway shut down in both directions. At first responders were served coffee & hot chocolate for them to warm up in the cold hard rain. During the more than 5 hours that Box 15 members were on scene; the rain stopped the sun came out and the scene heated up to mid-80's with high humidity. A local fast food restaurant donated meals for the sixty some responders on the scene, that were picked up, delivered to the scene, and distributed by Box 15 members.

A few days later: on June 3rd, a truck flipped

over on the ramp from 270WB to US23 Southbound, again on the South side of Franklin County. Hamilton Township Fire crew arrived to find that the trailer had a load of 55 gallon barrels of glue products. The Columbus Fire Hazmat Team was requested and Box 15 was notified for support. Box 15 members were on scene for about 3 ½ hours until the situation contained and turned over to a private clean up contractor.

Yogi Berra is quoted to have once said” It’s déjà vu all over again”. On June 27th, Columbus Fire and Box 15 once again responded to a truck the overturned on the ramp from I-70WB to I-270SB on the Eastside of Columbus. (Guess the new signs didn’t help much.) Madison Township Fire-fighters also assisted this time as companies were on scene for 6 hours.

On the morning of July 5th, a tanker truck left the industrial park on the southeast side of Gahanna and traveled down Morrison Road to get on the freeway. The City of Gahanna and the

State of Ohio are in fact, building a new roadway & bridge that would allow trucks to avoid Morrison Road; lined with strip centers, restaurants, child care centers, and apartment complexes as they enter and leave the industrial

park. As the truck made a left turn to go southbound; it flipped onto its side, coming to a stop within yards of the entrance ramp to I-270. Mifflin Township Division of Fire companies arrived to discover that the truck was hauling 4800 gallons of Aluminum Oxide. Columbus Fire

hazmat companies were summoned again to assist. Box 15 arrived shortly after the team and set up rehab during a typical hot, humid July afternoon in Central Ohio. A nearby restaurant provided food for responders during the lunch hour call. After about 2 hours, the truck was up righted and the scene was secured.

For the next few months, it seem like hazmat season was finally over. Then on the evening of October 10th, Columbus Fire FAO put out a freeway assignment



Photos by Keith Kraut



at the interchange of I-270 & State Route 161, in the northeast corner of Columbus. First arriving Medic Unit 29 reported that a fuel tanker had rolled onto its top, with the driver pinned with what proved to be fatal injuries. Two hours into the incident, Box 15 was requested to the scene. Rehab 2 was on scene for over 14 hours, with a crew change early in the morning on the 11th. At one point over 125 personnel were on scene from Columbus Police, ODOT, EPA, towing and recovery companies, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, and OSP. Columbus Fire had 5 Medic Units 2 Ladder Companies, 2 Heavy Rescues, an airport crash truck, a tanker, and 16 different Engine Companies rotate through during the incident. A 12 mile stretch of I-270 and a 3 mile



section of State Route 161 were closed until late the following afternoon as well. Streets that normally had light traffic during rush hour were gridlocked during the morning commuter drive. Local media compared the closures to when I-5 was closed down in Downtown Los Angeles earlier this year. Over two days after the crash, the EPA was had some exit ramps at the interchange restricted as they did testing for contamination and removed soil from the crash area.

Photos property of Box 15

Have you visited our on line store yet?

Back in the 1980's; Box 15 began selling T-shirts with the CFD logo on them as fund raiser. Through the years, sales have mostly been on a

cash basis. The shirts were sold during scheduled sales at fire stations and some fire service social functions. Shirts were only available between sales if you could make contact with a club member. All deliveries were handled by club members at their expense. In recent years, special T-shirts were made for Breast Cancer Month and this past fall we introduced a 9/11 commemorative T-shirt. We have now expanded our shirt sales to the World Wide Web. Our on line store allows anyone to purchase our T-shirts and have them shipped directly to them. Please visit store.box15.org today.

Our 2012 slate of officers

As of the Turn Out publishing deadline; the following Box 15 members were in line to assume

the following offices for 2012 Box 15 Executive Board:

President- -----Brett Barber (Returning after 1 year Vice President and 1 year as Past President)
Vice President- Kevin Shop (Previously served as Secretary until 2010)
Treasurer-----Jim Henderson (Returning)
Secretary-----Bob Hess (Returning)
Trustee -----Sonny Lewis (Returning)
Trustee-----Tom Swisher (New to Executive Board)

Questions about what Box 15 is doing? Visit our website at www.box15.org, or email our board at board@box15.org. You can also follow us on Facebook & Twitter.

FDNY “Ten House” Engine and Ladder, sporting the slogan “Still Standing” under their grills, are displayed in front of the new World Trade Center rising in the background. Photo by Billy Ladell.



Region

6

5-11 Club, Inc.

10-87 Club of Greater Rockford

Extra Alarm Assn. of the Twin Cities

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 5-11 Club has had a very active year so far with many special events, fire and police incidents. The support service units have been involved in 84 responses through mid-October. The annual fire muster held at the Fire Academy with the Fire Buffs of Illinois was the highlight of our activities with over 60 vendors participating. An apparatus parade was a show stopper with some 12 antique and modern vehicles, as well as the usual CFD display of special units and some of the downtown fire companies. The Water Tower No. 2 and other museum rigs did a water show.

Fire action is somewhat below average with 40 multiple alarms including 37 2-11s, three 3-11s and no 4-11s or 5-11s as of this writing. This is the second year in a row that the City has not experienced at least one 5-11 alarm. There has, however, been an increase in high rise apartment building fires requiring an EMS Plan 2 (10 ambulance response), additional truck (ladder) companies, a minimum of five Battalion Chiefs and the implementation of R.A. T. (Rapid Ascent Teams).

The City has a new mayor, the Hon. Rahm Emanuel who has had to close a severe gap in the City budget. The new Mayor has hinted at closing several stations as well as a reduction in manning from 5 to 4 firefighters per rig. Current manning levels are guaranteed under the existing union contract. The fire department headquarters will move to the police headquarters under the Department of Safety. The CFD will consolidate

districts from six to five and this may result the realignment of the 24 battalions.

Engine Co. No. 109 along with Truck Co. 32 and Battalion 14 will move into their new quarters at 2423 South Kedzie, two blocks away from their old house. The new station is the first of several with a new layout of 14,000 sq. ft. of room including a three bay apparatus floor. The new house for Engine Co. No. 16 is under construction with an estimated completion by 2013. Plans for one or more new crash rescue stations at O'Hare Field are waiting on the completion of two new runways that will be phased in during the next



Engine 109's new quarters at 2324 South Kedzie (Photo by Chuck Bleck)

several years.

New equipment for the City includes a replacement of the 60-year-old Engine Co. 58, the Schlaeger fireboat. The new fireboat, Engine 2, is named in memory of fallen firefighter Christopher Wheatley, who died in the line of duty in 2010. The unit was built by Hike Metal Products Co. of Wheatley, Ontario and was placed in ser-

vice in April 2011. Engine 2 is docked in DuSable Harbor (just South of Navy Pier) at the CPD Marine Unit facility.

The new boat characteristics are impressive; it has ice breaking capabilities and is rated as a Type 3 boat with 14,000 gpm pump using 4 turrets, 3 forward of the wheelhouse and one aft on a 30' hydraulic platform.

There are also 22 land line discharges (4 front, 9 on each side) on the Wheatley. Top speed is 13 knots or 14 mph. It weighs 220 tons with a length of 90 ft., a beam of 25 ft., depth of 12 ft. and draft of 7 ft. 6 in.

The boat can be used year-round and is equipped with the radar and a marine radio with channels for aircraft search and rescue communications. The crew consists of a licensed marine pilot, engineer and three fire personnel who are rated by the Coast Guard. There are no crew quarters on this vessel; however, plans to house the staff are being made. The Schlaeger is being held in reserve.

Another special unit was placed with Engine Co.

No. 22 as an auxiliary unit to the H.I.T. Team 5-1-1. The unit is a 2009 Ford F750 and is designated as the Mobile Lab. It is a box van with robot

tracked unit that can be deployed to take samples of suspected hazardous materials and retrieve them to be analyzed in the mobile van by haz-mat techs. The south side haz-mat team was moved from Engine Co. 60 to O'Hare Field because of increased incidents.

Six of the nine Crimson heavy-duty aerial ladders are now in service at Truck Co. Nos. 9, 31, 51, 50, 61 and 56. Three additional Spartan-Crimson aerials will be in

service this Fall. A new pumper, Engine Co. 120, was placed in service this summer. An add-on order for other pumpers using the Spartan-Crimson model are being built for O'Hare Field and the Fire Academy. A new mobile ventilation unit was obtained for use at O'Hare Field. It is a much smaller version of the one at Engine Co. 106 and its radio number is 9-2-4 and is located at Rescue Station No. 3. A total of five Oshkosh Striker 3000 crash trucks were placed in service at O'Hare



Engine 2, "Christopher Wheatley" (Photo by Mike Penchar)



Field this year each one carries 3000 gals. of water, 500 lbs. of Purple K, 420 gals. of AFFF and 460 lbs. of Halon extinguishing agent. This gives O'Hare Field seven front line crash trucks from four stations to increase the firefighting capability. The former north side command van 2-7-2 has been repaired and rehabbed since a serious fire damaged this vehicle in 2009. The 2007 Ford F-750 and box were repainted and new logos were applied. Upgrades include new computers, monitors, cameras, work stations and a new 7500 watt



9-2-4 Mobile Vent Unit (Photo by Bill Friedrich)

Onan Generator. It is sent to all working fires and incidents on the north side of the City. An EMS Medical Bus is in final stages of being outfitted. It is built on a Bluebird chassis and is painted in the familiar CFD black over red color scheme. It can transport 10 litter patients and several ambulatory victims from EMS incidents.

It is our sad duty to report the passing of Pete Foley, one of our senior members who was a 40 year fire buff who worked on the original Salvation Army team. Our prayers went out to his family and he will be missed at our events. His father was an CFD officer with several north side companies.

We have had an extremely successful fund-raising project with our annual 50/50 raffle and the sale of several hun-

dred 5-11 Club tee-shirts. These shirts are available in blue or white for \$12.00 plus shipping and handling. Call the 5-11 Club at (708) 453-5114 if interested in purchasing one. Also, recently we were able to set up a coupon program with Chili's restaurant chain so that members and supporters can donate 10% of the bill for food and drink minus taxes which is collected and remitted to the Club. The proceeds of the fund-raising activities will be used to support work of our Support Service units. Please check out our website which is updated on weekly basis with photo galleries/links and local fire service news. Our website is www.5-11clubchicago.org.

Our friends at the Fire Museum of Greater Chicago have purchased a completely restored 1928 Ahrens Fox Pumper. The engine was originally purchased by the City of Chicago and assigned to Engine 10. The 1000 gpm pumper was one of five purchased in 1928. The rig's return to Chicago marks the end of a 40-year absence. The Fox runs like a top and can still throw water. Needless to say, the return of Engine 10 has cost the Museum an arm and a leg (so to speak). The Museum welcomes any donations to offset the expense of procuring this treasure. Please go to www.firemuseumofgreaterchicago.org for details.

We want to thank our fellow IFBA members in New Jersey for a great convention and will never forget the memorials to those who lost their lives on 9-11-01. As always, please call or e-mail our Club if visiting the Chicago area so we can give you a tour of our town.



Engine 10's 1928 Ahrens Fox Pumper (Photo by Jack Connors)



Milwaukee Fire Bell Club, Inc.

By: Dan Rode

Milwaukee Fire Bell Club activities

The Milwaukee Fire Bell Club has had a busy year so far in 2011. The New Year started out with the Annual Installation of Officers dinner being held on Thursday, January 20, 2011, at Joey Buona's Italian restaurant in downtown Milwaukee. A group of 50 attendees, including Chuck Bleck and Roz Dinoff from the 5-11 Club, witnessed Milwaukee Fire Chief Mark Rohlfing administer the oath of office to the seven members. The current board is Bob Ristic-President, Dan Rode-Vice President, Bob Warner-Secretary, Gary Schmidt-Treasurer, and Ron Hornik, Ed Naczek, and Terry Jo Schmidt serve as directors. Congratulations to everyone in their new positions.

Currently there are 32 active members (40 is the limit), 1 sustaining member, and 7 honorary members (Chief Mark Rohlfing, four retired M.F.D. Chiefs, Milwaukee Police Chief Edward Flynn, and Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke). Congratulations to our newest active member Annie Hermsen, voted in at our June business meeting. Annie comes from a long line of Milwaukee firefighting tradition, her father is a retired Milwaukee firefighter and her grandfather is a retired Milwaukee battalion chief. Annie was actually very active in the club prior to the June vote, her assistance in our new website: www.milwaukeefirebellclub.com and getting us into Facebook have been very instrumental in introducing the club to the new social medias in society today. Sadly, we also saw the passing of long-time Fire Bell Club member Mel Bugenhagen (1962) on May 05, 2011. May he rest in peace.

And before I forget, I would be remiss if I did not mention that one of our long time members, Dick Nailen, recently retired from the Milwaukee Fire

Bell Club with 47 years of outstanding volunteer service. Dick was very involved in promoting fire buffing as was evident in the numerous articles that he wrote for Fire Engineering magazine, TURN OUT magazine (1968-2004), editor of the club's Bell Taps newsletter (1968-81), and co-authored two editions of the widely popular Beertown Blazes (1971, 1982). Dick was especially involved in our Canteen Committee, attending thousands of fires and emergency incidents, meticulously drawing diagrams of the fireground with particular attention to apparatus and hose line placement. Dick will be sorely missed by the club for his wealth of fire buff knowledge and history of the Milwaukee Fire Department. Dick, we tip our helmet to you and wish you nothing but the best in health and family. Enjoy your 'second' retirement!

Bi-monthly social dinners have been well attended by club members and their guests. Our dinner meeting in March occurred on St. Patrick's Day at the quarters of Engine 12, Truck 11, Rescue Co. 1 & 4 on 9th & Greenfield in Milwaukee's South side. These four companies comprise of the Heavy Urban Rescue Team (H.U.R.T.). The team is made up of 90 members trained to respond to structural collapse, trench/excavation cave-in, confined space emergency, and high- and low-angle rope rescue. In addition, the H.U.R.T. Team has specialized training in rescuing downed firefighters and all four rigs respond on all 3rd alarms as the R.I.T. Team. Also, forty members of the team serve on the State of Wisconsin's Structural Collapse Rescue Task Force 1 (WI-TF1). After dinner (corned beef and all the fixings), members of Engine 12 & Truck 11 gave a presentation on their equipment used to rescue a trapped party inside a collapsed building (this was coincidental as less than a week earlier on March 11th, the 9.0 earthquake had just struck Japan and numerous reports were coming out of the disaster of rescues still occurring days later). Club members got to see up close and hold battery operated jaws/cutters, lis-

tening equipment, concrete cutting chain saws, and pancake jacks capable of lifting 140,000 pounds of collapsed concrete.

Guests in attendance included Billy Ladell, F. D.N.Y. Dispatcher and member of the Fire Bell Club of New York and Jim Carey, member of the Gong Club of Jersey City, NJ, both invited by Keith Franz.



Fire Bell Club member & director Terry Jo Schmidt inspects a Hurst battery operated spreader/cutter at the March social dinner. Photo By: Chuck Liedtke

The June meeting on June 16, 2011, was held at the new Wauwatosa Fire Department Station 1, 1601 N. Underwood Ave. The City of Wauwatosa is located on the western border of Milwaukee and is a member of M.A.B.A.S. Division 107 (Milwaukee County). Members had the opportunity to meet the new Fire Chief, Rob Ugaste, formerly an Assistant Chief of the Lincolnshire-Riverwoods Fire Protection District in northern Illinois (three months on the job at the time of the dinner). After dinner, members split into two groups and toured the luxurious firehouse for Engine 1, Truck 1, Med 210, and Battalion 5. The firehouse also has a community room (used quite extensively by the public), a Wauwatosa police substation, heated underground parking (limited space on site), and the repair shop. An interesting feature of the firehouse was the hose tower constructed as a weather observation deck, green roof with solar panels, and a solar hot water system.

Several club members made the trek on May 21, 2011, to the South Shore Fire Department Station 10 in Mt. Pleasant (Division 102-Racine County) for the Region 6 meeting. Representatives from the Milwaukee Fire Historical Society, Racine Fire Bells, 5-11 Club, M.E.S.S., and Moline Second Alarmers Association braved the cool temperatures and light rains to discuss the state of their clubs and rehab operations in the 21st century. Everyone enjoyed a box lunch courtesy of our hosts, the Racine Fire Bells, and then in the afternoon had the opportunity to view rigs from the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club, Racine Fire Bells, and M.E.S.S. Terry Cox of M.E.S.S. even passed around a Rehab S.O.G. book that their organization currently uses. It is very user friendly and everyone present was highly impressed with its ease of use. Don't be surprised if you see more clubs adopt this type of book in the near future. Our own Chuck Liedtke was re-elected Region 6 Vice President for 2011. Congratulations to



Members of Region 6 clubs at regional meeting on May 21, 2011. Photo by: Chuck Liedtke

Chuck on this wonderful honor!

September saw two more social events attended by our members. Four members-Chuck Liedtke, Bill Mokros, Bob Warner, and Brad Gruenewald (along with Bill and Chuck's wives) attended the IFBA convention held in Jersey City. Then on September 29th, our club as well as the Racine



Brad Gruenewald, Chuck Liedtke, Ronnie Liedtke, Vickie Mokros, Bill Mokros, and Bob Warner attend the 2011 IFBA Convention in Jersey City. Photo By: John Degenhardt

Fire Bell Club participated in the annual Steak Fry hosted this year by the Waukesha County Emergency Support & Rehab, Inc. This annual tradition occurs every September with the host duties rotated amongst the three clubs. 41 members and guests sat down to a steak dinner and had the opportunity to reminisce about fires from long ago as well as discuss their clubs' current activities. Three perspective club members were also in attendance-Lisa Lauridsen, Megan Olszewski, and Andrew Paremski. We hope to see more of them at our upcoming PR events as we approach the fall season

As readers may be aware, the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club is very active within the State of Wisconsin's Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (M.A.B.A.S.) program. We currently serve Divisions 109 (City of Milwaukee) and 107 (Milwaukee County-12 fire departments) and in late 2009/early 2010 began serving Division 119 (Ozaukee County-9 fire departments) which is located directly north of Milwaukee County. Also, the club is now an Associate Member of Division 109 since last November, 2010. This participation in M.A.B.A.S. has allowed the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club to increase its responses to both incidents and P.R. events as well as fund raising opportunities to finish the build out of Rehab 2.

The Rehab Committee has been very active in the last year and a half with the addition of Rehab 2 to our response fleet and the addition of Ozaukee County to our response area. So far in 2011, members responded to (13) fires & emergency incidents, (10) training exercises, and (20) P.R. events. Below is a brief summary of our activities.

Emergency incidents

- 01-02-11 1211, 1217, 1221 S. 35th St., Milwaukee (4th alarm for three 2 1/2-story dwellings, 1 fatality)
- 01-23-11 8661 W. Loomis Rd., Franklin (MABAS Div. 107 Box alarm + Tender Box for 1 1/2-story dwelling, 1 fatality)
- 02-12-11 833-39 W. Historic Mitchell St., Milwaukee (3rd alarm for 2-story mercantile building)
- 05-10-11 5333 N. 91st St., Milwaukee (4th alarm for a 2-story apartment building)
- 05-23-11 2776 S. 29th St., Milwaukee (3rd alarm for a 2-story factory. 2nd alarm fire also occurred here on 10-05-11)
- 06-01-11 437 Lake Bluff Ln., Grafton (MABAS Div. 119 Box alarm + 3rd alarm Tender Box for large dwelling)
- 06-03-11 1555 W. Lincoln Ave., Milwaukee (3rd alarm for a 2 1/2-story wood frame dwelling, 2 members of Engine 31 bailed out of the attic window)
- 06-06-11 3310 W. Fond du Lac Ave., Milwaukee (4th alarm for a 1-story auto scrap building)
- 07-29-11 Whitnall Park, Hales Corners (Authorities searched for a suicidal subject inside the park)
- 08-18-11 1430 N. 119th St., Wauwatosa (MABAS Div. 107 Still alarm for a 1 1/2-story dwelling, 1 fatality)
- 08-24-11 4720 S. Supreme Ct., Greenfield (MABAS Div. 107 2nd alarm for an apartment building)
- 10-08-11 901 Monroe Ave., South Milwaukee

(MABAS Div. 107 Box alarm for a 2 1/2-story dwelling)
 10-20-11 1396 Falls Rd., Grafton (MABAS Div. 119 Box alarm for a barn)
 10-31-11 11060 S. Chicago Rd., Oak Creek (Large bluff collapse into Lake Michigan at the rear of the WE Energies Oak Creek Power Plant)

Training exercises

01-22-11 MABAS Division 107/109 meeting at M.F.D. Engine 33
 05-19-11 Vigilant Guard exercise, Port of Milwaukee
 05-19-11 Vigilant Guard exercise, Port Washington
 05-21-11 9225 S. 68th St., Franklin, Severe weather seminar at the Milwaukee County Sheriff Academy
 05-24-11 Mitchell International Airport disaster drill
 05-31-11 10539 S. Howell Ave., Oak Creek house burn
 06-01-11 10539 S. Howell Ave., Oak Creek house burn (members left this location to respond to the Grafton Box alarm)
 07-19-11 3018 E. Norwich Ave., St. Francis house burn
 08-22-11 3018 E. Norwich Ave., St. Francis house burn
 10-20-11 Maier Festival Park, Milwaukee, Milwaukee County Tactical E.M.S. Training

P.R. events

01-11-11 2400 N. Lincoln Memorial Dr., Milwaukee (Polar Bear plunge in Lake Michigan)
 03-26-11 Funeral for Fond du Lac Police Officer Craig Birkholz in Kenosha (Line of Duty death-see Spring 2011 TURN OUT article)
 05-10-11 Funeral for Milwaukee Fire Bell Club

member Mel Bugenhagen
 05-21-11 I.F.B.A. Region 6 meeting in Mt. Pleasant
 06-04-11 Bayshore Mall Safety Days
 06-16-11 Milwaukee Fire Bell Club social dinner at Wauwatosa F.D. Station 1
 07-03-11 July 3rd Fireworks at the Milwaukee Lakefront
 07-08-11 Milwaukee Fire Bell Club fundraiser at the Milwaukee Brewers game
 07-10-11 Lakefront Marathon
 08-06-11 Lakefront Air & Water Show
 08-07-11 Lakefront Air & Water Show
 08-17-11 Milwaukee Fire Department Softball Tournament
 08-24-11 Milwaukee Fire Local 215 Retirees Picnic at Maier Festival Park
 08-27-11 14th Great Milwaukee Muster
 09-10-11 Menomonee Falls Safety Days
 09-11-11 Whitnall Park 09-11 Ceremony
 09-11-11 09-11 Stair Climb at the U.S. Bank Building
 09-17-11 Thiensville Safety Days
 10-12-11 Milwaukee Fire Department Fallen Firefighter Memorial at Engine 2
 10-16-11 Grafton Fire Department Open House

In addition to these responses, members have been very busy for the last 2 years with fundraising to complete the build out of Rehab 2. These phases include a rear storage compartment with exterior access door and steps, exterior serving cabinet with vents, interior countertop, automatic shoreline disconnect, backup alarm, scene and emergency lighting, and exterior painting/lettering. Rehab 2 is now the primary response vehicle and ESU1 will respond if the emergency turns into a long duration incident. This protocol will help to decrease wear and tear on the larger ESU1 and keep the maintenance costs to a minimum. There have already been several instances in which fire departments specifically requested the response of Rehab 2 to the incident. Its versatility and functionality as a quick response vehicle is establishing itself as an asset for emergency rehab both in fire and law enforcement. Both vehicles now afford the opportu-

nity to respond to simultaneous emergencies, P.R. events, or combination.

Our 2013 Convention Committee consisting of Chuck Liedtke and Bill Mokros are fast at work putting together a fabulous 60th anniversary convention to be held in Milwaukee once again on July 10-13, 2013. Lodging will be at the Wyndham Milwaukee Airport and Convention Center (www.wyndham.com/hotels/MKEAP/main.wnt). This hotel is located on Milwaukee's South side and is directly across the street from General Mitchell International Airport. The hotel provides complimentary 24-hour shuttle service to and from the airport. It is within walking distance to numerous restaurants and entertainment establishments located on Howell and Layton Avenues. This four-day event will provide several planned trips as well as opportunities to explore our wonderful city and its surrounding locales. Please mark your calendar now as you do not want to miss this one. We hope to see all of our friends there!

Milwaukee Fire Department updates

There is much to report for the year 2011 concerning the Milwaukee Fire Department (M.F.D.). Chief Mark Rohlfing has implemented his reorganization plan on February 20th, 2011. Previously, the M.F.D. consisted of four bureaus (Administration, Construction & Maintenance, Instruction & Training, and Special Operations), three sections (Community Relations, Fire Communications, and Technical Services), and two divisions (Firefighting and Vehicle Operations). Each bureau was headed by a deputy chief while a battalion chief was in-charge of Technical Services. Chief Rohlfing determined that a streamlined command structure would allow for smoother communication lines and a simpler chain of command for the entire fire department. The new command structure consists of three bureaus (Support Services, E.M.S./Training/Education, and Operations) with an assistant chief in-charge of each bureau as well as sections and

divisions assigned to each bureau. Below is the current make up of the new reorganization plan:

-Bureau of Support Services

- *Administration Division
 - Budget & Finance Section
- *Construction & Maintenance Division
- *Technical Services Division (T.S.D.)
 - Fire Communications Section

-Bureau of E.M.S./Training/Education (E.T.E.)

- *E.M.S. Division
 - T.E.M.S. (Tactical E.M.S.)
 - P.B.R. (Paramedic Bicycle Response)
- *Training Division
 - Community Relations Section
 - Vehicle Operations Section

-Bureau of Operations

- *Firefighting Division
 - 5 Battalions
 - Incident Safety Officer (I.S.O.)
 - Fire Investigation Unit (F.I.U.)
- *Special Operations Division
 - Heavy Urban Rescue Team (H.U.R.T.)
 - Haz-Mat Team
 - Marine Operations Team
 - +Dive Rescue Team
 - +Fireboat Pilots

As a result of the reorganization plan, there were promotions for the three newly created Assistant Chief positions. Battalion Chief Gerard Washington was promoted to Assistant Chief-Support Services on February 06, 2011, while Deputy Chief Michael Payne and Battalion Chief Paul Conway were promoted to Assistant Chief-E.T.E. and Assistant Chief-Operations respectively on February 20, 2011. Congratulations to all three gentlemen on their promotions and good luck in their new positions.

An additional change due to the reorganization was the new assignment of Car numbers to staff personnel. This took effect immediately.

The Bureau of Operations has been busy since its inception trying to improve firefighting efficiency and safety while addressing the staffing level changes that have occurred since 2003. Beginning on June 09, 2011, the 10 minute incident clock (per N.F.P.A. 1500) has been instituted. Dispatch will start the clock upon arrival of the first company at

a confirmed working fire, haz-mat incident, or any emergency incident. Dispatch will notify the I.C. at every 10 minute P.A.R. (Personnel Accountability Report) until the fire is contained or the incident is stabilized. The I.C. can cancel the incident clock notification based upon incident conditions. This tool will allow the I.C. to measure fire progression (weakening of the fire building (s), fire attack progress (or lack of), on air time, rotation of crews, rehab, etc. The I.C. is required to provide dispatch with a progress report for each P.A.R. notification. In addition, the further incorporation of N.I.M.S. is being introduced. The sides of a fire building are now identified by a letter: A (front), B (left side), C (rear), and D (right side). This will help to better identify the locations of companies operating, location of fire burning, etc. when information is being exchanged on the fireground frequency. Also, the terms "Fire is doubtful" and "Fire will hold" are being introduced into the radio terminology. The transmission of these two terms to dispatch by the I.C. will indicate that the fire is out of control and may require additional resources (Fire is doubtful) or fire is contained and no additional resources are required (Fire will hold). And effective on September 01, 2011, a new vacant structure placarding program has been instituted. In cooperation with the Department of Neighborhood Services (D.N.S.), vacant structures will now be placarded based upon their designated category:

Category 1

Normal structural conditions and no known hazards exist. No placard required.

Category 2

Minor structural hazards or interior hazards including limited access/egress, water leaks, medium/large loads, and small holes in the floor. Placard is required.

Category 3

Major structural hazards or interior hazards including previous substantial fire damage, partial collapse, compromised trusses or I-beams in the floors or roof, missing stairs, large holes in the floors, and unstable chimneys. Unless a known life safety hazard exists, do not enter the vacant structure. Placard is required.

Symbols on the placard

R/O=roof open

<u>Alarm Level</u>	<u>Engines</u>	<u>Trucks</u>	<u>Bn. Chiefs</u>	<u>Med Units</u>	<u>Other</u>
1	3	3	2	1	Car 18
2	3	2		1	Car 3, Compressed Air Supply Unit 1 or 2
3	3	1	1	1	Engine 9 & I.C.P. (Incident Command Post) Engine 12 & Truck 11 with Rescue Co. 1 & 4
4	3				
5	3				

Notes

-The third truck on the 1st alarm is designated as the R.I.T. truck. Engine 12 & Truck 11 with Rescue Co. 1 & 4 assume R.I.T. duties on all 3rd alarms or higher, unless special called prior to the 3rd alarm.

-On the 1st alarm, the first battalion chief is designated as the Incident Commander (Command & Operations) while the second battalion chief can be assigned a geographic division or task (i.e. operations, planning, logistics, etc.).

-Med 4 (stationed with Engine 9 & I.C.P.) is the med unit assigned to respond on the 3rd alarm and establishes the Rehab Sector. This operational change took affect on March 18, 2011.

-On the 3rd alarm, off-duty battalion chiefs are recalled to staff Bn. 6 and 7 while an off-duty deputy chief (or battalion chief, if designated) is recalled to staff Car 3A. Car 2C reports to the I.C.P. and Car 5 reports to the incident as the R.I.T./Safety Chief (will coordinate with Engine 12 and Truck 11). E.T.E. personnel report to the I.C.P. to staff it and function as the Staging Officer and Water Supply Officer. Car 15A, B, or C is the Rehab Officer and assist Med 4 in establishing and operating the Rehab Sector.

An additional layer of safety was unveiled by the Bureau of Operations effective August 29, 2011. The new R.I.T. protocol has been established for use anytime a "Mayday" is transmitted (lost/disoriented, trapped-collapse or entanglement, missing, cut off by fire, cut off by collapse, out of air/S.C.B.A. failure, or down).

<u>Alarm Level</u>	<u>Engines</u>	<u>Trucks</u>	<u>Bn. Chief</u>	<u>Med Units</u>
RIT1	2	2	1	2
RIT2				1
RIT3				1
RIT4				1

The I.C. will be the R.I.T. Operations Chief until the arrival of Car 5. Car 18 will perform a face to face P.A.R. immediately with on scene companies to determine how many firefighter (s) are involved in the mayday and report this information to the I.C. (this will determine what level R.I.T. alarm will be requested from dispatch). The first paramedic officer on scene will function as the Medical Sector Officer.

The Repair Shop has been busy putting new apparatus into service. Three new 2011 Pierce Arrow



New M.F.D. Engine 34, a 2011 Pierce Arrow XT 1500/500/30. Photo by: Mark Stampfl

XT engines were received in early August for assignment to Engines 31, 32, and 34. Each rig has a 1,500 g.p.m. pump, 500 gallon tank, and 30 gallon foam tank. Also, the rear hose bed was recon-

figured to accommodate the new supply hose complement: 14 sections of 3" hose and 7 sections of 4" L.D.H. Two new Pierce Arrow XT trucks have also been put into service at Trucks 11 (2010 model) and 3 (2011 model). They have a 105 foot steel rear mount aerial and also feature a 4" L.D.H. connection on their rear water way. Three 2011

Other
 Engine 12 & Truck 11 with Rescue Co. 1 & 4 Compressed Air Supply Unit 1 or 2 Car 2C, Car 3, Car 5, Car 7 or 15

Freightliner/Medtec ambulances for Meds 4, 7, and 19 will arrive shortly. And two new air cascade trailers have gone into service as Mobile Air 1 and 2 (stationed at Engines 3 and 22). Purchased with U.A.S.I. grant money, each trailer can fill S.C.B.A. and S.C.U.B.A. bottles, is

equipped with a light tower, and air hose on a reel. The trailers are available as an M.A.B.A.S. asset to the nearby divisions if requested. Speaking of green technology, the Repair Shop has been busy with local contractors installing solar hot water systems at four firehouses (Engines 13, 23, 35, and 36-the last three are equipped with commercial washers and dryers for firefighters turn out gear). It is expected to see more firehouses have this feature installed as the benefits of this technology become fully realized.

The M.F.D. has been no stranger to the budget crisis that has plagued the American fire service for the past decade. Since January 2010, there have been two engine companies browned out on a daily basis. The two companies picked (opposite sides of the city) are shut down for a month on a rotating basis. Personnel are then reassigned to open positions throughout the city. Affected companies are Engines 4, 10, 11, 23, 24, 30, 32, 35, and 37 (all assigned to a double company house). In addition, Engine 20 (disbanded on December 28, 2008) and Truck 10 (disbanded on December 27, 2009) are no longer in service. All engine and truck companies now operate with four personnel (previously five, 100 positions eliminated in the last seven years). A bright spot however occurred on February 06, 2011, when Car 14 became staffed again

with a 24-hour position (one captain and two lieutenants assigned to the unit). Previously one lieutenant only was assigned to an 8-hour day, 40-hour work week spot and would be called in off duty when requested by the I.C. A class of 35 fire recruits began training on October 31 and anticipate completion of training on February 28, 2012.

For the year 2010, the busiest companies were Engine 13 (4,180 runs), Truck 12 (2,402 runs), Med 5 (4,300 runs), and Battalion 1 (1,149 runs). Busiest station was Engine 36 and Med 5 with 7,595 calls. Overall, the M.F.D. responded to 67,528 runs (53,629 e.m.s. calls, 13,899 fire calls, and 8,115 false alarms).

As for the greater alarm numbers, 2010 was a fairly busy year with (22) 2nd alarms, (4) 3rd alarms, and (1) 4th alarm. There were only three fire fatalities recorded for the year (lowest number ever recorded since 1957 when the M.F.D. began recording this statistic). So far in 2011 there have been (16) 2nd alarms, (3) 3rd alarms, and (3) 4th alarms. Last 5th alarm was recorded on October 01, 2004, on the city's east side (see Spring 2005 TURN OUT article). Unfortunately there have already been ten fire fatalities this year. Below is a brief synopsis of the three major greater alarms for the year.

01-02-2011-barely two days old into the New Year and the first greater alarm was struck on Milwaukee's south side. Companies responded to a structure fire at 1217-19 S. 35th St. (& W. Scott St.) in a 2 1/2-story wood frame occupied dwelling. Heavy fire was burning in the rear of the building and rapidly extending throughout the interior of the structure, forcing first in companies to abandon their interior attack. Fire then extended to both exposures B (1221-23) and D (1211-13), each were also a 2 1/2-story wood frame occupied dwelling. Companies then scrambled to establish a defensive attack and cut off fire extension to additional exposures. During overhaul of the original fire building, companies found a deceased occupant who became the first fire fa-

tality of the year. This was also the first fire run of the year for the Fire Bell Club.

1211-13, 1217-19, 1221-23 S. 35th St., 01-02-11

1st alarm (0511 hours)-E26-33-28-12(*), T11-16(R)-9, Bn. 3-1, Med 3, Car 18
 2nd alarm (0522 hours)-E35-31, T14-TL2, Car 3, Med 14, Compressed Air Supply Unit 1
 3rd alarm (0524 hours)-E32-3-2, T17-TL1, Bn. 4, E9 w/ I.C.P., E5 w/ Rescue Co. 1 & 4
 S/C (0528 hours)-E10 (replace E5)
 4th alarm (0553 hours)-E22-30-11
 S/C (0618 hours)-Med 7

*=Note fourth engine assigned on the 1st alarm due to cold weather protocol in affect.



Milwaukee firefighters fight a 3rd alarm factory fire at 2776 S. 29th St. on May 23, 2011. Photo By: Chuck Liedtke

05-10-2011-the next fourth alarm fire occurred on Milwaukee's far northwest side in a 3-story ordinary constructed 24-unit apartment building at 5333 N. 91st St. (& W. Appleton Ave.). First arriving companies (E4, T3, and Med 16-their fire-house is located only four blocks away) found a multitude of problems on arrival. Heavy fire was burning in a 2nd floor apartment and extending up to the 3rd floor and cockloft, several occupants had already jumped from 2nd and 3rd floor windows, several more occupants were threatening to jump, and access to the C side of the structure (where the majority of the fire was burning) was limited to a

long narrow driveway along the B side of the building where several of the jumpers were already still laying on the ground. Engine 4 laid a 2 1/2" line into the structure for fire attack while Truck 3 began interior searches on the affected floors. Soon fire conditions worsened as the fire rapidly spread to involve the rear portion of the building on the 2nd and 3rd floors as well as the cockloft. After it was determined all occupants had been accounted for, a defensive attack ensued until interior conditions improved, allowing companies to perform salvage & overhaul, secondary searches, and final extinguishment. Six occupants were transported to local hospitals, injuries not too serious, and 75 people were displaced by the fire which was ruled arson (there was another fire there earlier in the week-same area as the second fire).

5333 N. 91st. St., 05-10-11-11

1st alarm (2117 hours)-E4-8-22, T3-13(R)-7,
Bn. 5-2, Med 16
S/C (2119 hours)-Car 18 (cleared from another assignment)
2nd alarm (2120 hours)-E16-24-34, T15-9, Car 3, Med 13, Compressed Air Supply Unit 1
S/C (2125 hours)-Med 19
3rd alarm (2129 hours)-E39-38-36, T16, Bn. 1, E9 w/ I.C.P., E12 & T11 w/ Rescue Co. 1 & 4
S/C (2129 hours)-Car 14
S/C (2135 hours)-Med 5-7
S/C (2139 hours)-Med 4
S/C (2145 hours)-3 Private ambulances
S/C (2202 hours)-E13-30, T5
S/C (2217 hours)-2 Private ambulances
4th alarm (2222 hours)-E21-32-25

06-06-2011-the last fourth alarm fire occurred on Milwaukee's north side in the old 30th Street Industrial Corridor (stretches from West Highland Boulevard-1100 North to West Villard Avenue-5200 North) which contains numerous occupied and vacant factories, warehouses, and commercial buildings. Located at 3310 West Fond du Lac



Milwaukee Trucks 5 and 15 and Tower Ladder 2 use their water towers at a 4th alarm fire at 3310 W. Fond du Lac Ave. on June 06, 2011. Photo By: Chuck Liedtke

Avenue is the 1-story masonry constructed commercial building used by United Milwaukee Scrap's Auto & Parts Division. Situated inside a complex of scrap piles and out buildings, this structure was used to drain the gas tanks and scrap autos for parts. First arriving companies (all were transfer companies enroute to their change of quarters at the time due to a working fire at 2474-76 W. Brown St.) found heavy fire burning through the roof and workers on site informed firefighters that there was a 500 gallon fuel tank still intact inside the building (used to contain the siphoned fuel from the gas tanks). Defensive operations were set up immediately as the fire was starting to extend into exposure B, a long 2-story masonry constructed Weber Printing Company (located at 3048 N. 34th St.) and threatening several 2 1/2-story wood frame occupied dwellings located in exposures A and C. Eventually four water towers, one tower ladder, and some foam lines went to work to keep the fire from spreading throughout the entire block. Companies did a great job of knocking down the fire and were already going back in service two hours later. Cause of the fire was a cutter's torch sparking debris. Also, simultaneously during this greater alarm and the working fire on Brown Street (2 1/2-story wood frame vacant dwelling with heavy fire in the rear on all floors, additional engine and truck-E28 & T1, were special called to the scene), there also was a haz-

mat incident at 8399 N. 87th St. for a hydrogen gas leak at Stork Cellramic, Inc. (application & finishing of performance coatings).

3310 W. Fond du Lac Ave., 3048 N. 34th St., 06-06-11

1st alarm (1124 hours)-E36-35-27, T15-13(R)-5, Bn. 3-5, Med 5

S/C (1131 hours)-Car 18 (*)

2nd alarm (1131 hours)-E34-24-21, T1(*)-TL2 (*), Med 13

3rd alarm (1133 hours)-E22-2-37, T16, Bn. 4, E9 w/ I.C.P., E12 & T11 w/ Rescue Co. 1 & 4

S/C (1135 hours)-Bn. 1 (*, replace Bn. 4)

S/C (1138 hours)-Car 3 (*)

4th alarm (1143 hours)-E1-6-28(*)

S/C (1152 hours)-Compressed Air Supply Unit 1 (*)

S/C (1206 hours)-Med 4

S/C (1336 hours)-Car 14 (*)

S/C (1406 hours)-E13 (would have been 1st due engine, located only 3 blocks away, but was 1st due engine at the Brown St. fire)

*=Company cleared from the Brown St. fire to respond to the Fond du Lac fire.

As many of you maybe aware, the M.F.D. is part of the M.A.B.A.S. program since January 20, 2008 as Division 109. There are currently 37 divisions in place throughout the state (since its inception in 2004) and another 16 counties are in the process of forming divisions (Wisconsin has 72 counties total). The M.F.D. has had limited opportunities for M.A.B.A.S. responses:

-January 07, 2008, the H.U.R.T. Team responded down to the City of Kenosha (Division 101-Kenosha County) after a tornado struck the city (yes, tornadoes do occur in January in Wisconsin) and the team was requested to perform structural assessments of collapsed buildings.

-On July 06, 2009, a Truck Strike Team

(Trucks 6-14-17) was requested to respond to the infamous Patrick Cudahy fire in the City of Cudahy (Division 107-Milwaukee County) during the week long meatpacking plant fire (see Fall 2009 TURN OUT article).

-Starting out in 2010 was the infamous 4th alarm + Pizza Man fire that occurred on Milwaukee's east side on January 19 (see Fall 2010 TURN OUT article). 2 alarms were struck for suburb companies to change quarters to nine empty Milwaukee firehouses (19 engines and 8 trucks fought the fire).

-On two separate occasions in 2010 (June 09 and July 27) saw the Fireboat 1 "Trident" and members of the Dive Rescue Team with their side scan sonar respond to the City of Sheboygan (Division 113-Sheboygan County) to assist in the search for missing swimmers in Lake Michigan.

-Prior to the July 27 response, one day before on July 26, the Fireboat 1, Dive Rescue Team, and the side scan sonar were requested by Oak Creek Fire Department (Division 107) to search a submerged car in Lake Michigan (no one found inside).

-This year saw an interesting response for the M.F.D. Engine 38 (located on Milwaukee's far Northwest side near the borders of Waukesha County (Division 106), Washington County (Division 111), and Ozaukee County (Division 119) was requested to change of quarters to Menomonee Falls Station 1 on Appleton Avenue (Division 106) on Sunday, August 14, 2011. The Menomonee Falls F.D. was fighting a 2nd alarm dwelling fire on Box #27-81 (the card recommends a Milwaukee engine change quarters to Station 1 on the 2nd alarm level). Engine 38 spent three hours at their transfer before returning to quarters (no calls were taken in Menomonee Falls). This is the first time that a Milwaukee engine company has changed quarters into another city and county.

-Four days later on August 18th, the H.U.R.T. Team (Engine 12 with Rescue Co. 1 & 4) re-



Firefighters take advantage of the misting fans and cooling towels at the St. Francis house burn on July 19, 2011. Photo By: Chuck Liedtke

sponded to the City of Wauwatosa to provide technical assistance. Wauwatosa responded to a working still alarm on Box #5-11 for a reported structure fire at 1430 N. 119th St. Companies found moderate fire inside a 1 1/2-story wood frame occupied dwelling. An occupant who escaped stated her son was still inside trapped. An aggressive interior attack was initiated, firefighters reached the top of the stairwell and could hear ammunition being discharged. Companies quickly exited the building to establish a defensive operation while a police tactical situation was set up. Personnel on scene were unsure if they were being fired upon by the occupant or if stored ammunition was being heated up. It took an hour to bring the fire under control which completely destroyed the second floor and unfortunately resulted in the death of the occupant. An investigation was immediately initiated that afternoon to determine the cause of alarm, cause of death for the occupant, as well as why the ammunition discharged (on purpose or accidental). The H.U.R.T. Team was requested to stabilize the fire damaged structure to allow investigators safe entry for their investigation. Two hours later the team was back in quarters.

-And the most recent response was the most unusual of the "bunch" for this year. On October 31st, a large section of bluff located at the rear of

the WE Energies Oak Creek Power Plant in Oak Creek (located south of Milwaukee) suddenly collapsed into Lake Michigan. The debris area measuring 120 yards long and 50-80 yards wide sent dirt, coal ash, mud, and construction trailers directly into the lake. The M.F.D.'s H.U.R.T. Team and Fireboat 1 were special called to the scene to assist in a primary search for any missing construction workers (100 of them were working nearby on a \$900 million dollar multi-year air quality control system project). Searches yielded negative results as authorities then turned their attention to the environmental cleanup of fuel and debris in the lake.

Hopefully, interagency cooperation like this will continue between the M.F.D. and its surrounding neighbors into the future. It is fully expected that in the future with budget cuts, loss of revenue from the state, and increasing pension and health benefits affecting fire department budgets, all fire departments in the area are going to rely on each other more on a daily basis to respond to fires, e.m.s. calls, and various types of emergencies that the public expects us to respond to in a timely fashion.

Speaking of M.A.B.A.S., B.C. Aaron Lipski (Battalion 5, now assigned to the Repair Shop) recognized the need to meet the neighboring fire departments that border the 5th Battalion (located on Milwaukee's far Northwest Side). Chief Lipski set up a "Border Firefighting Familiarization Drill" at Engine 38's quarters on October 23, 2010. Fire departments attending included Butler and Menomonee Falls (Division 106), Germantown (Division 111), Mequon (Division 119), and North Shore and Wauwatosa (Division 107). This was an opportunity to discuss communications, water supply, training, response protocols, command structure, etc. and view the various apparatus present. One practical evolution included M.F.D. Engine 38 on a hydrant, pumping into a Butler engine, which supplied a water tower for the Menomonee Falls truck. The Milwaukee Fire Bell Club was present not only to serve lunch but provide an overview of rehab operations and their two vehicles.

The drill was highly successful and was followed up on January 22, 2011, at Engine 33's quarters for the south side communities. Hosted by B.C. Ray Groth (Battalion 3, now assigned to Battalion 2), those present included Milwaukee County Fire Department (located at Mitchell International Airport), St. Francis, Cudahy, South Milwaukee, Oak Creek, Franklin, Greendale, and West Allis (all part of Division 107). The club once again was able to provide lunch and a lecture on rehab operations. These two drills helped to open up the lines of communication and interest for joint training.



Fire Bell Club members serve Division 107 firefighters at 4720 S. Supreme Ct. on 08-24-11. Photo By: Chuck Liedtke

The M.F.D. and Menomonee Falls Fire Department recently spent three Saturdays in October (1st, 8th, & 15th) performing rural water supply drills coordinated by M.F.D. B.C. Terry Lintonen, Div. 109 Coordinator, and Menomonee Falls F.D. Chief Jeff Hevey. Members of the 5th Battalion responded to Menomonee Falls Station 4 and then practiced several evolutions. The main drill had a Milwaukee engine self-supply on a hydrant filling the Menomonee Falls tenders, the tenders continuously refilled the portable tanks, a Menomonee Falls engine then drew a supply from the tanks (equipped with jet siphons) and supplied a second Milwaukee engine which flowed water through a deluge set. The drill was very beneficial for both departments and due to the success of it, the M.F.D. is planning more drills with its neighbors in the near future.

The 10th anniversary of 09-11-01 was remembered by the members of the Milwaukee Fire Department. Spearheaded by the efforts of Milwaukee Fire Lt. Tom McMenamin, 343 sets of turnout gear from active and retired M.F.D. members was gathered and then reassembled for display on the front apron of Engine 2 and Truck 2's quarters on James Lovell and Wells Streets. The rows of turnout gear were complimented by a large American flag draped down the side of the firehouse as well as local fire department Honor Guards keeping watch over the display for 343 minutes (1700-2243 hours) on Saturday night, September 10th. The Greater Milwaukee Fire & Police Bagpipe & Drum Corp was also present and performed several times during the somber occasion. The next day, 170 firefighters from over 30 departments in Wisconsin participated in the 09-11 Stair Climb at the U.S. Bank Building (tallest building in Wisconsin at 42 stories) in downtown Milwaukee. The Fire Bell Club was present to serve lunch to those who climbed in memory of our 343 fallen brothers. We will never forget them!

That is all for now from Milwaukee. Hope everyone has a joyous holiday season and is in good health. If anyone is in the Milwaukee area and would like a tour, please contact us on Facebook. We will be more than happy to roll out the red carpet for you. Till next time, happy buffing!



Milwaukee Fire Bell Club members serve participants in the Vigilant Guard exercise in Port Washington on May 19, 2011. Photo By: Chuck Liedtke

Region

7

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

Fire Associates Stays Busy in Santa Clara County Supporting A Wide Variety of Incidents and Events

For fire buffs, one of the attractions of supporting the fire service is the opportunity to see a variety of firefighting and rescue operations. The months of September and early October proved to be full of just that sort of variety for the Fire Associates of Santa Clara Valley (FASCV). The following requests for assistance by some of the 11 fire departments located in Santa Clara County are just some of the very different kinds of incidents supported by the many dedicated members of FASCV.

- The month's activities began on Sunday morning, September 11, with members of Fire Associates provided coffee and beverages to those attending the "9/11 Memorial Ceremony" at San Jose Fire Department's downtown Station No. 1.

Fire Support Unit 2 arrived at approximately 10:30 AM and FASCV members set up a coffee service area inside the vacated apparatus bay at Station 1. Members made certain that a fresh pot of coffee was always available to the 1,000-plus attendees. Former FASCV president, John Whitaker, was on hand to help with the set up, but his primary activity centered around supporting the San Jose Fire Museum - a co-sponsor of the event. John's volunteer efforts with the Museum led to his production of the 12-page program for the day's activities.



A highlight of the ceremony was a display of 343 pairs of turnout boots arranged in front of the podium. Each pair of boots, signifying public safety personnel who lost their lives 10 years earlier, was tied together with a black ribbon and the name of someone who gave their life. An American flag was also placed in each boot.

Hosted by former, local newscaster Rigo Chacon, the event's speakers included: William McDonald, Fire Chief, SJFD; Christopher Moore, Chief of Police, SJPD; Chuck Reed, Mayor, City of San Jose; Dave Cortese, President, Board of Supervisors, Santa Clara Co.; and Nora Campos, State Assemblymember, San Jose. The keynote address was presented by U.S. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren.

- On September 14, a peaceful Tuesday evening was interrupted by the sound of an "explosion" at a north-county apartment complex. The **Palo Alto Fire Dept.** - one of the smaller departments supported by FASCV - responded to a vigorous reaction of swimming pool chemicals with a resulting release of chlorine gas. Early reports by 911 callers used the words "explosion" and "smoke seen". All residents of a large apartment complex were evacuated. FASCV vice president, Jerry Haag, responded to the incident in his personal vehicle and was later joined by Support Unit 4 and other FASCV members. Initially, water was provided at Rehab for evacuees and treatment personnel, and then firefighters were served. A small number of victims were transported to a local hospital with symptoms of choking and stomach sickness.

- Then, in the late morning of September 12, **Santa Clara County Fire Dept.** personnel were called to a rescue operation in Saratoga. Located at a home in a residential neighborhood, a construction worker had become trapped in a trench that had been dug next to the structure's foundation. Suspecting that the rescue would require an extended operation, FASCV member Bruce Dembeki called fire dispatchers to see if FASCV could be of assistance. The response was, "Yes!"



The incident proved to be a very complicated effort. The worker was looking for the source of a water leak in a recently-built basement. While in the trench, the dirt collapsed and he was buried up to his neck. Firefighters quickly called for a City of San Jose Vacon truck that was able to suck up the loose dirt. Conventional digging was just causing more dirt to fall into the narrow trench. The worker was eventually hauled out on a backboard with block and tackle rigging hung from below the basket on Santa Clara County Fire Truck 1.

- It was just a week later, on September 19, that the **San Jose Fire Department** asked for assistance from Fire Associates at a 5-alarm structure fire. A fire had begun in one of the city's old Victorians located on East Washington Street. With summer temperatures hovering in the mid 90s, FASCV quickly responded with both Fire Support Units 2 and 3 to aid very hot and weary firefighters.

It was a good thing both support units were on scene. The approximately 100 firefighters present were going through an average of a bottle-and-a-half of liquid for every hour they were on scene. FASCV gave out almost every bottle of water and Gatorade that was brought on both vehicles! In addition, every bag of ice was also used up with more purchased at local stores.

On top of all this, the fire began right before the dinner hour, so hungry crews had to be fed. Ninety burritos were ordered up with FASCV members volunteering to pick up the order and serve it to the very hungry firefighters.



Despite the hot temperatures, firefighters made a good stop on the blaze. The structure was fully involved at the height of the fire, but neither of the adjacent homes were damaged. Fire was present on every floor of the involved home, built in 1892. Fire Associates provided assistance in a very busy rehab area until released by the IC at 9:30 PM - and, it was still 78 degrees!

- So, with a memorial ceremony, a chemical release, a man trapped and a multi-alarm fire already supported by FASCV, the first day of October found the Gilroy Fire Department fighting a fire in a small house located just east of downtown. FASCV member, John Whiteside, was listening to his emergency radio scanner and upon hearing a fast upgrade to a 2nd alarm, he started listening a little more closely.

Soon, he heard additional requests for even more equipment. So, being proactive, he called Gilroy and asked if they wanted a Fire Support Unit. Dispatch reached the IC and called back, saying, "Yes, please come down." So, a page for help was sent out to all FASCV members.

While several members hopped into their personal vehicles, John responded in Fire Support Unit 3. Although the involved structure was relatively small,



because of its close proximity to other houses, a third alarm was eventually called. The fire ran the entire attic of the home and spread throughout the residence. Even after the fire had been declared under control, firefighters spent considerable time on the roof gaining access to pockets of smoldering shingles and roofing.

- And now, we've saved the rarest call for last. On Wednesday, October 5, one of Santa Clara County's police agencies asked for Fire Associates' aid. This time, FASCV members provided support for the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office requested through Santa Clara County Fire Dispatch. At the time, several police agencies were involved in a manhunt for an assault suspect.

Setting up at the police command post, FASCV provided coffee and served over 60 meals to police and other emergency personnel who were on scene. This group included hundreds of deputies and officers from neighboring agencies -- Sunnyvale, San Jose, Palo Alto and others including the Red Cross.

Earlier in the day, a suspect had gunned down three co-workers and wounded seven other people at a Cupertino cement quarry. A massive search for the shooter followed and it eventually moved about five miles away to a neighborhood across the street from a Hewlett-Packard campus. The suspect next turned up in the HP parking lot, where he shot a 60-year-old woman in a botched carjacking. Then he disappeared.

The ensuing manhunt went on throughout the day and night. At one point, FASCV was released, only to be called back later in the evening to provide further support as the dragnet continued. As helicopters searched overhead and schools locked their doors, officers picked through the neighborhood with German shepherds and bloodhounds. Then, at about 7:30 AM the next morning, it was over. A dog began barking and a resident looked outside and saw a man crouching in the driveway. Police were called and the resulting confrontation ended in police shooting the suspect.

Region **8**

Box 8 Club of St. Louis, Inc.

Box 55 Assoc.

Indianapolis Fire Buffs



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

By Jerry Traub

As temperatures drop and daylight hours shorten, few Hoosiers are complaining in the Indianapolis area. A wet Spring followed by a very hot and dry Summer are making way for the chill and dampness of Winter. Bring it on!

Our RSU (Rehab Support Units) have totaled about 200 runs so far in 2011, with several responses for law enforcement SWAT and Urban Search runs. We are close to getting station stor-

Township service districts, to keep our units warmly garaged for the winter months. One notable response this year was to the Indiana State Fairgrounds when the outside stage collapsed at the start of a Sugarland concert. We were kept away from the site, as there were fatalities and EMS was the primary need, before the area was closed off as a crime scene.

Jim Williamson, Ed McMichael and Jerry Traub attended the IFBA national convention in New Jersey. A good time was had by all. (See TURNOUT convention issue published earlier this Fall.) Congrats to Rick Cutts for his selection as Hank Wilwers Fire Buff of the Year. President Gary Wignall and his Montreal club have promised a great show in August 2012, for the next convention.

Occasional items are published locally about the relocation of IFD headquarters and co-located IFD station #7 from their current downtown address at Massachusetts and New Jersey. The station is supposed to be built new in the area, as its significant responses are downtown. HQ can be further out from the center of the city. IFD training has moved from the Warren Township government center to IFD station #9 (former Lawrence Township station 331) in the Castleton area.



Downtown Indianapolis was once more the scene of flying manhole covers as underground electrical vaults exploded. This Nov 20, 2011 incident featured an underground fire which ignited at least one vehicle fire. In addition, an IFD command car was struck by a manhole cover, which fortunately, caused minimal damage. Power and Light folks are now installing "lock down" covers, especially close to the Super Bowl site. Photo by B. Jackson.

Our pager program that has allowed members notification of working fires and Special Operations responses (PI entrapments, SWAT, Urban Search, Dive Search and Dive Recovery) has been upgraded to a mobile device messaging system. 2012 bills will be reduced for all members with this new system.

age locations in various areas of IFD and Wayne

Recent activities in our quarters, IFD Reserve Station #12, included hosting several of the State of Indiana Department of Natural Resources enforcement officers who were dive training with Indianapolis Fire Department divers. Tight budgets meant our free boarding al-

lowed out of town officers to remain closer to training and avoid a daily long distance drive. Local elections were held November 8, and our quarters provided a polling place for two precincts. Incumbent Mayor Greg Ballard was reelected for a second term.

Club membership has been increasing, with a new application received almost monthly. Unfortunately, we lost Life member and former national IFBA president Jack Monaghan June 19, 2011. He was 84.

Several members assisted with The Salvation Army Christmas kettle bell ringing during November. As usual, the weather was beautiful the week prior with temps in the 50's and no rain. We faced 30 degree temperatures, high winds and rain – again!

Our Club Christmas party will be held at the Rathskeller restaurant Wednesday, December 7. Later that week will be another dinner, that held for the winner Steve Pryor and his shift at station #54B for winning our Hawaii Trip raffle. We had our best sales total ever, and we will be able to get additional supplies and fixtures for our expanding fleet of RSU



Where there is smoke, there is fire. Where there is fire, firefighters use water. And when there's water and sun, sometimes you get a rainbow. Phototag Rodger Birchfield captured this one earlier this summer. Word is he still is searching for the "Pot o'Gold."

vehicles with the proceeds.

Officers for the 2012 year were elected recently: President - Dennis Huff; Vice-president - Jim Williamson; Secretary - Ed McMichael, and Ryan Duffin begins the second year of his two-year term as Treasurer. Ed

McMichael will return as Region 8 vice-president for the IFBA.

Lastly, our club has bid for and received notice that will provide a food service contract for law enforcement and first responder personnel during the upcoming Super Bowl in Indianapolis, in early February, 2012. Don't look for us walking the sidelines during the Big Game, but we look forward to participating in the efforts to be a Super Bowl city.

Happy Holidays from the Circle City. Happy New Year for 2012!

Correction

In our latest Convention issue, Ira Cohen was identified as a member of The Gong Club. He is actually a member of the Bell & Siren Club.

Turn Out apologizes for the error.



We were very pleased that one of Tod Parker's photographs was recently awarded First Place recognition by International Association of Fire Fighters 2011 Media Awards. As many of you know, Tod is a member of the Indianapolis Fire Buffs and a frequent contributor to *Turn Out*.

Tod says of his selection: Thanks, everyone. If you look closely at the photo, it is actually seven photos stitched together (with some VERY expensive computer software) from one vantage point. The exposure was a nightmare and I was extremely lucky that it came out. Another reason I was excited about that particular photo is because it was the first time a magazine was willing to take a chance and publish one of my panoramic photos. Most of time magazines shy away from these types of photos because they are so hard to fit. Firehouse Magazine did a multiple-page spread using the photos I took, and this particular one stretched across two pages. I've had my photos in several magazines, but this was the coolest use of my pictures I've ever experienced. Thanks to *Firehouse Magazine* for making it happen.

FIRST PLACE: "Stretching the Line"

This panoramic shot is of a two-alarm fire at a strip mall that is engulfed in flames as a fire fighter carries hose towards the blaze.

Firehouse Magazine

Photo by: Tod Parker

Submitted by: Indianapolis, IN Local 416

Tod Parker continues to document notable fire activity in the Indianapolis area. For a larger number of "shots," visit his website at www.phototac.com.



Speedway, Indiana, Sept. 22, 2011: IFB's newest RSU addition, RSU 2, operates at a third alarm plus extra companies apartment fire. Member Dennis Huff is helping load supplies on a cart since the rehab site was inaccessible to vehicular traffic. Photo by Rodger Birchfield.

Region

9

Bayonne Fire Canteen, Inc.

Bell & Siren Club, Inc.

Box 54 Club

FireCom Emergency Radio of NJ

Gong Club, Inc.

Signal 22 Assn., Inc.

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



GONG CLUB, INC.

JERSEY CITY, NJ

by Paul Schaetzle

59th ANNUAL CONVENTION IN THE RECORD BOOKS

The Gong Club joined with other Region 9 clubs to host the 59th Annual International Fire Buff Associates, Inc. Convention on September 6 – 10, 2011. Attendees got a taste of nearly the whole gamut of New Jersey weather, starting off with torrential rains and flooding but basking in brilliant sunshine by the end of the week! Convention activities were as varied as the weather. The program included world class speakers; F. D. N. Y. Batt. Chief John Salka, F. D. J. C. Deputy Chief (ret.) Robert Cobb and the Superintendent of the National Fire Academy, Denis Onieal. The group covered the area both by land and by sea, featuring a harbor cruise and trips



Opening Ceremonies, Sept. 7, 2011. Area Chiefs welcome the visiting buffs to the Hasbrouck Heights Hilton while TURN OUT Editor Jerry Traub stands in the wings looking for that perfect shot! (Conni Spellman Photo)

to the Ellis and Liberty Islands as well as displays in Bergen, Essex and Hudson Counties. Even a stop at our quarters to view the new mural, “From

Flames to Flowers” across Bay St. from our home was added to the schedule. Those who stayed an extra day joined us in many of the events commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the 9-11 Attack.

By now, faithful TURN OUT readers will have seen the Special Convention Issue posted on the website on October 26, 2011. There is no need to repeat the excellent account of the Convention told in those pages. However, the Gong Club takes this opportunity to thank all those who came to our corner of the world. Come again; the door is always open!

While we worked to deliver an enjoyable convention, the Club continued its mission of serving the fire fighters throughout Hudson County. The Club welcomed 63 new fire fighters to the ranks of the F. D. J. C., weathered Hurricane Irene and operated at a number of fires. We can share with you the tales of a few jobs of note.

HEAT CREATES HELL ON HARMON ST.

Memorial Day 2011 was a near repeat performance of 2010. Once again the unofficial start of summer brought summer like temperatures. This year, was, in fact even hotter with the thermometer registering 92° at 3:00 PM. Once again, Group D was on duty in Jersey City and once again, the 3 o'clock hour brought a major blaze in the first due area of Squad 4!

In 2010, a 4th Alarm ravaged 50 Belmont Ave. and adjoining properties. This year, the action was a few blocks south, with Box 665 struck at 1541



5/30/11 3-3 665 35-7 Harmon St., Jersey City. Gong Club at work on hot, humid Memorial Day. The misting fan was a choice spot that afternoon! (Ron Jeffers Photo)

The intense heat, however, took a severe toll on the firefighting force. Some 13 members were transported to the Jersey City Medical Center and other hospitals. Most injuries were heat related, however Fire Fighter Nicholas Degnan of Eng. Co. 10 suffered 2nd degree burns and was later transported to St.

hours for 37 Harmon St. Companies arrived to find heavy fire in the rear of a four story occupied multiple dwelling, attached properties on either side. Although little was showing from the front, Capt. William Anderson of Eng. Co. 8 confirmed there was heavy fire in therear of the structure. The buildings were quite deceiving, solid looking brick structures in the front, but the rear 20 feet of the attached buildings were actually frame, clad with vinyl siding. Fire was roaring from the 3rd floor of #37, the middle building of the attached row, and extending to #35. Batt. 4, B. C. Timothy Foy, ordered a 2nd Alarm and also asked for EMS to respond based on reports of a person trapped on the 4th floor. A mass of electric wires in front of the building prevented the use of aerials, but Ladder Co. 11 jumped the sidewalk off Arlington Ave. plowed through a vacant lot and threw their stick over the cab to reach the roof. Ladder Co. 8, the 2nd Alarm truck, followed suit.

Fearing the fire would extend rapidly with the frame construction in the rear, Batt. Chief Foy struck a 3rd Alarm at 1551 hours. An aggressive push by engine companies, coupled with 2 large holes cut in the roof, brought a rapid and successful result. Although fire gutted the 3rd and 4th floors of the fire building and the 4th floor of the exposure, the block was saved and only a few minor injuries were sustained by residents.

Barnabas Burn Center in Livingston, NJ. The extreme weather made the Gong Club canteen, Car 26, the most popular rig on the scene. Parched firefighters downed some 215 bottles of water and 10 gallons of Gatorade. A crew of 4 club members, including Ron Jeffers, Jimmy Fay and Bill Ladell who met Car 26 at the scene, put in some tough duty, deploying the misting fan and distributing dozens of cold towels as well. Ron Jeffers captured Car 26 doing what it does best in the attached photo.

Response:

1541 Box 665 Sqd. 4 Eng Co. 10-9-8 Lad. Co. 12-11
Res. Co. 1 Batt. 4 Div. 1 MSU
1544 WF 665 Eng. Co. 22 Lad. Co. 9 Batt. 1
1545 2-2 665 Eng. Co. 2-17-7 Lad. Co. 8
1551 3-3 665 Eng. Co. 13-14-6 Lad. Co 3
1740 Watch Line Eng. Co. 11 Lad. Co. 7

DWELLINGS GUTTED ON GLENWOOD

Glenwood Ave., a relatively quiet block that runs along the north side of the St. Peter's College, was the site of Jersey City's first 4th Alarm of 2011. The block's pre-dawn peacefulness was shattered at 05:13 hours on Sunday, July 31, 2011 when Fire Dispatch began receiving calls of a building fire at 153 Glenwood Ave. First due Eng. Co. 9 arrived to find a 2 story frame dwelling

heavily involved, fire extending to a row of 2 story dwelling to the east and an occupant trapped in the home. So much for a quiet Sunday morning!

Capt. James Jewusiak, working an overtime tour in Eng. Co. 9, ordered the 2nd Alarm at 05:17, soon followed by a message that "we're coming out with



7/31/11 4-4 554 149-53 Glenwood Ave., Jersey City. Eng. Co. 10 regroups for another go round at this fire that ravaged 4 dwellings on an otherwise quiet Sunday morning. (Jack Cole Photo)

one". Batt. 1, Batt. Chief Matt Ferro took command, repeated the order for a 2nd Alarm and asked for EMS on a rush. The fire building quickly became a roaring inferno. Although companies managed to keep the fire out of the dwelling to the west, the row of three attached dwellings to the east did not fare as well. Thick brown smoke was pushing out of the eaves of the row. Deputy Chief Kevin Stewart soon arrived, gave a quick size up, and transmitted a 3rd Alarm. A column of black smoke was now visible across the city as the 3rd Alarm companies turned out.

Fire in the original building was darkened down relatively quickly. Ceilings were pulled and roofs were opened in the row dwellings and things began to look pretty good for a while. But

suddenly, the fire in the cockloft of the exposures lashed out with a vengeance, forcing companies taking a much needed blow in the street to regroup and fight once again. Knowing that his troops were fairly spent from nearly 90 minutes of firefighting, Deputy Chief Stewart ordered another alarm transmitted at 06:42 hours. With rotational closings of 6 companies per tour, this brought all remaining FDJC companies still in quarters to the fire. Additional mutual aid was requested to augment units that covered the city on the 2nd and 3rd alarms.. The entire city was now covered by companies from neighboring communities.

All hands worked for another hour before the fire was under control. Group B relieved their Group A counterparts after 08:00 and continued to overhaul the buildings until 12:07 hours when the incident was terminated. Sadly the occupant removed from the dwelling, an 81 year old female, succumbed. Five firefighters suffered minor injuries.

With the temperature reaching 85 degrees by the time companies, picked up, Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, was kept busy. Members Bob Bozewski and Jim Fay reported to the scene to augment the crew of 2 that turned out with the rig on the 2nd Alarm. The 4 members now working the fire dispensed some 175 bottles of water, 8 gallons of Gatorade, used 36 cold towels and deployed the misting fan to cool down the firefighters. Despite the heat, it's still morning, so 3 gallons of coffee and several cups of tea went out the serving window as well!

Rundown:

0513 Box 554 Eng. Co. 9-15-4-8 Lad. Co. 9-12 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 1 MSU Safety Officer
0517 WF 554 Eng. Co. 17 Lad. Co. 3
0519 2-2 554 Eng. Co. 18-2-11 Lad. Co. 6 Batt. 3 Car 3-26
0526 3-3 554 Eng. Co. 6-14 Lad. Co. 8 Car 2
0642 4-4 554 Eng. Co. 13 Lad. Co. 4-7

ENCORE PERFORMANCE ON THIRD STREET

On Friday evening, September 23, 2011, Jersey City fire fighters from Group D battled a 2nd alarm blaze at a 2 story commercial laundry at 319 3rd St. Although the fire involved a large 2 story structure that fronted on two streets, companies made quick work of the fire that was reported shortly after 22:00 hours. All units had taken up and were back in quarters by 0100 hours.

Fast forward by one month to October 22, 2011. Once again a Friday evening with Group D on duty. It was a fairly routine night with the temperature dropping to the high 40's by midnight, a tad cooler than usual for a mid Fall night. That routine was broken when an excited citizen began pounding on the door of Eng. Co. 5 / Lad. Co. 6's quarters at 355 Newark Ave. just before 2 AM. "Big fire around the corner!" he yelled at the man on watch. The watch man notified Fire Dispatch, turned the companies out and as the doors rolled up, smoke rolled into the apparatus floor! Batt. 1, Batt. Chief Robert Forenza. was on the scene as Box 162 was going out over the air. This time the fire was engulfing a 2 story machine shop and dwelling to the east of the building that burned last month. But the fire now rolling out of the front of 317 3rd St. was only half the story. The brick building on 3rd St. was part of a hodge podge conglomeration of structures that connected with two large garage structures used to store delivery trucks and a host of other equipment.

Eng. Co. 2 coming up 2nd St. spotted fire rolling out an overhead door of a 50' wide masonry garage at 448-50 2nd St. The fire had apparently started inside the rear of the buildings and was extending every which way now. A quick 2nd Alarm was followed by a 3rd Alarm at 02:05. Half of the 1st Alarm assignment was fighting the fire from the rear on 2nd St. Deputy Chief Wayne McCarthy, the incident commander, ordered the 3rd Alarm companies to respond via 2nd St. to assist the

beleaguered crews of Engine Companies 2 and 10 and Ladder Co. 12.

Meanwhile on the 3rd St. front, companies removed occupants from the 2nd floor of the original fire building and forced entry into the large commercial garage to the east at 311-5 3rd St. Ladder Co. 6 set up their ladder pipe and Ladder Tower 4 threaded their way through the tight streets of the neighborhood (known as the Italian Village by old time Downtown residents). Two additional engines were special called, one for each front, by Deputy Chief McCarthy at 02:18. Heavy streams darkened the fire down by 03:00 but with 3 buildings, all loaded to the gills, the companies had a long stretch of overhauling to do. Eng. Co. 19 and Lad. Co. 7 were called for watch line duty at 06:30 and several 1st alarm units reported back to the scene after Group A came on duty at 08:00 hours. Operations were terminated at 11:16 hours.

Car 26 made the short run from their quarters on Bay St. and set up at 3rd & Merseles Streets in front of P. S. #5. Members Jimmy Fay and Region 9 V. P. Pat Spellman reported to Car 26 for canteen duty at the scene. A crew of 3 members served some 6 gallons of coffee, 5 gallons of Gatorade and 150 bottles of water along with snack cakes and assorted cookies in the course of a 5 hour and 23 minute tour of duty. The rig was then cleaned, reloaded and headed off to Liberty State Park for the Annual Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Walk. The Gong Club and the Bell & Siren Club have both assisted at this worthwhile charity event for many years; a long night and morning for the crew aboard Car 26!

Group D works the third Friday night of each month. Be prepared!

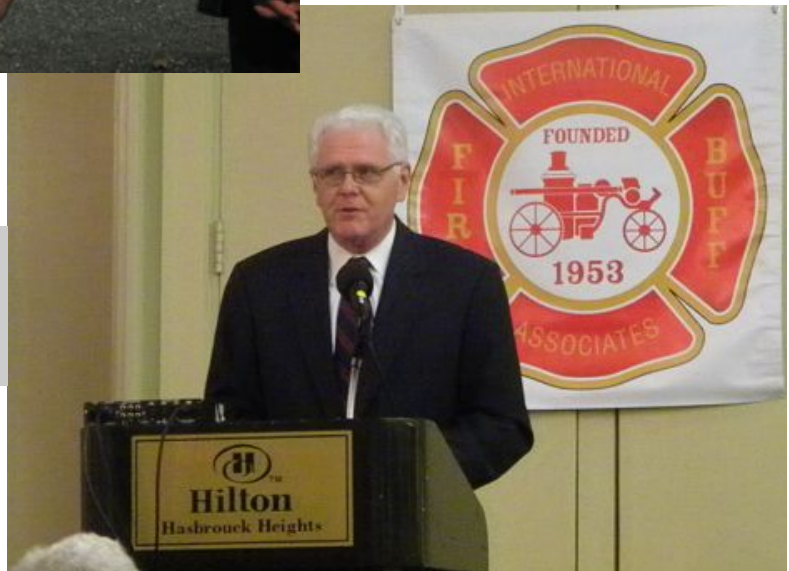
Response:

01:52 Box 162 Eng. Co. 6-2-7-9 Lad. Co. 6-12 Res. Co. 1 MSU Div. 1 Batt. 1
01:55 WF 162 Sqd. Co. 4 Lad. Co. 3 Batt. 3
01:58 2-2 162 Eng. Co. 10-15-8 Lad. Co. 4 Car 3-26
02:05 3-3 162 Eng. Co. 11-22-14 Lad. Co. 11 Car 1
01:18 S/C 162 Eng. Co. 13-Hoboken Eng. Co. 5



Chief Greg Rogers, Bayonne F. D. gives the group a rundown on his Department and what they did 10 years ago on September 11th. (Conni Spellman Photo)

Dr. Denis Onieal, Superintendent of the National Fire Academy enlightens the Convention on White House security at the Closing Banquet, Sept. 10, 2011. (Conni Spellman Photo)



Baltimore, MD, 10/18/2011: 6303 Burgundy St. 1 Alarm A shed between 2 wood dwellings was a total loss. Firefighters used handlines to extinguish the blaze. Photo by Chris E. Mickal.

Region

10

Box 12 Assn., Toronto
Box 43 Assn.
Club Appel-99 Quebec
The Ontario Fire Buffs
Associates, Inc.
Greater Toronto
Multiple Alarm Assn.



Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Association

Founded 1975 Incorporated 1994

P.O. Box 173, Station D, Etobicoke, Ont., M9A 4X2

TORCON2012



Club News

As is to be expected the Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Association is abuzz about the upcoming IFBA convention being held in Toronto next August. But in spite of all this added excitement we remain the active club that we have always been.

On June 21st the club held its annual barbeque at Station 334, home to the William Lyon MacKenzie and the Sora – Toronto's two fireboats. A more beautiful evening could not have been asked for to usher in the first day of summer. Here is a view of the Toronto skyline from onboard the William Lyon Mackenzie.



Photo courtesy of Jim Bartlett



Photo courtesy of Larry Thorne

Support 7 News

In the spring edition of Turn Out it was noted that we were off to a relatively quiet start for emergency responses. Unfortunately this trend has continued through the year. We have expressed our willingness to respond to any and all calls (at

the discretion of incident command). Having said that, we have still managed to run several fire calls to provide much needed rehab services to Toronto's bravest.

Sadly, we have also attended three department funerals since our last article. On June 30th TFS Firefighter Brian Ronson was killed while riding home from work on his motorcycle. Also on July 5th TFS Firefighter Jamie Maclean died of a job-related cancer and received a LODD funeral. And

last but not least on July 11th the Support Unit 4 attended the funeral for retired fire inspector James Macdonald.

Our commitment to public service remains strong. Since the spring of this year we have also been

involved in numerous public events that allow us to *serve those that protect us*.

On June 12th and again on October 2nd we attended memorial services honouring fallen firefighters from both the City of Toronto and the Province of Ontario. Sadly the stone monuments containing the names of the fallen continue to grow in size as more names are added to them.



Photos courtesy of Larry Thorne



Support 7 on scene of a 2nd alarm on Orton Park in the East Command. Member John Carey is watching Toronto's Bravest doing their best to save a well-involved dwelling on September 14th. *Photo courtesy of Larry Thorne*



On September 17th and 24th Support 7 took part in the Habitat for Humanity project called "9-1-1 Build". This was a joint effort by Toronto firefighters, police officers and paramedics to build affordable housing for Toronto's less fortunate. *Photo by Larry Thorne*





(Left) Member Larry Thorne lending a helping hand at the Habitat For Humanity “9-1-1 Build.” *Photo by Larry Thorne*
(Above) Member Dave MacDonald’s grandson Colton (and possible future Fire Buff), laying in a line at Fire Prevention Week. *Photo courtesy of Jennifer MacDonald*



October 9th – 15th was Fire Prevention Week. And is always the case Toronto Fire put on many expositions and demonstrations about fire safety. The GTMAA was proud to assist with the event held in Toronto’s East Command Training Facility on October 13th. *Photo by Larry Thorne*

Region

11

Metropolitan Fire Assn. of Atlanta, GA

Central Florida Fire Buffs.

Metropolitan Fire Association

ATLANTA, GA

Article by: Jeffrey A. Harwell

For the past several issues this column hasn't featured any controversy among the fire service from the Augusta, Georgia area, but that's changed in this issue. The Augusta Chronicle newspaper reported that on Monday October 10, 2011, Augusta/Richmond County Fire Chief Howard Willis announced he would be retiring from the department. The very next day, three more chief officers agreed to retire - Deputy Chiefs Mike Rogers and Carl Scott, along with Battalion Chief Tommy Willis - brother of Fire Chief Howard Willis. Although several issues reportedly arose during the preceding weeks, the primary concern was a business run by Battalion Chief Tommy Willis and owned by the mayor pro tem of the city. The business would secure/board up buildings after a fire, and questions arose as to how the company secured business.

There was also controversy recently in suburban Atlanta. In September a house exploded in the southwest portion of unincorporated Fulton County in which two fatalities occurred. An article soon ran in the Atlanta Journal Constitution newspaper reporting that local residents were unhappy with the fire service response. It seems the closest station to the incident - Station 15 - had no working pumper in service at the time of the fire. Due to a shortage of functional pumpers that day, Engine 15's apparatus had been moved to another station, which left only the ambulance in

service at Station 15 to respond to calls.

According to records, the first arriving mutual aid engine from the city of Fairburn made to the scene eight minutes after the call was received.

One report indicates the county has not purchased any new apparatus since 2006 due to a severe lack of funds. If you'll recall, half of the Fulton County stations have been abolished over the past several years as all of the north half of the county has been



In the early 1980's the Thomson Fire Department in east Georgia operated this nice looking American LaFrance ladder truck that is believed to have previously served in New York. It's pictured on January 29, 1983 getting ready to operate at a controlled burn of an old industrial building just east of downtown. Photo by Jeffrey A. Harwell

incorporated into city limits. This drastically changed the tax base for the remainder of the unincorporated areas. In a related note, the city of Atlanta was caught in a similar situation on May 22nd when Trucks 14 and 38 went out of service due to mechanical issues and there were no reserve

apparatus to replace them. Big fires have been few and far between the past few months. The largest fire by far occurred in Clayton County on the afternoon of August 21st. The location was the Tensar Corporation facility on Citizens Parkway and the fire involved large amounts of plastic used in landscaping that was stored outdoors. The dark smoke from the fire was visible for many miles in all directions. The original request for mutual aid was for five engines to backfill empty Clayton stations. But that request was later upgraded to 12 engines. Our canteen responded to the incident. Later in the evening, foam was used from several AFR airport crash trucks to help smother the fire. Needless to say the overhaul was quite extensive.

The canteen also served at two other noteworthy events this summer. In August a crew of five manned the unit for the Fire Rescue International set up. And in September, a crew of three served during the 911 stair climb at the Cobb Galleria.

All other fires have been rather routine with one possible exception. On the evening of June 24th DeKalb County firefighters requested a 2nd Alarm for a fire on Juliet Road at Highway 78. While a 2nd Alarm isn't all that unusual, the extra alarm fire stripped the county of all engine and truck companies. It wasn't until the 2nd Alarm was canceled that units became available in the county. A reported house fire that came in around this time only received a one engine and one truck company response.

In news involving our club, longtime member and retired Atlanta Fire Department Captain Hugh Douglas passed away in May after a long battle with cancer. And speaking of the Atlanta Fire Department, a wreath laying ceremony was held

on May 29th at 104 Luckie Street marking the 40th anniversary of the Davis Brothers Cafeteria fire. The department lost 4 firefighters during this fire with 29 injured. Firefighters were attacking a fire in the basement of the two story restaurant when an explosion occurred. A BBQ dinner was held at Station 1 with a shuttle operating between there and the site.



With the Augusta Fire Department being in the news once again, we can't help but look back at one of the city's nice looking American LaFrance pumpers. This is Engine 5's 1978 1500gpm Century series model operating at a fire on Glass Factory Avenue in April of 1982 on the city's south side. We'll give you one guess as to what was on fire that afternoon. Photo by Jeffrey A. Harwell



Baltimore City, MD, 7/23/2011: Curtis & Spruce Streets. 4-Alarms A warehouse, heavily involved with a very smoky fire. It occurred during the Firehouse Expo. Photo by Chris E. Mickal.

Photos of Interest from North Texas



Firefighters work on final extinguishment of a fully involved single wide mobile home in the Lillian fire district of Johnson County, Texas on February 7, 2011. Lillian could not get enough manpower to get an engine out the door, therefore mutual aid units were relied upon to respond to the fire.



Arriving Edgecliff Village, Texas firefighters found a one story brick veneer home heavily involved on the afternoon of March 14, 2011. After a brief interior attack, companies were withdrawn to flow the aerial stream on the Crowley ladder truck that was second due. Edgecliff Village is a small community on the south side of Fort Worth that is completely surrounded by the Fort Worth city limits.



Firefighters pull an attack line to extinguish a fire that has fully involved the cab of a truck that caught fire while traveling down Interstate 20 on Saturday May 14, 2011. The location of the fire is Waskom, Texas - which straddles the Louisiana border.

All photos and captions by Jeff Harwell,
jefflizharwell@sbcglobal.net

Sunday morning Sept. 4, 2011, the Johnson County, TX fire dispatch received a report of a structure

fire on County Road 602 in the Briar Oaks fire district just outside the Burleson city limits. Once the fire broke through the roof, a strong north wind pushed the fire the entire length of the attic.



Dallas, Texas Engine 40's Spartan apparatus is shown at a five alarm fire on the city's southwest side on August 13, 2011. Truck 49's aerial is in the background pouring water on the remains of a pool supply warehouse. Station 40 is one of the city's newest stations, having gone in service on February 2, 2008 at 2440 Kirmwood Drive.



