

# **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."

# **Editorial Staff**

Jerry Traub, *Editor*Ed McMichael, *Production Editor*Rodger Birchfield, Tod Parker, Jack
Finney, and Peter Boele, *Photographers*Paul McMichael, *Proof Editor*Jim Williamson, *Circulation Coordinator* 

# **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 email 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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# INTERNATIONAL FIRE BUFFS ASSOCIATES, INC. MEMBER CLUBS

# Region 1

Boston Sparks Assoc., Inc.

Box 22 Associates

Box 41 Associates

Box 52 Assn., Inc.

Box 61, Inc., Portland Fire Buffs Connecticut Fire Photographers Assn.

Connecticut Special Signal Assn. Essex County Fire Wardens Assn. Middlesex County Firefighters & Fire Wardens Assn. Providence Citywide Fire Network

Special Signal Fire Assn.
The Leather Helmet Society

Mass. Statewide Fire Notification Network

#### Region 3

Anne Arundel Alarmers Assn., Inc.

Box 234 Assn., Inc.

Box 414 Assn., Inc.

Central Alarmers, Inc.

Central Pennsylvania Fire Buff Assn.

Friendship Fire Assn.

Greater Springfield Volunteer Fire

Department, Inc.

S. H. C. Assn.

# Region 4

Box 15 Club, Inc.
Box 27 Associates
Box 42 Associates, Inc.
Extra Alarm Fire Assn., Inc.
Fire Notification Network of
Michigan

Western Reserve Fire Museum at Cleveland Ohio. Inc.

# **Region 5**

Box 4 Fire Buff Assn., Inc. Firefighting Historical Society, Inc.

Fort Worth Red Helmets Greater Houston Fire Buffs International Fire Photographer's Assn.

Signal "51" Group

### 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 & Rehab Inc.

## Region 7

2-11 Assn. Phoenix Fire Buffs, Inc.

Box 15 Club of Los Angeles Fire Associates of Santa Clara

Peninsula Fire Buff Club

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

## Region 8

Box 8 Club of St. Louis, Inc. Box 55 Assoc. Indianapolis Fire Buffs

## Region 9

Bayonne Fire Canteen, Inc.
Bell & Siren Club, Inc.
Box 54 Club
Gong Club, Inc.
Second Alarmers' Assn. & Rescue
Squad of Philadelphia, Inc.
Signal 22 Assn., Inc.
Society for the Preservation and
Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire
Apparatus in America (SPAAMFAA)
South Jersey Fire Photographer's

The Fire Bell Club of New York, Inc. Third Alarm Assn., Inc.

### Region 10

Assn.

Box 43 Assn. Club Appel-99 Quebec The Ontario Fire Buffs Associates, Inc.

Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Assn.

# Region 11

Central Florida Fire Buffs Metropolitan Fire Assn. of Atlanta, GA.

Updated Spring 2010

# MINUTES FROM IFBA's 58th ANNUAL MEETING

October 16, 2010 - Indianapolis, IN

Minutes by: Gerald Mahoney, IFBA Secretary

Called to order at 1400 hours by Jim Williamson

Invocation: Jerry Traub

Pledge of Allegiance; Reflection on Canadians pre-

sent

Memorial Ceremony and Necrology

Greetings, Welcome and Introductions: Jim Wil-

liamson

Fire & Life Safety Report: Gerry Mahoney

Roll Call of Officers and Delegates: Gerry Ma-

honey

Minutes of Previous Meetings: Motion to dispense, (Pelaia); Second, (Cohen) Passed

Financial Report: Paul Schaetzle, Accepted as read to flight cancellation.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Past Presidents Committee: Tom McDonald. 3 Major issues:

- 1.) Realignment of Regions. Nothing to be done further at this time unless there is a specific request.
- 2.) Member recruitment. Various initiatives underway thru various organizations such as Boy Scout Explorers, Citizen Fire Academies etc.

3.) Rasmussen Fellowship Program. Intended to financially assist buffs who have never been to an IFBA convention to attend their first convention. Tom McDonald is to communicate with Steve Hansen who is



Members of the Executive Board participate in a meeting prior to the 2010 Annual IFBA Meeting. Photo by Bill Mokros.

Report of Executive

Vice-President: Bill Mokros

# **Regional VP Reports:**

Region 1- Ken Belliveau (By e-mail)

Region 3- Chris Oliphant for Kurt Jakobson

Region 4- Frank Novak

Region 5- Wally Banks (Written copies to E-Board)

Region 6- Chuck Liedtke

Region 7- Kenn Smith

Region 8- Jim Williamson

Region 9- Marc Wallace

Region 10- Gary Wignall

Region 11- No Report

Regional VP at Large- Unable to attend due

the "custodian" of the funds.

PUBLICITY: Stu Nathan. Not much to report. No reports of any adverse publicity on the organization or buffing in general. Will work with FBANJ on publicizing the 2011 convention.

TURN-OUT: Jerry Traub. Spoke of need to get articles into Indy Publishing Group quickly. Over 36,000 hits on the web site to read the publication.

WEB PAGE: Bill Mokros. Looking for volunteers to re-design the web page.

RESOURCE AND CANTEEN COMMITTEE: Ira

Cohen. Distributed written copy. No major projects or initiatives involving the committee for this year. Drop-off in Newsletter submissions as well, there will be no award in 2010. Perhaps time to conduct an updated canteen survey.

INSURANCE ADVISORY: Paul Schaetzle. Policy remains and has been renewed with Zurich. Cost is \$535.00 per year for coverage of IFBA and Regional IFBA meetings.

CONVENTION FACILITATOR: Rick Cutts. First time in memory of convention being cancelled. Numerous correspondences with Nashville staff on their progress.

AUDIT: To Be Appointed

MEMBERSHIP: No report

HISTORICAL: No Report

CFSI: Stu Nathan. October 28, 2010 at 8:00 AM Dirksen Office Building. CFSI Dinner to be held in Washington, D.C. on April 7, 2011. Wally Banks reports the Mesquite, TX Citizens Fire Academy Alumni Association received a grant in excess of \$360,000 for a new canteen.

## **FUTURE CONVENTION SITES:**

**2011 Hasbrouck Heights, NJ** Registration packets distributed. Packet includes itinerary and information on hotel and convention registration. A registration fee savings of \$40 if registered by January 31, 2011. Web site is www.fbanj.org Spring Board Meeting is April 9, 2010. Convention dates are September 7 to 10, 2011.

2012 Toronto, Canada. Dates are August 14 thru 18, 2012. Room Rate is \$199.00 Canadian, includes a full buffet breakfast each day. Convention rate is extended 3 days prior to and after the convention. Web site is www.torcon2012.com Spring Board Meeting in April 2012. Will coincide with GTMAA Annual Banquet. Sheraton Centre Hotel at 123 Queen Street, Downtown Toronto. Members are reminded of US Customs Service Regulations regarding Passports etc.

2013 Milwaukee, WI Will have a short video



Paul Schaetzle is sworn in as 2010/2011 IFBA President by IFBA Executive Vice President Bill Mokros (left). Photo by Vicki Mokros.

presentation during the evening banquet.

**2014 TEXAS** Dallas, TX is the "first choice". Will have a written proposal ready for the Spring 2011 Board Meeting.

**2015 CONNECTICUT** Further correspondence will be forthcoming from Ken Belliveau.

**OLD BUSINESS** None

**NEW BUSINESS** None

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** Chuck Liedtke. Submitted a slate of officers for election. Motion to close nominations, (Pelaia), second (Cohen) passed unanimously.

President: Paul Schaetzle
Treasurer: Paul Schaetzle
Secretary: Gerard Mahoney
Region 1 VP: Ken Beliveau
Region 3 VP: Chris Oliphant
Region 4 VP: Frank Novak
Region 5 VP: Wally Banks
Region 6 VP: Charles Liedtke
Region 7 VP: Kenn Smith
Region 8 VP: Ed McMichael
Region 9 VP: Marc Wallace
Region 10 VP: Gary Wignall
Region 11 VP: Noel Kerkhoff

VP East Coast at Large: William Celentano

Motion to have Secretary cast one ballot for the

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proposed slate of Officers.

### **GOOD AND WELFARE**

Ira Cohen spoke on Marilyn Peloke who passed away recently.

Paul Schaetzle spoke about the St. Barnabas Burn Center awards banquet to be held on October 28, 2010. All Region 9 clubs with canteens will be honored for their community service.

Dinner to be held at 1800 hours at Rathskeller tonight.

Fire Museum Network Seminar to be held October 29-November 1 at Fire Museum of Maryland in Lutherville, MD.

Adjourned at 1612 Hours.



Executive Board Members break between meetings to have lunch. The meeting site and lunch were at the Rathskeller Restaurant. Photo by Vicki Mokros,





Wally Banks and Chuck Liedtke are sworn in as Regional Vice Presidents during the 2010 Annual Meeting Dinner at the Rathskeller Restaurant in Indianapolis, Indiana. Indianapolis hosted the annual meeting after extensive flooding in Nashville, TN caused a change in venue. Photos by Vicki Mokros.

# Figure Ingesting



Indianapolis Fire Buffs show off their Rehab Support Units (RSU) at a static display outside the Rathskeller Restaurant prior to the start of the 2010 Annual Meeting. Photo by Peter Boele.



IFBA members attending the annual meeting were treated to breakfast by the Indianapolis Fire Buffs on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Above, IFB member Jerry Traub is the "official" eggs over easy cook. IFB "cooks" managed to set off the hotel's fire alarm system while preparing breakfast. Positive pressure ventilation prevented a fire department response. IFB photo.



# International Fire Buff Associates, Inc.

11017 N. Redwood Tree Court Alequon, WI 53092-4338

**Executive Office** 

# EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD OCTOBER 16, 2010 IN INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

Greetings Fellow Fire Buffs,

Your Executive Vice President has been kept busy answering the almost daily flow of IFBA correspondence. Since our last annual meeting the Executive Office has received and responded to hundreds of pieces of correspondence pertaining to IFBA business, most all of it in the form of E-Mail.

I attended the Region 6 meeting held in the Chicago area suburb of Gurnee and hosted by the Metropolitan Emergency Support Services Group. Regional VP Chuck Liedtke conducted the mid day meeting that allowed those traveling a greater distance to attend the meeting without incurring a lodging expense. The meeting was well attended and was held at a Gurnee Fire Department station. Coincidently, it was held several blocks away from and the same day as a major "Safety Days" demonstration where numerous departments' apparatus were on display.

I was also able to attend the Region 5 meeting held in Houston, Texas. The Greater Houston Fire Buffs did their usual fantastic job of hosting the Regions members. Regional Vice President Wally Banks has settled in to becoming an "old hand" at conducting the business meetings. I extend a tip of the helmet to Wally and the Greater Houston Fire Buffs for their hospitality.

This spring, I was in Nashville for the Executive Board meeting and witnessed firsthand the horrendous damage that Mother Nature and her torrential rains can wreck on a city.

I was also able to attend the bi-regional meeting of Regions 4 & 8 held in Indianapolis and hosted by the Indianapolis Fire Buffs.

That board meeting presented new challenges for the IFBA and its Executive Board. We saw the resignation of our President because of health reasons and I will take time in this report to recognize Ron Huff and thank him for his work while he was President.

As called for in the IFBA by laws, Vice President Jim Williamson was sworn in as President for the remainder of the 2010 term and I will also take time to acknowledge and thank Jim for stepping up and

leading the IFBA through the remainder of 2010.

This report would not be complete if I did not acknowledge Jerry Traub and the Indy publishing group for their continued great work on TURN OUT magazine. We should all be proud of the quality of each issue as witnessed by the thousands of "hits" generated by readers going to our web site to read and download the magazine. Remember, the magazine is a compilation of the material submitted by each club. If your group is not represented, ask about it at your next local meeting.

In closing I will remind you that, as usual, the Executive Office has quantities of the official IFBA lapel pins, logo patches and decals available.

Respectfully submitted,

William M. Mokros, Executive Vice President International Fire Buff Associates, Inc.

# I.F.B.A. PAST PRESIDENTS' REPORT

An update about activities of the Past Presidents' Advisory Committee

October 2010, by Tom McDonald

# <u>Rasmussen Memorial Fellowship award is now</u> available

Before past president Jim Rasmussen died several years ago, he urged his close friend Steve Hansen, himself a past president, to establish a fund to help fire buffs attend their first IFBA convention.

That fund was established and is now available to such prospective first-time attendees. The "James P. Rasmussen Memorial Fellowship" is an annual \$300 award given to one fire buff chosen by the past presidents' committee.

That fire buff must be an IFBA member, either through an affiliated club or as an associate member, must never have attended an IFBA convention before, cannot be a member of the upcoming convention's host club, and cannot be a current chief fire officer.

Interested applicants who so qualify must submit a letter, not more than two pages long, to the IFBA's Executive Vice President Bill Mokros by June 1, 2011 to be considered for the prize for the 2011 convention in New Jersey.

That letter should contain information about the applicant, be written by the applicant, and contain thoughts about what fire buffing means to the applicant as well as what the applicant hopes to gain from attending the New Jersey convention.

So, every IFBA club and associate member is hereby notified that this award is available. It is hoped that many members take advantage of this award and send in applications to Executive-VP Mokros by June 1, 2011.

#### Region-Club Reglianment

For several years there has been discussion among IFBA officers about possible realignment of member clubs within regions. Last spring, the PPAC was assigned the task of reviewing the situation to see if there was a real need for realignment or if any major problems along those lines existed.

The PPAC did a review and found there was no overwhelming need for any realignment. It was acknowledged that several regions had far more clubs than others, but that situation did not create any major problems. So, for now, no realignment is in the works.

# IFBA 58<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT INDIANAPOLIS FOR 2010

By Jerry Traub, Turn Out Editor

Friday, October 15 and Saturday, October 16, 2010, brought the rescheduled annual IFBA meeting to Indianapolis, Indiana, hosted by that city's Fire Buffs.

After Nashville, TN, was flooded in early May, 2010, its best known attractions and downtown area suffered major damage. Unable to project those being available for the September 22-25, 2010, convention dates, the Executive Board reluctantly opted out of Nashville's 2010 program.

The required annual meeting began Friday evening with attendees checking in at the Extended Stay Hotel. Dinner at Shapiro's Deli provided good food and a good atmosphere for fellowship and catching up. A Hospitality Room back at the hotel was open into the late evening.

Supplementing the hotel's free breakfast, Indianapolis' host club provided a hot breakfast of meat, eggs, pancakes, fruit, juice and coffee Saturday morning prior to the first meeting.

Members then drove to the Rathskeller restaurant and meeting center at 401 E. Michigan St. downtown. The Executive Board meeting was called to order by President Jim Williamson and covered top-

ics shown in minutes. A tasty brunch followed the morning meeting. Attendees were provided static demonstrations of Indianapolis' three Rehab Support units in the parking lot.

IFBA 58<sup>th</sup> annual meeting began on site at 2 p.m. Those minutes are provided.

An evening banquet with members ordering from the restaurant menu was followed by an awards ceremony and new officers taking the Oath of Office. Past President Ron Huff was recognized for his service, as was past President Jim Williamson, who completed Huff's term. Hosting club Indianapolis Fire Buffs received a plaque recognizing their support and hospitality. No Fire Buff of the Year was named for 2010. New officers were sworn in and incoming president Paul Schaetzle outlined his plan for a new, active year for us.

Another hot breakfast was served early Sunday morning by the local club in the Hospitality room as those attending said their good-byes and headed home.

The 59<sup>th</sup> annual meeting and convention is scheduled for Hilton Hasbrouck Heights/ Meadowlands, New Jersey, September 7-10, 2011, hosted by The Fire Buff Association of New Jersey.

IFBA Executive Vice President William Mokros recognizes out-going IFBA President Jim Williamson with the Past President plaque. An attendee seems more interested in the tray of desserts (pointing at them) seen over Jim's right shoulder.

Indianapolis Fire Buff President Mark Burke is presented a Certificate of Appreciation for hosting the 2010 IFBA Annual Meeting. Photos (left and below) by Peter Boele.



# Hail to the Chief...

# Meet Your New President

Our new President is no stranger to the International Fire Buff Associates, Inc.

Paul Schaetzle has been the Treasurer of the IFBA since 1995 and has been attending the Annual Conventions steadily since 1971. He received the "Henry N. Wilwers Fire Buff of the Year Award" in 2002. Paul is currently chairing a committee of five Region 9 clubs hosting the 2011 IFBA Convention in New Jersey.

Paul's connection with the fire service began with his father, Fireman Joseph Schaetzle. who was a member of the Jersey City Fire Department from 1947 to 1981. Fireman Schaetzle began bringing his son to his firehouse at an early age and Paul has been a fixture at Engine Co. 17 and Ladder Co. 11 for over 50 years. In 1972, Paul was accepted into the Gong Club. He has held the office of Treasurer for that group for the past 35 years, overseeing

not only the daily financial operations but also the funding for the purchase of the Club's 1976 and 2001 canteen units. He is consistently one of the top responders to the fires and other emergencies requiring the Gong Club's services.

Locally, Paul also serves as Treasurer of the Hudson County Fire Prevention and Protection Association, Treasurer of the Jersey City Fire Museum, Secretary of the New Jersey Fire Fighter's Ski Race and Co-Director of the Carlos Negron Me-

morial Run. The latter two organizations are charities supporting the St. Barnabas Burn Foundation.

Paul is a lifelong resident of Jersey City, a graduate of St. Peter's Prep and St. Peter's College. At present, he is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Prep and the Board of Regents of the College. Since 1976, Mr. Schaetzle has been employed as an insurance adjuster, presently holding

the position of Executive General Adjuster at York Risk Services Group, Inc., New York, NY. His duties involve the adjustment of large commercial property claims on behalf of a number of major insurance companies. He has adjusted numerous claims for damages from many notable incidents, including the World Trade Center attack and the hurricanes in the Gulf Coast states and Florida. He has been a presenter at several major insurance in-



Paul Schaetzle, International Fire Buff Associates, Inc. President, 2010-11
(Conni Spellman Photo)

dustry conferences and his frequent travels have afforded him the opportunity to visit with many IFBA members across the country.

To occupy his "spare" time, Paul was recently the successful bidder for a surplus parcel of property owned by the City of Jersey City and he is converting that property to a residence. That property is the former quarters of Engine Co. 17, a 2 story structure built in 1906; the very firehouse where his Dad worked and he has been the "house buff"!

# From the President's Desk

As we all know, the catastrophic flooding in Nashville on May 1-2, 2010 resulted in the cancellation of the Annual Convention, an event unprecedented in IFBA history. Since many could not attend the abbreviated Annual Meeting held in Indianapolis in October, I thought I would share with you my remarks upon taking the Oath of Office through the pages of TURN OUT.

It is hard to imagine that I would be standing here today as President of the International Fire Buff Associates, Inc. I think back to my second convention (my first was the Jersey City Convention in 1964, but since I was only 10 years old then, I didn't participate in the business meetings) in Philadelphia some 39 years ago. The experience of sharing this avocation with so many buffs from around the country and Canada made a lasting impression on me. Of course, it also made a lasting impression on the Philadelphia police officer who was standing by at a working fire in a deserted neighborhood at 10<sup>th</sup> & Carlton Streets when nearly 250 buffs rounded the corner and started taking pictures of the fire fighting activity!

The world and the IFBA of 1971 are very different from the world and the IFBA of today. As keepers of this noble hobby, which counts people as varied as George Washington to Gordie Kirkpatrick as members, we have a duty to perpetuate fire buffing for the next generation. The challenge of doing this in an age of computer linked scanning, Facebook, You Tube and the like is daunting. Today's "fire buffs" can sit in their living room, click onto the radio traffic from a fire across the country, pull up a picture of the building from Google Earth and watch the local TV accounts of the fire without ever having to get out of their chairs! Such armchair buffs are real, but they won't be able to put a cup of coffee in a fire fighter's hand, record the incident for posterity or hang a picture of the fire on the wall of their local fire museum if they don't get out of their chairs.



Our challenge, as officers and delegates of the International Fire Buff Associates, Inc. is to continue the tradition of

service that the fire buffing community was established to provide. We can very easily wring our hands and say "young people don't want to volunteer any more" or "there aren't as many fires as there were 20 or 30 years ago" and watch this grand history become just that – history!. I, for one, and hopefully many others gathered here today, cannot sit by and lament the changing times and wish that it was 1971 again. The very fact that you have traveled here today says the opposite; that you accept the challenge and want to work in bringing the IFBA forward.

At this afternoon's meeting of the Executive Board, I distributed an excerpt of an article from the October 1996 edition of the Harvard Business Review entitled "The New Work of the Nonprofit Board". Although it was published 14 years ago, the ideas presented in the article are especially poignant today. Besides, a few of the Executive Board meetings of late are still discussing issues from 1996, so this is right up to our speed. I would like to share with you a few of the ideas advanced by the authors.

"Effective Governance by the board of a non profit organization is a rare and unnatural act." "A board's contribution is meant to be strategic..." "Nonprofit boards are often little more than a collection of high-powered people engaged in low level activities."

The good news in this is that we are not alone. Boards of organizations far more notable than us are mired in the same malaise. The bad news is that we are often bogged down in discussing minutiae at a board meeting or talking about the same issues forever with no resolution in sight.

How does a board fix this? The article proposes that "New Work" is work that matters. New work has four basic characteristics:

- •The board concerns itself with crucial, do or die issues central to the institution's success.
- The board is driven by results that are linked to defined timetables.
- · The board has clear measures of success.
- The board requires the engagement of the organization's internal and external constituencies

This "New Work generates high levels of interest and demands broad participation and widespread support."

I wish I could take credit for discovering this article, but I am afraid I am not quite that brilliant. However, I would like to credit my source of this information, Fr. Bob Reiser, S. J., President of St. Peter's Prep in Jersey City. I joined the Board of Trustees of the Prep this year and Fr. Reiser provided copies of this article to the incoming board.

As I see it the Executive Board of the IFBA, and any board for that matter, has three basic responsibilities:

- · Fiduciary there are a lot of people, both inside and outside of the organization that are depending on us to ensure that the institution not only survives, but also advances.
- · Strategic it is our duty to see the big picture, plan for the future and support the

- members of the organization
- · Generative the board needs to ensure that the organization perpetuates, staying true to its mission, but reacting to the changing times.

To that end, at the Board meeting following the Annual Business Meeting, I have asked that the Board revamp the existing committees, in accordance with Article 4 of the By-laws. This article states that the President is authorized to appoint such standing or special committees as may be required for the operation of the IFBA. Although many of the existing committees will remain unchanged, I have asked that the Board take a more direct role in the committee work. When we meet in New Jersey in 2011, the Board meeting will, hopefully, have a different perspective and will have found that high level of interest, participation and support that the "New Work" brings.

The challenges we face are great, but with the talent we have on the Board and the support of the members, we will meet those challenges. Much like the country did after the event whose 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary we will mark next year, the IFBA will emerge stronger and more determined than ever.

Paul Schaetzle, President, International Fire Buff Associates, Inc.

Indianapolis, IN

October 16, 2010

# International Fire Buff Associates, Inc. Executive Board 2010-11 Committee Topics

# Constitution & By-laws - Chris Oliphant, Bill Celentano

- · Duties of the East Coast Vice President at Large (this title has never been added to the By-laws)
- · Requirements for bidding / hosting a convention that need to be included in the By-laws (with input from the Education Committee)

# **Education – Gary Wignall, Noel Kerkhoff**

**Sub Committees** 

CFSI – Stu Nathan Convention Facilitator – Rick Cutts Historical – Bill Mokros Resources – Ira Cohen

- Work with Convention Facilitator to develop list of requirements / benchmarks for convention hosts to meet
- · Develop seminar topics for convention hosts to consider
- · Work with CFSI Liaison to better communicate CFSI activities and services to the member clubs

### Finance – Marc Wallace, Chuck Liedtke

**Sub Committees** 

Audit -

Insurance Advisory – Paul Schaetzle

- · Implement a regular audit process for IFBA financial functions
- · Suggest financial products that would maximize return on investments

### Member Services - Ken Beliveau, Kenn Smith

**Sub Committees** 

Fire & Life Safety – Gerard Mahoney Nominating – Bill Celentano Publicity – Stu Nathan Turn Out – Jerry Traub Web Page – Bill Mokros

- · Work with Turn Out Staff to increase participation by member clubs in each edition
- · Work with Webmaster on methods to update and improve website
- · Work with Publicity Director to increase visibility of the IFBA to the fire service

# Recruitment and Retention – Wally Banks, Frank Novak

**Sub Committees** 

Fire Buff of the Year Award – Owen P. Reid, Jr.

Membership – Ira Rubin

Newsletter Awards – Ira Cohen

- · Explore methods to identify and recruit clubs to join / rejoin IFBA
- · Study if membership committee needs to be expanded or application process needs to be updated to foster more applicants
- · Encourage more nominations for Fire Buff of the Year
- · Work with Newsletter Awards Committee to determine if the award is viable

### Strategic Planning – Jim Williamson, Stuart Nathan, Tom McDonald, Ed McMichael

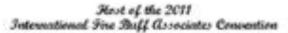
- · NOTE: This committee replaces the Past Presidents Committee
- · Study regional alignment and recommend any changes needed
- · Study / resolve parameters for Rasmussen Fund Convention Stipend
- · Study viability of Memorial Fund and potential uses
- · Study charitable projects worthy of IFBA consideration, e. g. National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, Burn Research

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# The Fire Buff Association Of New Jersey

Post Office Box 269 Caldwell, NJ 07006





The Fire Buff Association of New Jersey invites everyone to attend the 59th Annual International Fire Buff Associates Convention that will be held September 7-10 2011 in Northern New Jersey. The clubs of the FBANJ which are the Bayonne Fire Canteen, The Bell and Siren Club, The Box 54 Club, The Gong Club and South Jersey Fire Photographers have been hard at work preparing to make this convention an enjoyable time while we commemorate the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 Attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon.

Our Convention Hotel will be the Hilton Hasbrouck Heights / Meadowlands, located at the intersection of Interstate 80, Route 46 and NJ Route 17 in Hasbrouck Heights New Jersey. It is located in South Bergen County New Jersey and very convenient to Newark Liberty International Airport, Newark Pennsylvania Station for Amtrak Riders and only 10 miles from New York City. We have secured a Room Rate of \$135.00 per night which includes a Continental Breakfast each morning and Free Parking (Parking Fees listed on Hotel Confirmations are waived upon check-in). If you would rather eat a full breakfast, just take your Continental Breakfast coupon to the hotel restaurant and receive a discount on a full breakfast. To make your reservation, just go to <a href="http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/EWRHHHF-IFBA3-20110905/index.jhtml">http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/EWRHHHF-IFBA3-20110905/index.jhtml</a> and place your reservation. For those who want to make it by phone, just call 1-800-HILTONS and use the group code IFBA3. Remember, to get your free continental breakfast and free parking you must make your reservation using the above web-site or by using the code IFBA3.

We hope that the program we have planned for you will highlight our metropolitan area's fire service, major attractions and also commemorate the 9/11 attacks. While everyone begins to check in on Tuesday September 6, 2011 the IFBA Executive Board will have their Annual Convention Meeting. On Wednesday September 7, 2011 we will have our Opening Ceremony and Memorial Service following breakfast, and then begin our seminars. Our seminars will be given by the 9/11 first responders. We are anticipating speakers from FDNY first responders, New Jersey first responders, and the Canteen Clubs who responded on that tragic day. Following the seminars we will board busses for a 'Dinner Cruise' on the Hudson River. During our cruise we will see the many sights of the New York / New Jersey Metropolitan Area. On Thursday September 8, 2011we will set out for the Tear Drop 9/11 Memorial in Bayonne NJ where we will have a display of Apparatus from the area including many of the Urban Search and Rescue Vehicles in the area. Then it's off to "Little Portugal" in Newark and one of the area's famous Portuguese Restaurants "IBERIA". We will have a buffet bunch here and don't worry if you do not like Portuguese Caisine because there will also be an

Bayenne Five Canteen

The Bell and Sixen Club Inc.

Box 54 Club

Gong Club Inc

South Jersey Fire Photographers

American Bill of Fare. After lunch we will head down to Port Newark, the largest container port on the East Coast. Here we will have a demonstration of a High Volume Foam and Water Distribution task force in the area. This equipment along with the Urban Search and Rescue Equipment which we saw in the morning were obtained using Homeland Security Funds made available to the area after 9/11. On Friday September 9, 2011 we will have our Annual Business Meeting at the hotel and then it will be off for an afternoon visit to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. On Saturday we will walk right next door to the hotel to the Office Building 610 Route 46 Parking Lot for an Antique Fire Apparatus Muster hosted by the Antique Fire Apparatus Association of New Jersey. Finally we will have our Annual Banquet at the hotel that evening. Although the Convention ends with the Banquet, and check-out is on Sunday, those who wish to stay for 9/11 remembrances in the area are encouraged to do so. We will try to facilitate your needs on Sunday 9/11.

Although we are having a fun-packed convention, there is a lot more this area has to offer. There is the "Jersey Shore", Atlantic City and of course New York City for you to visit. So if you have the time, come early and leave late and enjoy your stay here in Northern New Jersey.

For continued updates on our convention, please go to <a href="www.fbanj.org">www.fbanj.org</a>, or send us an email at <a href="mailto:info@fbanj.org">info@fbanj.org</a>. We look forward to seeing you in New Jersey in September 2011.





# Hilton Hasbrouck Heights / Meadowlands

650 Torrace Ave. Hasbrouck Heights New Jersey

# Home of the 59th Annual IFBA Convention

ROOM RATE \$135.00 per night Includes Continental Breakfast and Free Parking\*
\*Parking charges listed on hood confirmation will be waived upon check-in

For Reservations go to:

http://www.hitton.com/en/hi/prougs/personal-ped/TWRHT-HTBA3-20110905/index.demi

Or call 1-800-HILTONS Group Code IFB.43

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# 59th Annual International Fire Buff Associates Convention



# "New Jersey Remembers 9-11 10 Years Later" September 7-10, 2011

# Convention Schedule

Tuesday September 6, 2011

12 noon - Hotel Check in

7:00pm - IFBA Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday September 7, 2011

7:00am - 8:30am - Continental Breakfast for Hotel Guests

9:00xm - Opening Ceremonies

11:00am - 3:30pm Seminars given by 9:11 responders

5:00pm - Board Busset to Liberty Harbor Marina

6:00pm - Board John J. Audubon Cruise Ship for 3 hour Dinner Cruise on the Hudson River

9:30pm - Board busses back to the hotel arriving at 10:15pm

# Thursday September 8, 2011

7:00am - \$:30am - Continental Breakfast for Hotel Guests.

9:00am - Board buttet for Apparatus Display and UASI Urban Search and Rescue Demonstration at 9:11 Tear Drop Memorial at Peninsula Harbor, Bayonne NJ

12:00pm - Lunch at Iberia Restaurant, Newark NJ

1:30pm - UASI Neptune Foam System Demonstration, Port Newark NJ

3:30pm - Buttet return to Hotel, arriving at 4:15pm

5:30pm - Convention Previews

#### Friday September 9, 2011

7:00am - \$:30am - Continental Breakfast for Hotel Guests

9:00am - Annual IFBA Butiness Meeting

11:00am - Board busses for Liberty State Park Ferry Terminal

12:30pm - Board Ferry for Liberty Island and Ellis Island Tour

5:00pm - Board Ferry back to Liberty State Park Terminal 5:15pm - Butter return to Hotel arriving at 6:00pm

#### Saturday September 10, 2011

7:00am - 5:30am - Continental Breakfast for Hotel Guests

9:30am-3:30pm - Apparatus Muster next to Hotel at 611 Rt 46 Office Building

6:00pm - 10:00pm - Annual Banquet

#### Sunday September 11, 2011

7:00am - 8:30am - Continental Breakfast for Hotel Guests Optional Trips to 9/11 Memorials

#### EVENING BUFFING ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE CONVENTION

#### SCHEDULE AND TIMES ARE TENTATIVE



# The Fire Buff Association Of New Jersey

Peur Office Box 169 Caldwell 37 67508



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# SPECIAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION RATES

In an effort to accommodate those buffs who had funds set aside to attend the Nashville IFBA Convention, as well as to offer a special reduced rate for those who can plan ahead, we are pleased to offer more than 10% discount for very early registrants.

The real early bird full convention registration for funds received by January 31, 2011 is only \$300. We extended this to the end of January so that those who have to "pick" a vacation time will have ample opportunity.

If you know you are going to be attending, why wait? Send your registration. in to take advantage of this low price and save \$401

The complete full registration fee schedule is as follows:

Funds received by January 31, 2011	\$300
Funds received by July 31, 2011	\$325
Funds received after August 1, 2011	\$340

Please note that these discounts are only for full registration; partial fees are as noted on the registration form.



# 59th Annual International Fire Buff Associates Convention WWW.FBANJ.ORG



# "New Jersey Remembers 9-11 10 Years Later" September 7-10, 2011

# Convention Registration Form

Full Name				
Address				
City				
State/Prov	Postal C	ode		
Telephone	Cell Phone			
E-MAIL Address				
IFBA Club				
Status: DELEGATE_	ALTERNATE_	_IFBA OFFICER_	Guest_	
Full Registration b	y January 31, 2011		\$300.00	
Full Registration b	y June 30, 2011		\$325.00	
Full Registration A	fter July 1, 2011		.\$340.00	
fake Checks payable to: Fir	e Buff Association of	New Jersey		
lail Completed Application	to: Fire Buff Associati Post Office Box 26 Caldwell, NJ 0700	9		
or more information e-mail	infou foanj.org			

# CONVENTION HOTEL

# HILTON HASBROUCK HEIGHTS/MEADOWLANDS

ROOM RATE \$135.00per night Include: Continental Breakfast and Free Parking

For Reservations go to:

http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/EWRHHHF-IFBA3-20110905/index.jhtml

Or call 1-800-HILTONS Group Code IFB.43



# 59th Annual International Fire Buff Associates Convention www.franz.org



# "New Jersey Remembers 9-11 10 Years Later" September 7-10, 2011

# Convention Partial Registration Form

Full Name		
Address		
City		
State/Prev	Pontal Code	
Telephone	Cell Phone	
E-MAIL Address	A-0.50,000	
IFBA Club		
Status: DELEGATE_	_ALTERNATEIFBA OFFICER	Guest
Wednesday Septem	ther 7, 2011	\$125.00
Thursday Septembe	er 8, 2021	\$75.69
Friday September !	9, 2011	\$75.66
Saturday Septembe	er 10, 2011>	\$100.00
Sahe Checks payable to: Fir	e Buff Association of New Jersey	
. 41. 5	to: Five Buff Association of New Jersey Post Office Bax 269 Caldwell, NJ 87006	
or more information e-mail	inforform org	

# CONVENTION HOTEL

### HILTON HASBROUCK HEIGHTS/MEADOWLANDS

ROOM RATE \$135,00per night helds: Contacted Residest and Fee Parting For Reservations go to:

http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/stoups/personalized/EWRHHHF-FBA3-20110905/index.thtml

Or call 1-800-HILTONS Group Code IFE.43

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# 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 - Columbus, Ohio

Late summer is generally not a busy time for "real" fire runs in Central Ohio. Rural counties outside the Columbus area may be busy with brush & field fires, but Columbus and its suburbs activity generally consists of mulch fires in parking lot islands from discarded cigarettes and fire alarms tripped by contractors remodeling. The last part of summer 2010 would not turn out to a typical summer season for Columbus Area Firefighters. It would prove to be a record for members of Box 15's rehab unit.

The month of record activity actually started on Friday July 30 at around lunchtime, when Truro, Violet, & Columbus Firefighters were sent to a residential fire just off East Main Street in Reynoldsburg. By the time companies arrived, fire had spread from the kitchen, through the second floor, and was coming out the roof. Because of high heat and humidity, Box 15 was special called to the scene. Three members who lived nearby went straight to the scene with ice & cold water,



Mulligan Court - Photo by Robert Hess



2-alarm Costume warehouse - Photo by Kevin Shop

while other members went to CFD station 1 for Rehab 2. (Rehab 1 was OOS for PM & Rehab 2 had been moved up from Washington Twp station 91 to be in a more central location.) As the crew left quarters in Rehab 2, they became aware of a fire in a costume warehouse just a few blocks away that quickly became a 2 alarm fire with extra companies. Rehab 2 then diverted from the Reynoldsburg run that had been contained and provided rehab services to the downtown fire. Rehab 2 ended up being tied up for nearly 5 hours on the run, with a total of 120 firefighters on scene. The overhaul efforts cause two piles of burned, wet,

or damaged costumes lying in the street that were nearly 20 feet high. The few days would be the rehab units only down time for the next several weeks.

The next week on August 4°, a summer thunderstorm went through the state during a hot, humid day with 88 degree temperature and 93% humidity. The storm produced high winds causing all the usual fires, downed trees & structures damage calls. One damage area was at a commercial egg farm near Johnstown Ohio (about 25 miles NE of Columbus). When units from the Monroe Fire District arrived on the scene, they found three buildings completely



Ohio Egg Farm collapse - Photo by Aaron Pritchard

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or partially collapsed with reports of workers missing or trapped. The incident commander quickly put in a request for the Central Ohio Strike Team, the regional state Homeland Security Urban Search & Rescue team. Box 15 members went to the scene with the C.O.S.T. team and provided support for almost 50 members while on scene for an hour and a half.

Box 15 members would be special called twice in next week by CFD for structure fires in high heat & humidity.

During The afternoon of August 11th, another summer thunderstorm quickly swept across the area, with numerous reports of possible lightning strikes ringing into area fire alarm offices. The Metropolitan Emergency Communication Center, a regional fire communication center located in Gahanna Ohio (just north of Port Columbus International Airport) was receiving a very high



volume of calls from the Pickerington/Violet two area (NW Fairfield County, SE of Columbus). Frantic callers were reporting nearby lightning strikes and power outages. The 2 biggest incidents were lightning strikes to the gym at Tollgate Elementary School and to a residence about 3 miles away. Both fires quickly went to extra companies; placing a strain on resources in area, since both fires were in the same first due district. Mutual aid/automatic response companies came from as far 15-20 miles away, with companies moved up to back fill stations coming 30 or more miles away. The storm had only slightly dropped the temperatures in the area, but increased humidity to where heat indexes were over

110 degrees.



Brice Rd. business - Photy by Mary Fuhrmann.

Box 15 crews quickly arrived to assist a total of over 150 firefighters on both scenes. A total of 10 cases of water and over 3 gallons of Sqwincher (an electrolyte drink) were dispensed over a period of 3 hours.

Early morning of the 13th less than 2 days later, companies from Columbus and Truro Twp were sent to a report of fire on the 1500 block of Brice Rd in Reynoldsburg. First due companies

could see a loom of fire as they left their stations almost a mile away. Upon arrival, they found a single story commercial building with heavy fire that had spread to another similar sized building on the rear of the lot. Box 15 was special called as part of the working assignment due hot, humid conditions. Rehab 1 responded from CFD station 1 and provided 2 cases of bottled water, cold wet towels, and cereal bars. This made a total of 4 working fires in 5 days for Box 15's rehab team and the forecast was for hot, humid conditions to continue.

Two mornings later, Box 15 responded to Berliner Park, a large softball recreational center just south of downtown Columbus. CFD crews had been out fighting fire in a service building in the rear of park that had resulted in multiple lays of 5 inch hose from the street to the fire that were over a thousand feet long.

The following week on the 17" & 18", Box 15 provided rehab services for a 2-day live burn exercise for the CFD recruit class. This was the first time most of the recruits had experienced live fire fighting conditions. The exercise took place in a house scheduled for demolition across from CFD station 33 on the north side of Columbus. A total of 40 recruits and instructors took part in the training. The following Saturday on the 21st, Box 15 personnel assisted with a 40 story stainwell climb that was part of the 2010 Can-Am Police Fire Games. The crews manned stations at the 1", 18", & 40 floors to the James Rhodes State Officer Tower.

Tuesday the 24", Box 15 was requested by Norwich Twp to fire in a single story residence in Hilland during the early afternoon. Despite heavy fire conditions upon arrival of the first engine company, the fire was contained with assistance from Washington Twp & CFD within 25 minutes. Box 15 crews served one case of water & Squincher and were able to clear after 45 minutes.

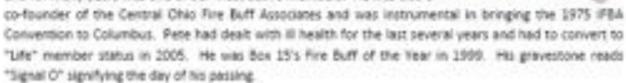
8ox 15 members were finally able to relax as our next request was not for 2 weeks. In less than 30 day's time, we had an activity level that had surpassed some entire years of the club's records.

# Box 15 joins the fight against Breast Cancer

In case you haven't heard, Box 15 has partnered with several area Firefighter Locals to distribute Breast Cancer Awareness shirts. The Columbus Firefighters shirt is available for sale. Proceeds benefit both Box 15 and the Stefanie Spielman Breast Cancer Research fund at the Obio State University Medical Center. For more information or to purchase shirts, contact Brest Barber@Box15.Org.

#### In Honor of ...

And on a sad note. We regret to inform everyone of the passing of long-time Box 15 member, Peter Fowler. Pete joined Box 15 in 1969 and for many years was one of our most active members. He was also a





Some of the attendees at the 58th Annual Meeting in Indianapolis gather for an evening dinner and awards banquet. Photo by Peter Boele.

# Region 5

Box 4 Fire Buff Assn., Inc.
Firefighting Historical Society, Inc.
Fort Worth Red Helmets
Greater Houston Fire Buffs
International Fire Photographer's Assn.
Little Elm Support Group 20
Plano Fire Rescue Associates
Signal "51" Group



PO Box 697

Bellaire, Texas 77402

#### **OFFICERS**

President: Jerald Ricks Vice President: Mike Pack Secretary/Treasurer: Tom McDonald

# *October 2010*

# New Houston Fire Chief

During the summer, Houston's Mayor Annise Parker announced that Terry Garrison was her choice to serve as the city's new fire chief. He took over for interim fire chief Rick Flanagan who served several months in that capacity after Phil Boriskie resigned to return to a district chief position.

"I decided that our fire fighters need new direction," said Mayor Parker. "We need to prepare a good department for a very different future and I believe Terry Garrison has the qualities to do this."

"His expertise is focused on improving training programs and implementing new policies to achieve goals that enhance the fire department"

Garrison worked in various capacities with the Phoenix FD for more than 30 years, including as an investigator and assistant chief of the operations division. He then served as fire chief in Oceanside, California, and most recently as interim chief and assistant chief for Daisy Mountain Fire District in Arizona.

Garrison has co-authored an instruction workbook outlining incident command procedures that is sold worldwide and has been a teacher at several symposia and conferences for many years. He was a member of the Phoenix Community College fire science instructor faculty for six years and then served as department chair. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Science Management from Ottawa University and a Masters of Education in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University.

He also completed the Certified Public Manager program from Arizona State University in 2009. Garrison is 52 and has four grown children with his wife Annette.

Garrison was quickly confirmed by Houston City Council. His first day on the job was Sept. 16, 2010. He leads a department with 3,984 uniformed members and 257 civilian employees. He is only the second non-HFD-member ever appointed as fire chief.



Garrison stands next to Mayor Parker at his nomination press conference. (Facebook—no source given)

### Article submissions?

Send me your input: photos or articles. I

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don't want to have to do the whole thing! Tmcfire@aol.com. Say "Turnout" in your title, please.



Oct. 13, 2010: 1303 Gears Road, 3 alarms, fire damaged or destroyed 48 apartment units in far north Houston. Photo by Tom McDonald





<u>Sept. 24, 2010</u>: 15,255 Gray Ridge Dr., HFD sent 1 alarm mutual aid to Community VFD, fire destroyed an entire apartment building. Photo by Ken Paradowski

# 2010 HFD Fire Activity



<u>Sept. 15, 2010</u>: 10,300 Wilcrest, 2 alarms, fire gutted four units and damaged eight others. Photo by Tom McDonald

(Left) Oct. 12, 2010: 8814 South Rice Ave., 1 alarm, fire involved building materials stored on the roof of a school under construction. Photo by Tom McDonald



Sept. 12, 2010: Eastex Fwy. (59-N) ramp to North Loop (610), 1 alarm plus special call for 3 engines, gasoline tanker overturned and lit off on a "flyover" ramp. Fire had to be attacked with foam from adjacent bridge. Photo by Tom McDonald

# B 4 X DALLAS, TX

By Wally Banks, Box 4 President, Dallas, Texas

So far in 2010, the canteen made emergency runs to 24 two alarm fires, 6 three alarm fires, 4 four alarm fires, 1 Level 3 grass fire, 1 HazMat/Gas leak, and 5 Mutual aid runs to neighboring cities. In the form of non emergency runs the canteen went to 3 Night Burns and 1 Citizens Fire Academy Burn at the Recruit Training Center, 1 SWAT DPD DFR assist rescue runs, 3 US & R drills, 1 High Rise drill and 8 Public Service runs such as the union Easter egg hunt, the Health/Safety Fair days at the Dolphin Road facility, and the two Denton State School days. This was a total of 58 runs through the end of October, 2010, another remarkably slow year for our club.

Our first run of the month of January was a 4 alarm fire at Box 17506, 2640 Irving Boulevard on C shift on January 4, 2010. Units responding at 0449 were Engines 01/45/47, Trucks 11/36, Battalions 1/9, and Rescue 11 on the first alarm. A Carpet/Wood/Tile Company had a fire through the roof. We were assigned on the second alarm at 0507 along with Engines 11/18/36, Trucks 3/4, Battalions 3/7, Deputy Chief 807, and 781/896/821/829. Coming to the fire on the third alarm were Engines 04/14/42, Truck 15, Rescue 15, and 780/825/885/897. Responding to the fourth alarm were Engines 03/08/30, Truck 17, and 602/782. It was a frosty morning with a chill wind making hot chocolate and coffee fly out of the window. Making her first appearance as a Command Technician was Shelly Henderson of Battalion 9.

Our first run of the month of March was a 4 alarm fire at Box 177508, 2815 Greenville Avenue on C shift at 0543 on March 2, 2010. Units responding at 0543 were Engines 8/17/55, Trucks 17/19, Battalions 1/3, and Rescue 17 on the first alarm. A row of restaurants/bars with a common attic was on fire. We were assigned on the second alarm at 0549 along with Engines 03/19/37, Trucks 3/37, Rescue 8, Battalions 4/9, Deputy Chief 806, and 684/685/784/829/896. Coming to the fire on the third alarm at 0553 were Engines 4/44/45, Truck 15, Battalion Chief 10, and 780/832/885 and USAR 15. A fourth alarm was struck at 0605 turning out Engines 6/15/42, Rescues 15/37 and 800/808/812, Staff Chiefs 800/808/812, and 601/602/825. The fire was a defensive/surround and drown fire from the git go, so only four alarms were struck for the fire.

Our first fire in April was a 4 alarm fire at Box 390053, 11760 Ferguson on C shift on April 19th, 2010. Units responding at 0103 were Engines 39/48/57, Trucks 39/57, Battalions 4/10, and Rescue 57 on the first alarm. An apartment house with a really strange entrance driveway was on fire. We were assigned on the second alarm at 0117 along with Engines 28/31/53, Trucks 19/53, Battalions 2/3, Deputy Chief 806, and 684/685/784/829/896. Coming to the fire on the third alarm at 0136 were Engines 24/32, Truck 37, Rescue 53, and 780/825 and USAR

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19. A fourth alarm was struck at 0159 turning out Engines 7/8/34, Battalion 7, Rescue 28 and 855 and USAR 15. Both USAR teams were called due to the partial collapse of the building. It was a spectacular fire with cars stopping on LBJ Freeway to watch the action.

On May 29th, for a 4 alarm mutual aid fire on A shift at Box 265099, an apartment house at 3739 Higgins in the City of Cockrell Hill. Units responding on the first alarm at 0616 were Engines 14/15/26, Truck 15/26, Rescue 15/26, and Battalions 1/6. Responding on the second alarm at 0622 were Engines 16/36/52, Trucks 23/36, Battalions 3/5/9, Deputy Chief 807, Rescue 33/45/52, and 684/685/781/829/896. A third alarm was pulled at 0630 with Engines 4/33/45, Truck 4, Rescues 18/23/47, and 780/782/785/808. A fourth alarm was added at 0704 with Engines 17/43/47, Truck 43, Chiefs 802/803, Rescue 6, and 885. There were 3 civilian fatalities. A total of 10 Rescues attended the fire with 7 civilians transported to a hospital.

Our first run for the month of August was on the 6th during B shift. A Level 3 grass fire was burning at 3730 Mountain Creek Parkway at Box 127778 in the area near Mountain Creek Lake south of the Dallas Police gun range. At 1326 Engine 12 and Booster 52 responded on a level 1 grass fire. At 1336 a level 2 grass fire was requested with Engines 16/26/40/46/49, Battalion Chiefs 1/5, Rescue 52, Boosters 1/4/9/22/30/40/54 and 896 responding. At 1510 a level 3 grass fire was requested with Engines 4/14/18/23/27/33/36/45. Battalion Chief 8. Rescues 40/72, the Texas Forest Service with 2 bulldozer teams, and a booster from Duncanville.

Our next run was on August 10<sup>th</sup>, for a 4 alarm on C shift at Box 497502. A one story

manufacturer of plastic packaging at 4700 S. Westmoreland had more egg cartons than you could cluck at on fire with copious quantities of nasty black smoke inside the warehouse. Units responding on the first alarm at 0735 were Engines 40/49/52, Trucks 26/49, Rescues 26/52, and Battalions 5/6. Responding on the second alarm at 0743 were Engines 26/33/46, Trucks 15/23, Battalions 1/9, Deputy Chief 807, and 684/685/781/821/829/ 885/896. A third alarm was struck at 0823 with a response by Engines 15/19/23/25, Truck 36, Rescue 15, and 780/825/USAR 15. At 0847 a fourth alarm was requested with Engines 14/36/38, Trucks 19/24, Chiefs 801/808, Rescues 6/8/11/19/23/24/25, and 783/784/USAR 19. Due to the heat and humidity the Rehab Operations were a major concern to all hands and we were a popular spot to frequent.

We added four new probationary members since my last report. Jerry Jones joined our club in November, no not that Jerry Jones. In the spring Mike and Karen Hoskins joined the club along with Colin Wheeler. We presently have two prospective members waiting to accumulate ten runs prior to being allowed to formally apply for probationary member.

For more information please visit www. Box4.org.



# 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.

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By Chuck Bleck and Mike Penchar

Although the fire action has slowed down the past several months with only 24 multiple alarms through October 29<sup>th</sup>, the City did see two multiple alarm fires within two hours of each other on Wednesday, October 27 mainly due to the high wind conditions that gripped the City during the last week of October. The first fire was on the Northside in the trendy Lincoln Park neighborhood. The 3-11 alarm fire started in a 2-1/2 story frame building and spread to two additional 2-1/2 story frame buildings. Just after that fire was struck, another fire on

the far Southreached side the 2-11 alarm level with an EMS Plan 1 (5 ambulance response) for the back porches of apartment an building. Numerous rescues were made at this fire. An interesting incident occurred on June 29<sup>th</sup>. during the afternoon rush hour. A fire in one of the CTA subway tunnels prompted a 2fire 11 sponse and an

EMS Plan II response with over 12 CFD ambulances utilized. The fire involved creosote soaked railroad ties that caused a heavy smoke condition sending 19 people to the hospital for smoke inhalation.

Sadly, the CFD had its first line-ofduty death in three years. On August 9<sup>th</sup>, FFPM Chris Wheatley fell from a ladder while climbing to the roof of a four-story building. Over 4000 firefighters attended his funeral. The 5-11 Club had both of our canteens refreshing the mourners. Unfortunately, our canteens have also responded to the wakes and funerals of three CPD line-ofduty deaths in 2010.



Unit 8-8-11 Oxygen Bus (photo by Chuck Bleck)



Unit 8-8-7 Ford F-450 EMS Supply Unit (photo by Chuck Bleck)

In July, the City of Chicago named Robert S. Hoff to the position of Fire Commissioner. Chief Hoff had been Acting Commissioner since the resignation of the previous Fire Commissioner earlier this year.

Several new and interesting rigs have been recently put into service by the CFD. The EMS Bureau demonstrated two new rigs during an EMS week open house in May. An

Oxygen Bus, designated 8-8-11 has been put into service. The former CTA bus is an airconditioned 1995 New Flyer. Designed for mass casualty incidents, it has 30 ceiling-mounted oxygen ports for treating patients. It also has a cascade system for treating additional patients outside of the unit. An EMS Supply Unit, 8-8-7, was also shown. The 2006 Ford F450 has generators, an inflatable tent, cooling fans and additional EMS equipment that may be needed at mass casualty incidents. Another interesting rig, a Vacuum Rig, Unit 5-2-4 has recently entered service. The truck, a 1994 Ford L8000, was obtained from the Chicago Department of Streets and



Unit 5-2-4 Ford L8000 Vacuum Rig (*Photo by Mike Charnota*)

Sanitation, and has the capability to vacuum water, mud, sludge or dirt. Originally used to clean sewers, a similar unit was instrumental in a successful trench rescue operation earlier this year.

Three more Spartan/Crimson 1500 gpm with 500 gallon tanks have entered service. Seven new aerials are due soon. They will be Spartan/Crimson low profile cabs with 103-foot heavy-duty aerials. In the last issue, we mentioned that six new 2010 Ford/Braun ambulances were assigned to the EMS fleet. Two additional units were added to that order and an additional set of ambulances is being built and should be in service by the end of the year. Two new Oshkosh crash trucks have been built for O'Hare field. They will replace two older 3000 units. The new fireboat to replace Engine 58 (Victor I.

Schlaeger) is more than 60% finished and should be commissioned in 2011. The new boat is reported to have a 14,000 gpm capacity and a top speed of 14 knots, but will not have on-board crew quarters. Currently there is no information on the purchase of any new squad apparatus. Additional Ford Expedition SUVs are said to be in service by the end of year.

Engine 109's new quarters, at 2343 South Kedzie, is about 40% completed. The site will also have a public library. Another new firehouse is being planned to replace Engine 16's current quarters at 4005 South Dearborn.

On June 26<sup>th</sup>, the 5-11 Club held its Annual Fire Muster and Flea Market. The event was attended by over 60 vendors, numerous antique rigs with several CFD frontline units paying visits during the day. In July, our canteen unit put in five days of duty at the Fire and Rescue International Convention at McCormick Place. The event was attended by 14,000 fire chiefs, officers and vendors. The event was highlighted by a MABAS drill which saw 300 fire apparatus from 150 departments respond to three staging areas for a mock drill showing the capability of a 90-minute response time window.

Our annual Firefighter-of-the-Year and Paramedic-of-the-Year awards were presented at our annual awards banquet held on October 9<sup>th</sup>. FF Jason Durbin of Truck 2 was our Firefighter of the Year for his dramatic 28<sup>th</sup> floor rescue of a woman at a high-rise fire while off duty. Our Paramedic of the Year was Erik Tweedt of Ambulance 34 who intervened in an assault in progress without waiting for police protection. On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Chicago Axemen Motorcycle Club held a fundraiser in support of our canteen operations. The funds raised from a 50/50 raffle and the sale of tee-shirts will go a long way to keeping our canteens stocked and in



Fallen Firefighter Stockyards Plaque (Photo by Chuck Bleck)

operation.

Club members also attended the memorial for the Fallen 21 of the December 22, 1910 Stockyards fire. Over 300 CFD members, families and friends attended this event honoring the firefighters who died at the Nel-

son-Morris Warehouse explosion on that fateful day. The memorial is 100 feet west of the entrance of the Stockyards. A bronze plaque telling the story of the fire 100 years ago this vear was placed at the me-Commissioner morial. Hoff also placed the name FF Chris Wheatley on a black granite marker listing all of the firefighters who gave their lives in the line of duty since the paid department was formed in 1858.

As always, if you are planning a visit to Chicago, please contact us for a tour by visiting our website at www.5-11Club.org or calling one of our members listed in the Visiting Fireman.

# Milwaukee Fire Bell Club, Inc.

### Prepared by Gary Schmidt, ESU Chairman

2010 continued to be historic for Milwaukee area fire departments and the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club.

In May, Mark Rohlfing was sworn in as City of Milwaukee's Fire Chief, becoming the first chief not to rise up from the ranks. Chief Rohlfing was previously Fire Chief of Rapid City, South Dakota, after serving 25 years on the Omaha, Nebraska Fire Department. Chief Rohlfing is reorganizing the traditional structure of the Milwaukee Fire Department, moving from one direct report to three Assistant Chiefs (Administrative Support, Operations, and EMS/Training/Education).

The Milwaukee Firefighters Union was un-

successful in gaining back the loss of a Truck company in 2009 and an Engine Company in 2008, but continues to be optimistic with the relationship with the new Fire Chief. There is also hope that the newly elected Governor of Wisconsin (taking office in January 2011), who resided in Milwaukee County, will put forth legislation favorable to Milwaukee Firefighters in 2011. It is expected that rotating closures of two engine companies on a daily basis will continue in 2011.

Two of the largest recruit training classes in decades (49 members and 31 members) graduated in 2010. The City of Milwaukee has its own training academy. Over 6,000 applied for the positions. Almost 8% of the fire-fighting force has less than 1 year on the job.

As reported in the Spring 2010 Turnout, the Milwaukee Department made history by invoking MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System), bringing in nine suburban departments to man City firehouses during a large fire. Since then, during 2010, a joint training session occurred at a Milwaukee Firehouse with 6 suburban departments (another first), and the City of Milwaukee Fire Department, along with several suburban departments. participated in the FRI (Fire Rescue International) event in marking Chicago, the first joint training exercise for the Cities of Chicago and Milwaukee Fire Departments.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup>, there

was a historic weather event that cause havoc in the area, affecting one Fire Department more than others. A line of summer thunderstorms developed in the early afternoon along a slow moving weather front. The North Shore Fire Department (NSFD), a consolidation of Fire Departments from the seven contiguous cities and villages in the northeast pocket of Milwaukee County, was called to provide Mutual Aid just across the County line to the Mequon Fire Department for a structure fire caused by lightning from the



(Above) The Escalade kept running for 15+ hours after falling into the sink hole caused by record rains. The driver self-evacuated before Fire personnel arrived. Photo by Mark Pawlik.

(Below) Underpasses on the expressway filled with several feet of water, stopping traffic (note bridge in background). Many commuters could not traverse the city on many streets and highways in the northern half of Milwaukee County for hours until the water subsided. Photo by Mike De Sisti.



storms to first pass through. Within the hour, a second line of storms, with high drifted winds, south, passing through northern Milwaukee County around 4pm, resulting in many calls for serfor vice the NSFD. The NSFD mutual aid units were released from the Mequon fire and responded back into their territory. While enroute. another storm line came through, and those crews had to respond to lightning striking their own firehouse

Soon after, another line of storms came through and stalled over the area. In less than 2 hours, over 8 inches of rain fell (a record) in a 5

square mile area, with the rest of the County still getting over 4 inches of rain. Residential streets turned into rivers as rush hour ensued. The metropolitan sewage system became overloaded. Basements were flooding causing electrical hazards. The NSFD was responding to one call after another to rescue people trapped by high waters. The Milwaukee Fire Department was also overwhelmed, with many "dive rescue" assignments for cars in street underpasses. The foundations on several houses were crushed inward by the



Parking structure collapse – note the fallen slab on the right side. Photo by WITI-TV

rushing water. A local high school suffered millions of dollars in flood damage to first floor and lower level classrooms. Fire trucks from both the NSFD and the Milwaukee Fire Department often had to park blocks from their destination and wade through waist high water and sewage to reach the calls for service. Then, the NSFD 911 Call Center was flooded out, forcing dispatchers to relocate to a backup center (lasting several weeks).

Other parts of the County also had problems of their own with up to 4 inches of rain (it's rare to even get an inch of rain at a time). The Wauwatosa Fire Department had several inches of water in the ground level of their new fire house opened just weeks earlier.

With all off-duty firefighters called back in, and after 4 straight hours of being in the field, the North Shore Fire Chief wanted to pull a MABAS Box for help, however, all departments in the County were strapped dealing with their own calls. This forced the NSFD to go to the Interdivisional Request (beyond the 5<sup>th</sup> alarm on the box card) to

bring in a task force from Ozaukee County (next county to the north).

By 10pm, the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club was called to provide a meal to the NSFD and the Ozaukee County task force. The driver of the canteen rig had to carefully map out a route, bypassing any roadways that might have an underpass. With rain still falling, it was a rigorous trip.

That was one of a dozen responses made by the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club in 2010. Again, the runs were bunched together – only 2 emergency

responses in the first 5 months of 2010, followed by 8 runs in 7 weeks, then a 3 month gap before another 3 alarm fire in October.

In addition to the response on the night of the flood, two other responses stood out. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club was called for the first time for a MABAS Box alarm in Division 119, Ozaukee County. Division 119 had just formed a few months earlier (about 40% of Wisconsin has joined the MABAS system). We are looking forward to serving those communities.

The next day, a very tragic incident occurred. In downtown Milwaukee, it was a sunny day, the first day of the annual 11-day Summerfest music and entertainment venue on the shores of Lake Michigan. On foot, a family with a teenage son and his friend were exiting out of a County owned Parking structure. As they passed under the outer wall of the garage, a 27,000 pound, 30 foot section of concrete façade fell, crushing a 15 year old boy, injuring the other teenager, and briefly trapping the mother (who later required a leg

amputation). The Milwaukee Fire Department's Heavy Rescue Team responded, but there was nothing that could be done for the deceased. This now turned into a crime scene, complicated by the fact it was a county-owned structure within the City of Milwaukee. Dual (City and County) sets of Law Enforcement, officials, engineers, evidence photographers, and other inspectors

descended upon the scene. The entire structure's stability was in question. Preserving evidence and obtaining the proper equipment to remove the large slab resulted in a painstakingly slow process. Three hours into the incident, the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club was called to provide food and beverages, locating the Canteen rig in a discrete area away from the media and the public. We were on scene for 3 hours until the body was removed.

This year was historic for another reason – the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club is in the process of rolling out a second rehab vehicle. In over 40 years of providing rehab services, including hot and cold beverages, ability to make a beef stew, being able to setup a tent with a misting unit, having chairs, boot

warmers, and dry socks for beleaguered emergency workers, we still were lacking a service that was asked for at almost every incident – "Do you have a restroom"?

Upon receiving a sizeable donation, we embarked on purchasing such a vehicle, modeled after the unit in use by the Central Alarmers rehab club in Baltimore MD. Our unit has dual unisex interior restrooms, a rehab area with seating for 8-10 firefighters, and

exterior cabinets to hold a refrigerator, a hot water dispenser for instant coffee, cocoa, and soup, a misting unit, and a rehab tent. Approximately 2 dozen chairs are stored underneath the interior bench sets. We just got it delivered and are learning the art of restroom management. We expect to get it fully operational in early 2011.



New mobile restroom, showing awning extended, and the exterior compartment containing a refrigerator. The chairs are stored in the interior of the vehicle. (Below) Interior of the mobile restroom, looking towards the rear, dual restrooms. On the left is the indentation made by the exterior compartment containing the refrigerator. The bench seats on the right lift up, providing for storage of the chairs underneath. Note the left restroom has a doorway to access a rear storage compartment that will hold the misting unit. Photos by Gary Schmidt



# Region 7

2-11 Assn. Phoenix Fire Buffs, Inc.
Box 15 Club of Los Angeles
Fire Associates of Santa Clara Valley
Mountain NewsNet
Peninsula Fire Buff Club
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

#### Wednesday, August 18, 2010 Fire Associates in the News

Recently, John Whitaker, FASCV President, and Jerry Haag, a member of the Board of Directors, met with a reporter from the *Santa Clara Weekly* newspaper. The organization

had been approached by
Melissa
McKenzie to do a
story about the
group's fire support operations.
Melissa and her
photographer
were very interested in what
they heard.



The interview was conducted at Santa Clara City Fire Station 9. Since the newspaper's circulation area is primarily within the City of Santa Clara, it was thought appropriate to meet at the station that houses our support unit that covers that vicinity.

The result of this meeting was a very nice, full-page article (with photos) that appeared in the August 18 - August 24, 2010 issue of the newspaper. If you live within the circulation area, check it out on Page 7. If not, you can read the article on line at this link: "Santa Clara Valley Group Helps Firefighters"

(Reprinted from the Santa Clara Weekly)

#### Santa Clara Valley Group Helps Firefighters

By Melissa McKenzie

Whenever firefighters are battling blazes, the Fire Associates of Santa Clara Valley are

there, away from the dangerous flames, but making sure each and every fire-fighter going into the inferno gets a little bit of relief when they come out. FASCV provides canteen and rehab support to firefighters. Be-

cause of the dangers and risks involved with the job, the National Fire Protection Association has set guidelines recommending that once a firefighter goes into the fire, he be rotated out after twenty minutes of work. They suggest each firefighter receive at least a tenminute break to rest and replenish. This time of rest is where FASCV serves water, coffee, Gatorade, lemonade, Clif Bars, snacks and pre-prepared food. "We primarily provide the rest, rehydration and food service needs of the fire department," said FASCV's president, John Whitaker. "We need to be there when firefighters have done their job and need help."

FASCV is not associated with any fire department or the Santa Clara County volunteer firemen. Instead, they are a volunteer, 35-member task force called to assist on all fires

greater than two alarms. The group, formed in 1969 and run more like a club with elected officers and member dues, is funded entirely through donations. "We provide our services at absolutely no cost to the departments," said Whitaker.

When a call goes out, FASCV members are automatically sent a page. Regardless of if the call is at 2 p.m. or 2 a.m. someone must respond. "In 41 years, and over 2,400 incidents, we've never missed a call for help. Someone from our group has always responded," said Whitaker.

When FASCV gets to the scene, they take their direction from the incident commander. "The incident commander will tell us where to set up Rehab. Once he does, he can rely on us to know what to do," said Whitaker. "We don't try to be firefighters. We are aware that we are invited to the scene to do a specific job." Whitaker continued, "We never tell them what we need. We ask them what they need from us."

After a call, the rehab vehicle gets returned to the station. Currently, FASCV owns three rigs that are housed at various departments in the county, two in San Jose and one at Station 9 in Santa Clara. "The space is provided for us because they want us to be well-positioned," said Whitaker. The group also has a 4th vehicle owned by a member, Larry Carr, who has outfitted his personal camper as a rehab canteen to meet the needs of FASCV.

In 2009, FASCV was able to purchase a 2008 Ford F-550 turbo diesel 4x4 by raising \$70,000 in donations, but before last year all of the vehicles used were hand-me-downs donated or purchased from fire or civil service departments.

This year, they were able to purchase a 1996 GMC Isuzu from a used truck dealer in Davis. "If we had sat down and written the ideal specs for a new rig, it would probably be close to this vehicle," said Jerry Haag, a member of the group's board of directors.



The rig, which is housed at Santa Clara's Station 9, was modified to fit FASCV's needs by fleet manager, Don Gilbert. Gilbert installed a 60-gallon potable water tank, electric water pump, and a faucet at the back of the vehicle. Gilbert also installed a 5000-watt Honda generator which provides the power for the rig's area lighting, hot water, and coffee pots. FASCV does all rig modifications themselves. "After 41 years, we have a pretty good idea of what we need," said Whitaker. While most large departments are able to provide their own rigs and staff for rehab, smaller departments rely on groups like FASCV for support. "In California, it's rare for a department to have a volunteer rehab group," said Whitaker. "Locally, there are only three like us. We cover all of Santa Clara County, another group does San Mateo County and a third group covers the Sacramento area "

Based on the hours (24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year), most of the members are retired but all of them are passionate about FASCV and the service they provide. "If we can provide our services at no cost, we are happy to do it. That's our way of giving back to the community," said Whitaker. For more information on FASCV or to inquire about volunteering, please visit their website at www.fascv.org.

The May issue of "Turnout" told of our acquisition of a 1997 GMC/Isuzu as a Fire Support Unit. This rig is now in service as Fire Support Unit One, and can be seen by visiting our blog: http://fascv.blogspot.com, where it is pictured in action at a 10/3/10 three-alarm apt. bldg. fire in the City of Santa Clara. The blog also has summaries and pictures of our latest responses.

Our present roster of Fire Support Units is as follows:

Fire Support Unit 1, described above, housed at Fire Station 9 in the City of Santa Clara.

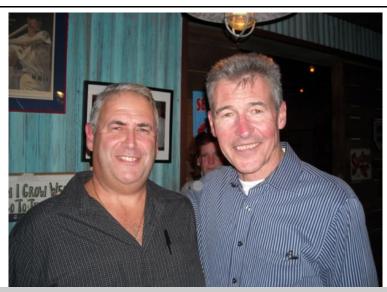
Fire Support Unit 2, a 2008 Ford F550, housed at San Jose F.D. Sta. 6

Fire Support Unit 3, a 1989 Ford F350, housed at San Jose F.D. Sta. 35

The former Fire Support Unit 3, which had been a San Jose F.D. patrol tanker, has been donated to the San Jose Fire Museum organization. We had used it as a reserve Fire Support Unit. However, with the above roster, we now have, for the first time, 3 front line Fire Support Units. In addition to seeing them in action on our blog; pictures of them also are available on the Santa Clara County F.D. website: http://www.sccfd.org/fire\_associates.html

We are having a very active year. As of the end of October, we had responded to 81 incidents, compared to 67 a year ago, and 75 two years ago.

Our membership remains strong, at 33 members, down from 34 because we lost one this past year, past president and active responder, Dan Ross, who succumbed to cancer at the young age of 54.



IFBA Secretary Gerry Mahoney with Randolph Mantooth, who played Johnny Gage on the hit Television series *Emergency!* back in the 70's. Mr. Mantooth was in Cambridge, MA to attend the Massachusetts Region IV EMS Awards night on October 28, 2010.

## 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

An old and faithful friend of the Indianapolis Fire Buffs recently went back home after a lengthy visit. City of Bloomington, IN fire department's 1950 Ford pumper was returned to that city in a transaction that brought a 1967 Maxim (ex-IFD #16) to us. Thanks for Firefighters Local 416 for their assistance in this exchange.

Our historians have helped provide a new display, celebrating IFD's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, at the Indianapolis Public Library. See it online at http://digitallibrary.imcpl. org/ffm/ Local public broadcasting station WFYI is working on a filmed history of the department, expected to be shown in Spring, 2011. Some of the scenes were shot at our reserve station #12.

Membership has seen several new applicants. We had to say good-bye to Morris Chambers, who is survived by members son Dennis and grandson David . Raymond J. Hill, Past President from 1964, was laid to rest in August, 2010.

Our RSU (Rehab Support Units) remain a major focus, as we attempt to keep our again fleet mechanically sound. Our adopted ambulance-body form the former Warren Township of Marion County, IN, has been retired, mechanical. We have been provided a former support van from (now combined) Franklin Township, Marion County, IN. It

will require some mechanical upgrades and interior retrofitting to provide our services to public safety.

Expansion of Indianapolis Fire Department continued July 1 when Franklin Township in Southeast Marion County was added to IFD. Four stations, eight apparatus and all manpower were absorbed into Battalions 4 and 6. An approving vote by the City-County Council recently o.k.'d Lawrence Township in



A former Franklin Township Support Unit has become the latest addition to IFB's fleet of Rehab Support Units. "Big Red" will take the place of recently decommissioned RSU-1. The big debate is whether this will be designated at RSU-1 or RSU-4. Photo by Peter Boele.

Northeast Marion County to join the city department January 1, 2011. Stations have already been renumbered to 9,17,28 (old, retired IFD stations).

Our website www.indianapolisfirebuffs.org

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has a new look. More changes and upgrades are planned.

Reserve station 12 served as a polling place during the Fall elections. Members continue to host Wishard Hospital medics #27 and #15 at this location.

Our monthly meeting in June, 2010, was hosted by the Indianapolis International airport fire station #2.

A Corn Hole (bean bag toss game) tournament was sponsored by the club August 15. Donated prizes and extra shirt sales led to a tidy profit, used for RSU expenses. Our annual Hawaii trip fundraiser was completed successfully between September and November, with fourteen lucky winners sharing a

\$3500 jackpot and two extra prizes. IFBA regional meetings from #4 and #8 were hosted August 27 and 28 at the Extended Stay Hotel near the old Indianapolis Airport. IFB member Ed McMichael was elected Region 8 vice-president and sworn in during 58<sup>th</sup> annual IFBA meeting October 16. Jim Williamson was recognized for past service in Region 8 and as former national president of IFBA.

Apparatus buffs should note that IFD ladder 29 recently added to the Indianapolis fleet was formerly on the TV show "Rescue Me" as FDNY ladder 62.

Best holiday wishes to our friends and frequent visitors from coast to coast.

Indianapolis area fire activity has seen a number of larger fires of late, which, of course, has led to a number of Fire Buff responses. Shown below are a number of notable incidents. All photos by Tod Parker. For more extensive views, visit his website at www.phototac.com.



11-24-10: Flames could be seen for miles in the night sky as the mess and assembly hall at Camp Belzer, a local Boy Scout camp, burned. Located in a heavily wooded area with one hydrant in the vicinity, this fire required a tanker shuttle utilizing tankers from five departments. The building was a total loss and took over two hours to get this extra working companies fire under control. The cause was traced to improperly stored floor finishing chemicals. It was reported the Scouts had contracted with a local company to strip and reseal the floors.



11-11-10: Crews from Carmel, Fishers, Westfield, and IFD responded to this 3 alarm strip mall fire. The original fire started about 4:30 am at a Dunkin Donuts and quickly spread to the rest of the mall. Crews were on the scene for five hours before declaring it under control. A total of five master streams operated at this fire.

10-27-10: Fire broke out at this office plaza about 2:15 am and required extra working companies to extinguish it. The fire building is located directly next door to the Wayne Township Fire Headquarters on the west side of Indianapolis.





11-9-10: Heavy smokes envelopes this IFD aerial on its arrival at this two alarm apartment fire. A "Mayday" was called for a missing fire-fighter, but that was quickly resolved. About six units were totally gutted, with several more sustaining damage. Several residents were displaced and required assistance. The cause is still under investigation.

# 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.

South Jersey Fire Photographer's Assn.

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

Third Alarm Association



### GONG CLUB, INC.

**JERSEY CITY, NJ** 

by Paul Schaetzle

#### A MEMORIAL DAY TO REMEMBER!

Memorial Day, a day to remember those who died to keep us free, also marks the unofficial beginning of summer. The weather in our area seemed more like mid summer with the temperature peaking at 86 degrees in the afternoon. In these hot, sweltering conditions, Jersey City Fire Fighters battled their first 4th Alarm of 2010, in fact the first 4th Alarm since May 11, 2008 (Box 330, 268-74 St. Paul's Ave.)!



Ladder Companies 11-12 taking advantage of Car 26's misting fan, cold towels and bottled water after a tough fight. (Jack Cole Photo)

Shortly after 15:00 hours, companies were dispatched to Box 681, for a report of a fire at 50 Belmont Ave. at Crescent Ave., a somewhat familiar address, as this corner has seen many a multiple alarm fire over the years. Eng. Co. 9 reported smoke in the area, but Squad 4 called off first, with Capt. Stephen Rykola reporting a working fire plus a report of people trapped. Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Timothy Foy, followed up with 2nd and 3rd Alarms in rapid fire succession. Two buildings were heavily involved with the vinyl siding melting off a third unattached dwelling.

Fire involved a 3 story frame building at #50 and a 2 story frame dwelling at #48. Flames funneled up an air shaft between the attached buildings, melting vinyl siding and then engulfing old "gasoline" shingles beneath the newer covering. #48 Belmont had been a 3 story multiple dwelling at one time, an earlier fire resulting in the building to "shrink", but that's another story!

Today's fire fight sapped the collective resources of nearly every FDJC company with a 4th Alarm struck at 15:36 and an ensuing special call at 15:50 bringing Eng. Co. 13 and North Hudson Squad Co. 7 to the fire. Lad. Co. 12 used their ladder pipe to darken down the heavy fire and Ladder Tower 4 had their bucket in position to cut off further eastward extension of the fire. Embers did ignite roofing of a row of attached garages to the rear on Gardner Ave. but Engine Companies 5 and 18 quickly kept that extension at bay. Once the fire had been knocked down, all hands went to work

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extinguishing pockets of fire in both buildings with handlines.

The oppressive heat took its toll on the troops, with some 10 members transported to the Jersey City Medical Center. Fortunately none of the injuries was serious. Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, turned out immediately on the 2nd Alarm as 2 members were in quarters when the box struck. Deputy Chief Patrick Spellman and Member Jim Fay responded directly to the fire in their own vehicles and then made a run back to quarters for additional ice and water. This was the first real test for the Club's new large capacity ice machine and the unit supplied ample ice for the entire operation. Copious amounts of ice and cold drinks were the order of the day with Car 26 dispensing some 350 bottles of water, 15 gallons of Gatorade, 50 cold towels and deployed the misting fan for the first time this season.

#### Rundown:

15:05 Box 681 Sqd. 4 Eng. Co. 9-10-8 Lad. Co. 12-11 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 4 MSU Safety Batt.

15:07 WF 681 Batt. 2 Eng. Co. 17-22

15:09 2-2 681 Eng. Co. 2-7 Lad. Co. 4 Car 1-3-26

15:14 3-3 681 Eng. Co. 11-18 Lad. Co. 9-2 Car 30

15:36 4-4 681 Eng. Co. 5-6 Lad. Co. 6

15:50 S/C 681 Eng. Co. 13 North Hudson Sqd. Co. 7 North Hudson Batt. 1

#### WEEHAWKEN HOMES WRECKED

Thursday afternoon, August 5, 2010 was another sultry summer day in New Jersey. After enduring the hottest July in recent memory, the temperature again rose to oppressive levels. The thermometer stood at 91 degrees when fire erupted on a tree lined Weehawken street overlooking the New York skyline. North Hudson companies were

dispatched at 1656 hours to 24 49th St. between Park Ave. and Blvd. East. Ladder Co. 3 arrived from their quarters 3 blocks south to find a large 2.5 story frame dwelling heavily involved. Calls for help were fast and furious. Within 5 minutes of the initial alarm, a 3rd Alarm had been transmitted, soon followed by a 4th Alarm. Numerous hand lines were stretched. bolstered by a telesqurt and ladder pipe. Despite these efforts, fire extended to both exposures, prompting a 5th Alarm at 1758. As remaining North Hudson units covered that assignment, the 5th Alarm units were all companies from West Hudson, a rather unusual sight for the northern part of the county!

The century old house proved no match for the ravaging flames. As fire tore through the roof, portions of the building collapsed, requiring the withdrawal of all units from the building. Significant fire damage occurred in both exposures; similar, unattached dwellings. Although fire was under control by 1900, companies remained on the scene well into the night, knocking down many hidden pockets of fire within the buildings. The attached photo shows fire through the roof at the rear of the building some 2 hours into the incident. A good portion of the fire building collapsed about 2100, with debris bouncing off several trees in front of the building.

Displaced families were temporarily sheltered at a nearby Elks Lodge on 50th St. Some 12 fire fighters were injured, mostly suffering from the effects of the severe heat. Gong Club Members Jim Fay and Giuseppe Tartaglia were in quarters when the 3rd Alarm struck, turning out with Car 26 immediately. They were joined by other members at the scene, distributing 10 gallons of Gatorade and 177 bottles of water to thirsty troops.

#### Response:

1656 1st Alarm Sq. 1 Sq. 10 Eng. Co. 3 Sq. 7 Lad Co. 3-4 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 2

1659 2-2 Eng. Co. 9-4-13 Lad. Co. 5 Batt. 3 Safety Officer MSU

1701 3-3 All FDJC Companies: Eng. Co. 5-17 Lad. Co. 6 Batt. 3 Car 26

1707 4-4 FDJC Eng. Co. 8 Hoboken Eng. Co. 1 No. Hudson Lad. Co. 1

1758 5-5 Harrison Eng. Co. 3 Kearny Eng. Co. 2 Harrison Lad. Co. 1

#### FIRE TAKES NO HOLIDAY!

Labor Day meant plenty of labor for Jersey City Fire Fighters on a sunny afternoon that otherwise would have been the perfect ending to the summer. Jersey City Fire Dispatch began receiving calls for a fire at 83A Bleecker St., a residential neighborhood in The Heights section of the city. Box 462 was struck at 1323 hours and Eng. Co. 18 reported heavy smoke in the area as they turned out. First due Eng. Co. 11, commanded by Capt. Robert Jaeger, reported heavy fire on the 2nd floor of a 2 story attached

dwelling. Batt. 3, Acting Battalion Chief Michael Monaghan reported, "fire extending into the exposures; we need a 2nd Alarm on this".

2nd Alarm units were ordered to stage at Kennedy Blvd. & Bleecker St. and await orders. Eng. Co. 5-9 and Lad. Co.9 were soon directed to South St. to join Eng. Co. 18 in attacking the fire from the rear. Acting B. C. Monaghan now reported that the fire building was fully involved and this would be a defensive operation. Fire rapidly jumped an empty lot to the west and was melting the vinyl siding off a 2 story dwelling at 87

Bleecker St. Deputy Chief Michael Terpak assumed command, sized up the situation and transmitted a 3rd Alarm at 13:38 hours.

Several handlines were operated from both Bleecker and South Streets. Ladder Companies 6 and 7 threw their sticks and all hands set to work to hold the fire before it could extend further. Their efforts paid off as further extension was halted. 83 and 83A Bleecker St., similar attached 2 story dwellings, were heavily damaged. Although



Jersey City Fire Fighters laboring on Labor Day to bring this 3<sup>rd</sup> Alarm under control. (Adolf Paasburg Photo)

the east side wall of #87 has seen better days, extension to the interior of the dwelling was held in check.

This marks the first 3rd Alarm for Acting Chief of Department Darren Rivers, who was on the scene and then responded to the Jersey City Medical Center to check on 5 fire fighters who were injured battling the blaze. Since Chief of Dept. Michael O'Reilly retired on August 31, 2010, Acting Chief Rivers has now been challenged by 2 multiple alarms, the first being a 2nd Alarm at Box 114, 123 Grand St., on September 2, 2010. Car 26, the Gong Club canteen,

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operated at the 3rd Alarm for 2 1/2 hours, dispensing 146 bottles of water and 6 gallons of Gatorade.

#### Response:

1323 Box 462 Eng. Co. 11-18-7-15 Lad. Co. 7-6 Res. Co. 1 MSU Batt. 3 Div. 1 Safety Batt.
1326 WF 462 Sqd. Co. 4 Lad. Co. 11 Batt. 4
1329 2-2 462 Eng. Co. 5-9-6 Lad. Co. 9 Car 1-3-26-1066
1338 3-3 462 Eng. Co. 8-17 Lad. Co. 2 Car 30

Donoghue and Div. 1, Deputy Chief Michael Terpak, methodically set up water supplies, including a 5" line stretched from Marine Co. 1, the Joseph Lovero. Just over 1 hour later, Deputy Chief Terpak struck a 2nd Alarm, followed by a special call for the Foam Tender and the Quick Response Vehicle. These rigs are provided by an Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program by the State of New Jersey. Similar apparatus has been distributed to other major cities in North Jersey. The QRV is a pick up truck with 2 deck guns capable of delivering both foam and water.

### LONG NIGHT ON LINDEN AVE.

Jersey City Fire Fighters battled their second 4th Alarm of the year at a familiar address, the Claremont Terminal recycling facility at 1 Linden Ave.
East. Although it has borne a variety of names over the years, now known as Sims Management, the operation has remained unchanged for decades. Scrap cars are stripped of all non-metallic material and the remaining metal is compressed into neat little boxes. Every so often a not so next and not so little fire rayages.

neat and not so little fire ravages the pile of material stripped from the vehicles.

Such was the situation when Box 918 was transmitted at 2259 hours on Saturday, October 16, 2010. Everyone dreads the sound of that Box and their worst fears were confirmed when Capt. William Cuttingham of Eng. Co. 13 reported a working fire. The Sims facility sits on Upper New York Bay, on a small peninsula accessible only by Linden Ave. East. Batt. 2, B. C. Charles



Jersey City Mayor Jerramiah Healy administers the Oath of Office to Chief of Department Darren E. Rivers at the City Hall Council Chambers on September 24, 2010. (Ron Jeffers Photo)

Master streams from engine companies, ladder pipes and the QRV made nary a dent in the huge pile of burning material, some 50 feet high and occupying a land area of approximately 300' x 500'. Smoke billowed from the pile of rubbish across the harbor, resulting in nearly 100 boxes being transmitted by the F. D. N. Y. for smoke in Manhattan and Brooklyn. A Third Alarm was transmitted at 0108 hours. All hands worked into the dawn's early light, a tedious, filthy operation, sapping the energy of even

the strongest fire fighters.

At 0505 hours a 4th Alarm was transmitted for relief purposes. These companies swapped rigs with engines that were pumping supply lines and master streams, allowing crews that had worked through the night a chance to return to quarters. Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, made an all night stand, manned by Members Jim Fay and Giuseppe Tartaglia. This fire marked the longest time in operation for Marine Co. 1, the Foam Tender and the QRV.

#### Response:

2259 Box 918 Eng. Co. 13-22-19-8 Lad. Co. 8-11-12 Res. Co. 1 Mar. Co. 1 (with Lad. Co. 2 aboard) Batt. 2, Div. 1, MSU, Safety Batt. 2303 WF 918 Sqd. Co. 4 Batt. 4 0005 2-2 918 Eng. Co. 11-2-10 Lad. Co. 9 Car 1-3-26 0019 S/C Foam Tender Quick Response Vehicle 0108 3-3 918 Eng. Co. 15-5 Lad. Co. 6 0112 S/C Batt. 3 0505 4-4 918 Eng. Co. 6-7-14-9 Lad. Co. 7 Return Signal 1353

#### **CHANGING OF THE GUARD**

With the change of occupants of the Governor's office in Trenton, looming changes in the New Jersey Police & Fire Retirement System have prompted a mass exodus of senior police and firefighting personnel across the state. Jersey City has not been exempt from this stampede, with 112 fire fighters and officers retiring in the past year! 10 of the Department's 12 Deputy Chiefs have "put in their papers" and Chief of Department Michael

O'Reilly also hung up his helmet on September 1, 2010.

Next in line to head the uniformed force is Deputy Chief Darren Rivers, who took the Oath of Office for Chief of Department on September 24, 2010. Chief Rivers, who last commanded Group D, started his career at Ladder Co. 12 under the tutelage of long time Gong Club member, the late Fire Fighter Charles Choffey! We are sure Chief Rivers will rise to the occasion and provide outstanding leadership to the FDJC in these challenging times. Best wishes also to Chief O'Reilly in his retirement!

#### 2011 CONVENTION SET

Make sure to check elsewhere in this edition of Turn Out, check your e-mail or check your mail box for the latest news on the 2011 IFBA Convention in New Jersey. The schedule of events has been finalized, the Hasbrouck Heights Hilton is ready to accept your reservation and the Convention is offering a very attractive savings for early registrants. Don't delay; send your reservation today, save some cash and join is here September 6-10, 2011 for a Convention to remember!



Jersey City Haz Mat 1: 2010 Freightliner Wheeled Coach will augment the tractor trailer used for large scale incidents. (Ron Jeffers photo)

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Jersey City Ladder Co. 3. The city's second Crimson will continue Ladder Co. 3 boasting the only tillered aerial ladder in the Department: a 2010 100' with a Spartan Gladiator cab. (Ron Jeffers photo)

#### **Elizabeth FD Trench Training**

During the week of September 20, 2010 all four tours of the Elizabeth Fire Department Special Operations Division participated in their annual trench rescue drill. This year's drill was conducted under the direction of Capt. Dale Arthur, Rescue Co 1- Tour 1 and Firefighter Steven Campbell, Rescue Co. 1- Tour 1 in conjunction with the Training Division. An "L" shaped trench, approximately 10 feet deep was used for the exercise.

All aspects of trench rescue were strictly enforced from safety, to the Incident Command System, to placement of trench panels and victim packaging and removal. The drill included the use of the new Paratech Whaler System which was purchased through a grant.

The Elizabeth FD has been running annual in-ground trench drills for the last 12 years. The department is one of only a handful in the state that conducts such training on a yearly basis. (Photo: Gary Haszko)



### REGION 9 CLUBS HONORED BY ST. BARNABAS BURN FOUNDATION



Accepting the awards for their clubs (l-r), Frank Sapienza, Bell & Siren Club; Debra Noble, Bayonne Fire Canteen; Paul Schaetzle, Gong Club. Box 54 was unable to attend. (Bill Ladell Photo)

The St. Barnabas Burn Foundation held its 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Valor Awards Banquet at Mayfair Farms, West Orange, NJ on October 28, 2010. More than 500 guests gathered to support the St. Barnabas Burn Center, New Jersey's premier burn care facility and honor 10 fire fighters and 2 police officers for their bravery during the past year. Channel 7 (ABC) News Anchor Bill Ritter received the Foundation's Humanitarian Award for his work with the station's "Operation 7 – Save A Life" campaign.

The Community Service Award was presented to the North Jersey member groups of the Fire Buff Association of New Jersey, hosts of the 2011 IFBA

Convention. The citation reads as follows:

"Tonight it is our privilege to honor the men and women who respond to major fires throughout the state, on call24/7, despite severe weather conditions. This time we are not referring to our brave fire fighters. We pay tribute to the organizations that comprise the Fire Buff Association of New Jersey: The Bell & Siren Club established in 1949; The Gong Club established in 1950; The Box 54 Club established in 1952 and The Bayonne Fire Canteen established in 1994. These non-profit organizations provide support services to fire fighters and emergency service workers at the fire scene in appreciation of the hard working public servants in and around their communities.

Once fires are under control, the Fire Buffs swing into action, dispensing hot beverages and food in the cold weather and cold beverage, cool towels and misting fans during the hot summer months. In the beginning, members would respond to fires using their own vehicles; but over the years they have managed to obtain canteen trucks to better serve the fire fighters. These clubs are staffed with volunteers who rely on donations to provide a service that is greatly appreciated by the fire service and EMS workers.

Saint Barnabas Burn Foundation is proud to present the Community Service Award to the members of the Fire Buff Association of New Jersey." - Paul Schaetzle

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Interesting article from the Home Insurance Magazine from 1959, courtesy of Gong Club Member Jim Fay. Sadly, both Home Insurance and the TAA are no longer in existence.

Jim also passed along the following news: **Hank Wegner** died yesterday, 11/28/10. He was an Honorary Deputy Commissioner and **President of the Third Alarm Assn.** Hank was 85 years old.

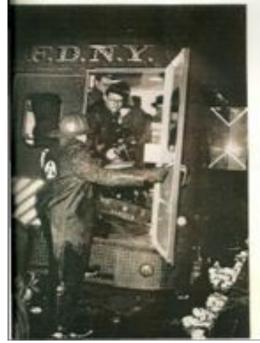


It usually comes in the small hours of bitterly cold receivings. A telephone rings insistently, It is lifted from its craffe, and a sleepy voice says, "Yes! Hello . . .?" Briefly the caller responds. "This is Manhattan Dispatcher. The third is in for Manhattan 692."

"Thank you, I'll get right on it?" The new fully awalerned occupant of an apartment somewhere in New York City hargs up his telephone, heads for his living room. There he switches on a radio even before he turns on the light. The next step is the long, misseographed salf list which is in its place near the extension telephone. Swittly, a rounder is dialed. Quietly, he speaks to the sleepy voice which answers the ringing.

"We've got one. Vinnie (or Tom, or Al, or Delf, or Robbie), four Box, Manhattan. It's 'Doubtful will hold' on the third. Call your group please and start the list. It's a had neighborhood for anything to be open this hour. I'm bodling a couple of gullons of water for my jug. You better do it, too. The boys'll love bouillon on a night like this. Most you in twenty mirrates, the usual place!"

let soup, cofee-a souch. F.D.N.Y. Canteen truck in notion





More have and hat softee

All phonos by Jack Broper, Coursely Globs Plot

Within minutes, stary telephones have been ringing from the north Beanx to Cedarhanus and East Rocknway. The call system of the Third Alarm Association of New York City is in operation. Very soon thereafter, the firemen battling the those alarm blaze somewhere in four of New York's five boroughs (Resoldyn has its own group, the 195 Chub), are passing the word, "They're bare! Third Alarmans! Boy, that bouillon is good (or the soffee)! Thanks, buddy!" and the paper cup with an start Red Cross printed on its tide, is lifted, steaming, in gloved hands, to the lips of the fireman under his iox-coated balant, as the imode rwirls, the lines of hose advance, the delage guts dash their streams of water into faming windows.

streams of water into flaming windows.

And that "Thanks, buddy!" is the only acculade ever looked for by these sixty-odd devoted men from all walks of life who comprise the Third Alarm Au'n., Inc.

resexprise the Third Alarm Au'n., Inc.

It all began at the ice-bouse fire in Washington Heights in 1944. The walls collapsed that wintry night, taking the tenessent next door with them, and forty-odd lives as well. There were a handful of Civil Defense Auxiliary firemen, all real fire buffs, at the scene. Before the jubwas done, these men had literally cleaned out every luncheonetts, restaurant and bakery in the neighborhood, in order to supply frezen, enhaused firemen with food and coffee as they held their lites assumd the diaster. Shortly thereafter, the group of buffs organized themselves, and with the guidance of Lieutenant Larry Harris, F.D.N.Y., now retired, and only two honorary members of the organization, the Third Alarm Association must in charter, and a degree of recogni-

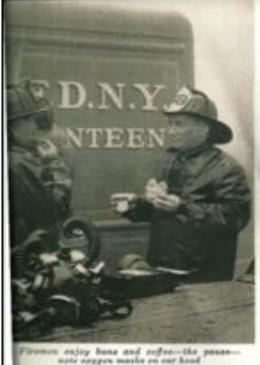
tion from the Fire Department of the City of New York.

Today, there are sixty-foor members of the group. Their second honorary mem-ber, in the filtren years of their existence, is George David, Chief of the New York Department. And if ever there was a completely democratic roster in the highest sense of the word, theirs is it. Men of every creed and color are members, and men from every walk of life. There are building superintendents, airline grease monkeys, a dumond merchant, the chairman of the board of a large corporation, a plomber, a waiter, an ambulance driver, a well-known writer, a velvet merchant, a button manufacturer, the chief purchasing agent of a hoge sirline, the Metropolican distributor of a national brand of baked goods, a brakerman on a railroad. The list oes on through nearly all walks and conditions of life. And all of them pay the same dues, have the same opportunity to hold office, and accept the some respon bility - "to assist in the welfare of the members of the New York Fire Depart-

Their "quarters" are in the lower floor of a two-family house in the Bronn, close to the Yankee Stadium. There they maintain a watch, have bells hooked up to the nearest firehouse, and there, in addition to monthly meetings, they came together for that occupation so dear to the hearts of buffs everywhere to "Shoot the Brezze" about the big fires they have seen and the experiences they had had in years of following the engines. More, their quarters are now a virtual museum of old, historic memorabilia of fire fighting, most of it loaned their by various organizations.

HOME MRIPRAIRE MAGAZINE 1959

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Contorners watch progress of fight



Contrevery contiously pick their way



F.D.N.Y. Cantern pooring



A freezing night-note icicles on truck



Allowyn on the job

Remotly, a change became necessary in duly operations. The could for amorpoin the New York Fire Department brought about the order which placed the Department's own canteen truck (designed and equipped largely by the Third Alsoners, with financial assistance from the Department's Welfare Fund and the Uniformed Firemen's Association of Greater New York) out of service. No longer would the truck, driven by uniformed firesom, respood to greater alarms, there to be servtord by the men of the T.A.A. Almost at once, negotiations were opened with the New York Chapter of the American Red Caus. Now the resolting agreement is in force. All the supplies needed: the bouillon, the equipment, the coffee, sundwiches, the cake, are provided by the Red Cross, and the work of the T.A.A. is an efficient as ever, and perhaps more so. At this writing, three Third Alarmore (the ambulance driver, the beer truck driver and the chairman of the board) are about to take their tests as official vehicle operators for the Red Cens, so that official Red Cross vehides will be operated by members of the

Among their yearly activities, in addition to their most welcome service at large

fires, is the presentation, each Medal Day, of the T.A.A. Medal for Valor to some forman chosen for the bonor by the Board of Merit, P.D.N.Y. This is the only unendowed needal so presented, and with it goes a one bundred dollar U.S. Savings Bond.

To list the fires at which these men have served, anonymously, quietly, efficiently, would be to list much all of the greater alarms in four New York C'ty Boroughs. At the Wooster Street Tragedy, where two fermen and four For Patroloun were buried in the weedkage of a collapsed building, the T.A.A. served in shifts around the clock, for seventy-two hours. and detailed a group of their members to serve at a four-slarm fire just across Manhattan Island, during the blizzard on the second night of the disaster. But this is only a single example of their work, their devotion. Let it be a long-drawn-cest fight against a lumber yard blace, a fire in an unfinished building where the companies have to be reached on wooden scattelding high against the sky, or a mean, hot, smoky cellar fire in a loft building, one can be certain, no matter what hour or weather, that somewhere on the scene, there will be men in blue caps, with "Cassoon" lencred on their rubber coats, trudging in their hoots, with their red jugs of soup or orfer, to be greeted always by "T.A.A.! Ger white. thanks buddy!"

Here from his Master, ownerly chared on president of the Third Alarm Assails. tion of New York City, consts this lively account of the activities of the service which carries to much torolog, closer and softwhenes to the fire fighters who work so hand and merifice so result in the pulbe improve.

Pethaps while you are emering the artitle of your large and the present of year loved over during the Heliday Sea on, these lade, both the frequent and the odd and he carrying on to left make a



Firefighters from Essex, Hudson and Bergen County battle this General Alarm Blaze in Belleville New Jersey on August 29, 2009. Buff clubs from these 3 counties will be hosting the 59th Annual IFBA Convention in Northern New Jersey September 6-10, 2011. Ron Jeffers photo.



Executive VP William Mokros administers the oath of office to Regional Vice Presidents Marc Wallace and Frank Novack, while Bob Deibler in the foreground ponders whether he should order dessert. The event occurred at the Indianapolis 58th Annual Meeting in October. Photo by Peter Boele,

## 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



#### **Convention News**

It's amazing how time flies when you are planning an event such as an I.F.B.A. convention. It seems it was only yesterday that the Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Association was awarded the honour of hosting the 2012 event. Yet a quick glance at the calendar shows that we have slightly more than a year and half until it all comes together. And we are happy to report that planning is well underway.

As mentioned in our previous article we have secured rooms and meeting space at the centrally located Sheraton Centre in downtown Toronto. This venue overlooks the scenic Nathan Phillips Square and is steps away from many shopping and tourist attractions. Many other points of interest can also be reached by subway or streetcars that are located right outside (or under) the Sheraton Centre. Information about the hotel and its services can be found at www. sheratontoronto.com

Many thanks to our fellow I.F.B.A clubs that have agreed to post links to our club website www.gtmaa.com and our convention site www.torcon2012.com . If your organization would be willing to add these links to your site our webmaster would be pleased to reciprocate.

#### **Club News**

The Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Association is pleased to welcome new member Larry Thorne. We also have two other applicants that are waiting to be voted in as full-fledged members. All three gentlemen are avid photographers and are eager participants in all club activities.

#### **Photography**

Many of our members are easily recognizable by the ever-present camera in their hands (or around their necks). Some of their finest work can be found at a website run by member Kevin Hardinge. Shots from recent fires, apparatus pictures and historic photos can all be found at www.tfspics.com . This site will surely help any visitor to Toronto in planning their tour. Toronto currently has 83 active stations in all sizes, shapes and layouts. The earliest dating from the early 1900's while the newest stations have been built in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In other words, there is something for everyone!

#### Support 7

Although our overall run numbers have not been as high as they were a few years ago the Support Unit continues to provide a much needed service to firefighters throughout the city.

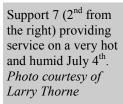
At 0550 on Sunday July 4<sup>th</sup> the Support Unit was dispatched to a 4<sup>th</sup> alarm at 15 Wallsend Dr in the east end of Scarborough. This area, known for its chemical based industries, has

been the scene of many serious fires over the years including the infamous 7<sup>th</sup> alarm chemical conflagration in April 2000. Even though the tones went off at the crack of dawn Toronto (and much of North America)

were in the middle of a massive heat wave and the mercury was quickly rising. The crew provided 4 hours of much appreciated service to the weary firefighters before clearing at 1000.



Crews monitor suppression activity at the 4<sup>th</sup> alarm on Wallsend *Photo courtesy of Desmond Brett* 



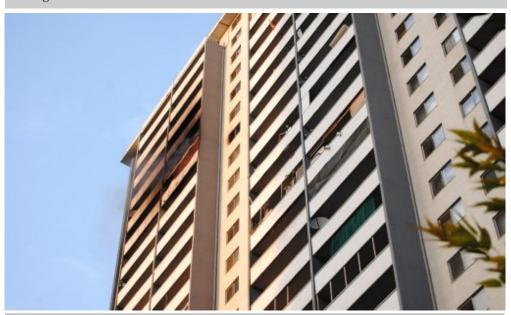


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On Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> Support 7 was dispatched to a 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm dwelling fire on Catalina Dr in the Guildwood area of Scarborough. A rotating crew of 10 members supplied 27.00 hours of service on yet another extremely hot and humid day.

Aerial 15 & Pumper 234 attacking a smoky house fire on Catalina Dr. *Photo courtesy of Kevin Hardinge* 



On Friday September 24<sup>th</sup> Support 7 responded to a 7th alarm at 200 Wellesley St E in the St Jamestown area of downtown Toronto. Crews had already been on scene since approximately 1730hrs and our sister club Box 12 had completely emptied their wares. A crew of 2 responded from the hall at 2040 and was met by 6 other members at the scene. Almost 55 hours of service were logged at this major incident.

An orange glow can be seen emanating from the 7<sup>th</sup> alarm at 200 Wellesley St East. *Photo courtesy of Larry Thorne* 



Support 7 operating later in the evening at 200 Wellesley St East. *Photo courtesy of Larry Thorne* 

In addition to emergency call outs Support 7 also takes part in several public service requests throughout the year. During the first week of October the rig attended two separate fire prevention week open house events held in the East Command.

Members Jennifer MacDonald, John Carey, Frank McKittrick, Caroline Wignall and guest Tom Luthi doling out beverages to the many attendees from the community. *Photo courtesy of Larry Thorne*)





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## Region 11

Central Florida Fire Buffs

Metropolitan Fire Assn. of Atlanta, GA.

## **Metropolitan Fire Association**

ATLANTA, GA

Article by: Jeffrey A. Harwell

Several unusual events took place in the metro Atlanta area since our last report. The first three major fires of the spring took place in the city of Atlanta. Around 10:30pm on April 3<sup>rd</sup> fire units arrived at the intersection of Murphy Avenue and Victory Drive SW to find a two story warehouse fully involved. A 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm was soon requested as units encountered difficulties in trying to set up aerial streams. Truck 16's ladder pipe was finally set up along with a number of deck guns. While Truck 10 was responding on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm they came across a working house fire at 1530 Livingston, thus some of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm units were diverted to the house fire. This event may not have been all that unusual in the 1970's, but it's become rather rare in recent years.

Just over a month later a mid-day 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm fire near the Georgia Tech campus made for some rather noteworthy news footage on May 7. The address was 547 MacAfee Street NW and fire had full procession of a three story garden type apartment building. Exposure protection soon became a primary concern and aerial streams from Truck 1 and 16 were quickly placed in service. Despite the heavy fire conditions, the fire was held to the building of origin.

Large wood frame buildings have always been a problem for the fire service during the construction stage. On the afternoon of May 9 the city of Atlanta faced another battle against one of these structures that was in the framing stage. Units were dispatch to a fire in an apartment building under construction on Joseph E. Lowery Boulevard. First in units immediately transmitted a 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm due to severe fire conditions and obvious exposure problems. In years gone by, jumping to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Alarm wasn't unheard of. These days it is. Multiple deck guns and ladder pipes were quickly placed in service. however companies began experiencing water pressure problems. That forced multiple alarm companies to bring water in from outlying hydrants. Crews were forced to deploy to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of Exposure D to attack fire extension in that building. The original fire building was completely consumed by fire with only the slab remaining after the fire. Both Engine and Truck 14 received substantial damage from radiant heat (Truck 14 was formerly Truck 17 and was moved into 14's not too long ago). Following the fire there was some question concerning whether Truck 14 was able to be repaired.

DeKalb County had back to back multiple alarm fires on successive days this summer. On June 26 a fire outside an apartment building at 4941 Central Drive spread quickly to the building itself creating heavy smoke conditions in the area. A few moments later another one alarm fire was transmitted for 6252 Memorial Drive. Although first in units reported heavy smoke showing at the US Auto Sales complex, they soon discovered the smoke was actually coming from the apartment fire which backed up to the Memorial Drive address. Thus units from this fire were quickly diverted to fill the 2<sup>nd</sup>

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Alarm assignment that had been transmitted on Central Drive. Three ladder pipes were necessary to gain control on the fully involved apartment building. ....Slightly less than 24 hours later a 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm was requested by units arriving at shopping center fire located at the intersection of Memorial Drive and Columbia Drive. Five businesses were either damaged or destroyed in this one story strip shopping center, including a church. Two additional engines and an additional truck were requested above the 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm which strained coverage enough that mutual aid was requested to fill in at several county stations.

The month of August featured two prolonged incidents that are not all that common. On the morning of August 26 Forest Park had their hands full with a working fire at the Clorax Plant on Lake Mirror Road. Although their was no chlorine leaking into the air, fire involved pine oil that was leaking from a railroad tank car. The fire spread to other vehicles in the vicinity as well as a storage shed and coolant station. A task force consisting of four engines and one truck company was requested through the GMAG mutual aid group, along with a crash rig from the Atlanta airport. Our Field Service Unit 880 was requested but was unable to respond due to a generator issue.

Luckily the generator problem was repaired by the next day and 880 was able to respond to a request for the canteen at another extended operation, this time at the Clayton Wastewater Treatment Plant on the Atlanta/Cobb border. Both departments had units on the scene attempting to located a missing worker in a 8-12 foot deep covered channel. The incident turned into a recovery mission and a request went out for a dive team qualified for wastewater work. The initial call came in around 9:00am, with the MFA canteen responding at 7:55pm that evening

and released at 1:35am. The body was finally recovered around noon the next day.

The city of Atlanta suffered two more 3<sup>rd</sup> Alarm fires during the fall. The first one took place on September 7 for a working fire in a 7 story fire resistive high rise. The bulk of the fire turned out to be in a mechanical space on the roof level. DeKalb and Fulton Counties provided mutual aid to cover vacant Atlanta stations.

The more noteworthy fire took place before sunrise on October 7 when a passing motorist on Interstate 85 phoned to report a structure fire just off the freeway in the vicinity of Piedmont Avenue. Companies on scene reported a working fire in a large one and two story wood frame building housing antique and costume shops. The maze of rooms on the interior forced units to quickly abandon any kind of interior attack. A host of master streams, including four ladder pipes and one tower ladder were then placed in service. This was the inaugural worker for Tower Ladder 11 which has been placed in service at Station 23 until it can be moved to the new Station 11. The fire was finally tapped out by Engine 12 at 3:19pm the following day. Our canteen was requested but cancelled in route due to the Salvation Army canteen already being on location.

In May the mayor of Atlanta announced the three finalists for the fire chief's position. Two current members of the department were on the list – interim fire chief Joel Baker and current airport operations chief Nishiyama Willis. The surprise finalist was Kelvin Cochran, who left the Atlanta fire chief's post in 2009 to head to Washington D.C. to become part of Obama administration. In the end, Cochran was announced as the fire chief again.

In May reports indicated that DeKalb County

Captain Tony Motes had been reinstated to the DeKalb County Fire Department. Motes was one of four firefighters who were terminated over a house fire call where crews were not thorough in finding the correct address and soon cleared from the incident – only to be sent back several hours later to the same address for a fully involved house fire. Motes reportedly only lacked several months before retirement. The DeKalb County Fire Chief also resigned as a result of the incident.

In June, the John's Creek Fire Department in north Fulton County dedicated Fire Station 63 (3165 Old Alabama Road) on behalf of firefighter Felix Roberts who died in a flashover fire on May 28, 2007, while searching for a trapped occupant. At the time of the fire, Roberts was still an

employee of the Fulton County Fire Department, which was continuing to provide fire protection while the John's Creek Fire Department was being established.

A Marietta firefighter was seriously injured at Station 51 in July when the faulty bay door he was working on buckled and blew glass and debris that struck the firefighter.

Rockdale County had grand opening ceremonies for the 9<sup>th</sup> fire station on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Station 9 is located at 2009 Walker Road SW in Conyers.

The 2011 edition of the MFA apparatus/shift calendar is now available on our website at metrofire.org.

#### Classic Atlanta FD Fire Apparatus



(Above) Station 11 ran this unique piece of appartus for a number of years. The aerial is a 1966 Pirsch that has had the original Ford tractor replaced with a 1979 Seagrave. When this picture was taken in early 1982, the tractor was only three years old, but note the damage to the front bumper.

(Below) This working house fire on Sherwood NE got two Mack engines right off the bat in the form of Engine 19 (left) and Engine 29. The photo was taken on the second day of January in 1982. The fire was unique in that a TV photographer was



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(Above) One Atlanta's 1000gpm Mack pumpers is pictured operating at a working aparment fire on the far west side of Atlanta. This photo of Engine 38 was taken two days after Christmas in 1979.

(Below) One of the more unusual pieces of apparatus in Atlanta was this straight 85 foot aerial ladder operated by Ladder 25 in southwest Atlanta. The unit is pictured in late 1979 at one of the many apartment fires during that time period.



### International Fire Buff Associates 2009 / 2010 Necrology Report

>	Elinor R. Ashley, Member	Box 414 Association, Baltimore, MD
>	Robert Clarke, Member	Box 41, Boston, MA
>	Thomas Cullinan, Member	Milwaukee Fire Bell Club, Milwaukee, Wi
>	Arthur Eberle, Past President & Life Member	Box 15 Club Inc., Columbus OH
>	Thomas Fay, Member	Box 52 Association, Boston, MA
>	Peter Fowler, Member Founding Member	Box 15 Club Inc., Columbus, OH Central Ohio Fire Buffs Associates
>	Raymond F. Hill, Past President	Indianapolis Fire Buffs, Indianapolis IN
>	Tom W. Lenay, President	Box 15 Club, Los Angeles, CA
>	Gloria M. Mitchell, Member	Box 414 Association, Baltimore, MD
>	George Nash, Member	Box 52 Association, Boston, MA
>	Gerald Naughton, Honorary Member	Box 42 Associates, Detroit, MI
>	George Paul, Member	Box 52 Association, Boston, MA
>	William M. Porter, Jr., Member	Box 414 Association, Baltimore, MD
>	Dan Ross, Past President	Fire Associates of Santa Clara Valley, CA
>	Mort Schuman, Member	Box 15 Club, Los Angeles, CA
>	Cynthia Sennett, Member	Central Alarmers, Baltimore, MD
>	Robert T. Smith, Member	Box 54, Teaneck, NJ
>	Sue Stacks, Secretary	Phoenix Society, San Francisco, CA
>	Anna L. Stone, Member	Box 414 Association, Baltimore, MD
>	Edward Tufts, Past President	Box 52 Association, Boston, MA

**Indianapolis Fire Buffs, Indianapolis IN** 

Robert (Bob) Weedon, Member

