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Thanks and appreciation to former Turn Out staff –
Jerry Traub, Editor;
Ed McMichael, Shelly Farhat, Production Editors;
Rodger Birchfield and Tod Parker, Photographers;
Jim Williamson, Circulation Coordinator
for their many years of dedication in publishing Turn Out.

Publication News
The new editorial staff is undertaking the publication of
Turn Out in this, its 64th year. First published in 1956, the
newsletter/magazine has evolved, yet, it remains entirely a
product of its member contributors.

This Summer 2020 issue precedes the forthcoming
annual IFBA Convention in Nashville, TN. We also hope to
produce a 2019 Montreal Convention issue shortly.
Looking ahead, a Winter/Spring issue will follow the 2020
Nashville convention.

The editors welcome your feedback and suggestions on
improving and enhancing the magazine. Tell us your likes,
dislikes and wishes. This is your magazine.

Dedication
Herbert S. DeWalt
1924 - 2020
Subscription Information

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

Feel free to share the link with club members, potential members, and others who may share interests.

Those individuals or clubs wishing a printed copy of Turn Out in lieu of obtaining through the website should contact turnout@ifba.org for availability and pricing.

Submission Policy

Turn Out has an "open submission" policy. We encourage timely and continuous submission of stories of fires and events "when they happen." More than one submission per issue by individuals or clubs is welcomed and encouraged. Club news should be forwarded via your Regional Vice President.

Authors are strongly encouraged to submit articles electronically by email to turnout@ifba.org or on CD or flash drive. Written submissions by snail mail still work too.

Electronic files in Word (.doc or .docx) are preferred. Text files (.txt) also work.

Photos in .jpg format are preferred.

Articles with special formats, watermarks, headers and footers should be submitted as (.pdf) files.

Please identify the author and photographer.

The most important issue is to submit material. The editors will fix format and spelling if necessary. Consider copying to turnout@ifba.org when submitting photos and captions to social media if that makes participating easier.

Submitted articles and photos become the property of IFBA.

Submission deadlines
2019 Montreal Convention issue - ASAP
2020 Winter/Spring 2021 issue - December 31, 2020;
publishing date January 31, 2021
 Subject: Turnout Magazine

I participated in another Turnout Magazine video conference that was held last Saturday. A full and frank discussion of Turnout Magazine was held along with expectations of what Turnout is and will become. We encourage you to share your thoughts and expectations on this subject by hitting the reply button and speaking your mind. This is a work in progress.

Due to the need to create a publishing template and protocols and in addition the expected announcement regarding the Nashville Convention at next Saturday’s Executive Board video conference, we decided to delay the publishing of Turnout until July 1st. This gives us a wonderful opportunity to those officers, committees, and clubs to submit an article to Turnout by July 15th. Fellowship among fire buffs is one of our key IFBA points of emphasis, we want to hear from you. We do not expect an epistle from you the size of War and Peace. I personally have seen some wonderful articles that were very short that in summary said:

- We may be old, but we are still kicking.
- Who the club officers/committee members are,
- How many members,
- What we have done what we plan to do

An officer, committee, or club can send us an article that just covers those points.

Our Turnout Committee has members who volunteered to serve since the Montreal Convention, we are moving forward on new ground. Help us continue to be enthusiastic about Turnout by telling us in articles, about yourselves, about what is going on in your world.

While I have pen in hand……we are always looking for new members for our committees, please consider sending me an email today volunteering for service on a committee to enhance our hobby. Can you help:

- Work on social media, e.g. help post to our Facebook account
- Work on a newsletter
- Work on conventions
- Work on our history committee
- Pick any other skill you have and lend a hand on any committee we have

I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in Nashville.

FUN, FELLOWSHIP, & FIRE TRUCKS

Wally Banks
Executive Vice President IFBA
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### Membership and Organization Business –

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE REPORT

WALLY BANKS
IFBA EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way—in short, the period was so far like the present period, that some of its noisiest authorities insisted on its being received, for good or for evil, in the superlative degree of comparison only.”

A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

It has been a remarkable year for fire buffing, for individuals, for the IFBA, and for our country. I was once told that the best laid plans of mice and men are about equal, that has been ratified (pun intended) over and over again since March. We have changed our Spring Board Meeting to a video conference and we are in the process of moving our IFBA Convention to the end of October. Stu Nathan and I attended the Congressional Fire Service Institute Advisory Board Meeting by video conference. Two regions are using video conferencing to conduct their annual business meeting and many IFBA clubs are using video conferencing for meetings.

The IFBA Information Technology Committee has facilitated the creation of a free video conference meeting platform for the IFBA. The IFBA officers, committees, and clubs can all use this service, several of our clubs have already held club meetings via video conference. If you want to conduct a video conference club meeting please contact your Regional Vice President for assistance.

With the postponement of the IFBA Convention you still have time to nominate someone for the Fire Buff of the Year award. Please send me a letter with the reasons for your nomination, the more evidence that you provide, the more likely you nominee will succeed. I will forward your nomination to the FBOY committee. I encourage you to speak volumes on your nominee, a single page letter will not be propitious.

Also, a first-time attendee of the IFBA Convention is eligible for a reimbursement of their registration fee if the IFBA Executive Board selects them as the Roman Kaminski Scholarship. For consideration of the scholarship please send me a letter stating why you want to attend the convention and why you enjoy fire buffing to the Board, the more evidence that you provide, the more likely you will be selected.
Either of the letters should be sent as an attachment to an email sent to executiveoffice@ifba.org.

The Newsletter/Website committee is waiting the nomination (including self nominations) of your favorite club for either a newsletter or a website. Please submit your nomination to our chairperson Conni Spellman at auntconni@hotmail.com by email. If nominating a newsletter please send several issues and if a website please give the web location.

I want to recognize the Information Technology Committee for their service to the IFBA especially for the new email system and the Google Meet platform for video conferencing.

- Ian Duke Chair
- Bill Mokros
- Cody Daniels
- Conni Spellman
- Thomas Bilbrey

I also wish to thank our new Turn Out Magazine Committee for their valuable service to the IFBA in producing a magazine.

- Steve Garnett Chair
- Ignatius Kapalczynski Editor
- Mike DeWalt Editor
- Bob Bowers

I hope to see you in Nashville in October.

FUN, FELLOWSHIP, FIRE TRUCKS!

Wally Banks
Executive Vice President IFBA
972-768-0740
1 - The Today show on NBC this morning had a 2-minute report on the restarting of Nashville’s economy. Depending on how you look at it, the glass is half full or half empty. I think the glass is ¾ full and filling. The people of Nashville and the leaders are optimistic regarding the opening of the city and the venues and I am too. We are a little over 90 days away from the convention and I plan to be in Nashville. I have had inquiries regarding when we are going to vote on the Nashville Convention, we had that vote several years ago. The Box 55 organization is running the convention operations and they are moving forward to the opening ceremony. I believe that you either need to be optimistic about our nation or you need to convert all your assets to gold and diamonds. See you in Nashville.

2 – 8 Items address virtual video conferencing on page 19.

9 - Turnout articles are rolling in……our goal is an article from every officer, committee, & club, please submit your article by the last day of May…..our publishing goal is June 15th. Share your good news and information.

10 - We have added three new members since the convention by Executive Board vote, a club in Ohio and two Associate Members. Let’s shake the trees and find new fire buffs out there to join in our hobby. Check social media and tell the Recruitment and Retention Committee by sending an email to join@ifba.org. We should all be recruiters and drum beaters for the IFBA.

11 - Do you have a nominee for Fire Buff of the Year, send your nomination paperwork to executiveoffice@ifba.org

Fun, Fire Buffing, and Fire Trucks

Wally Banks
Executive Vice President IFBA
972-768-0740
Notes from the IFBA Executive Office

Saturday, June 13, 2020 2:41 PM

Dear IFBA clubs and associate members –

The IFBA Executive Board received an update today on the Nashville Convention which will be held from October 28th to November 1st of this year. Three of those days are bonus days at Firehouse Expo at no extra charge. Please see the agenda attached. Please cascade this agenda down to your members and other interested parties.

Box 55 our host requests an estimate from potential attendees to assist them in working with the hotel for the purpose of blocking rooms at the Inn at Opryland at $139 per night plus tax. This creates no obligation on your part it just helps Box 55 when they meet with Marriott on Monday. Please send an email to Rick Short our IFBA President with the information at president@ifba.org.

We appreciate your interest in the IFBA Convention during these trying times.

Since the Convention is postponed until October 27th you have more time to submit nominations for three awards until July 15th.

Newsletter/Website award…..clubs should self-nominate themselves via an email to Conni Spellman at auntconni@hotmail.com

Fire Buff of the Year should send their nominations (the more evidence & testimony the better) to executiveoffice@ifba.org

Roman Kaminski 1st time IFBA Convention Scholarship….first time attendees receive their registration cost reimbursed. Attendee should send letter stating why they believe IFBA Convention is important and why they should receive the scholarship. Send via email to executiveoffice@ifba.org

Wally Banks
Executive Vice President IFBA
Executive Office
International Fire Buff Associates, Inc.
3413 Briarcliff Court South
Irving, Texas 75062

SPRING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VIDEO CONFERENCE
APRIL 4, 2020 NOON E.D.S.T.

Chairman/Treasurer Paul Schaetzle called the video conference to order. He announced Secretary Gerry Mahoney was engaged in fire department duties and would miss the meeting. Wally Banks was selected to keep the minutes.

A Roll Call was done with the following persons answering present:

Chairman Paul Schaetzle
President Rick Short
1st Vice President/Region 6 V.P. Dennis Ahrens
Immediate Past President/Region 10 V.P. Steve Garnett
Executive Vice President Wally Banks
Region 1 V.P. Ken Beliveau
Region 3 V.P. Joe Sullivan
Region 5 V.P. Tom McDonald
Region 7 V.P. Bob Bowers
Region 9 V.P. Ira Cohen
Region 11 V.P. Dave Williams
Director of Publicity Stu Nathan
Past Presidents Advisory Committee Vickie Mokros
Information Technology Committee Ian Duke
Historical Committee Karl Brummett
Membership Sub Committee Chris Oliphant
Turnout Committee Mike DeWalt & Ignatius Kapalczynski
Fire Buff of the Year Committee Tom Pelaia
President Richmond Flying Squad Steve Korb
Past President Carolyn Wignall
Past President Bill Mokros
Absent:
Secretary Gerry Mahoney
2nd Vice President Thomas Bilbrey

Chairman Schaetzle welcomed all participants and called for a motion and vote on the consent agenda each item of which was previously shared with the Executive Board.

Motion to approve by Joe Sullivan and seconded by Ken Beliveau. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Vice President Wally Banks requested that the Executive Board take judicial notice that a vote had been held by electronic device polling the voters on the Board to consider the admission of the following as members in good standing of the IFBA.

- West Licking Support #401 of West Licking, Ohio as a member club.
- Kenneth R. Fowler of Spotsylvania, Virginia as an associate member.
- Michael Nittoli of Manville, New Jersey as an associate member.

Wally reported that the vote was unanimous for their admission. Congratulations to all three, the Regional Vice Presidents will convey the good news to those in their region.

Chairman Schaetzle welcomed Iggy and Mike to the Turnout Committee and thanked them and the other members of the Turnout Committee for their willingness to serve. A discussion of Turnout was conducted and resulted in a free exchange of opinions, desires, and wishes concerning our Turnout Magazine.

A decision was made to hold a Turnout video conference on Saturday April 18th at noon EDST.

- Bob Bowers and Wally Banks were added to the committee
- Steve Garnett will be the committee chair.
- Iggy and Mike will be the editors
- We will try to produce an electronic version and twice a year traditional edition.

President Rick Short led a discussion of the Nashville Convention:

- Covid-19 resulted in 3200 sick and 38 dead in Nashville
- A tornado hit downtown Nashville March 2nd
- Covid-19 peak in Nashville anticipated on April 9th
- The convention hotel is open
- Venue availability is a question right now.
- 9 registrations received thus far
- If no convention held Box 55 will refund all registration fees
- Thomas Bilbrey is not on the call due to the death of his mother and he has had to move to become the caregiver for his father.
- We will continue to plan on the convention in August.
• Box 55 will keep us informed and fill in the agenda for the registration

Carolyn Wignall lead a discussion of the 2021 Ottawa Convention

• A concern was raised regarding holding the convention during the week of the 20th anniversary of September 11th.
• Bob Bowers stated the Hall of Flame has a large event scheduled that week.
• Ira Cohen said that it was during Rosh Hashanah
• Ken Beliveau stated he knew of many conflicts in New England and the Tri State area during that time
• Carolyn will look at the date.

Ken Beliveau led a discussion of the 2022 Joint SPAAMFA-IFBA convention.

• Doug Boudrow of the SPAAMFAA group was signing a contract with the Boston Hilton Hotel at Woburn
• Local IFBA clubs will participate in the convention
• IFBA Region 1 will be the IFBA host
• There is an equipment muster on Saturday

Wally Banks made a motion to accept the Region 1 invitation to hold a joint SPAAMFAA-IFBA convention in Massachusetts in 2022. Dave Williams seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Steve Korb led a discussion of the Richmond Flying Squad hosting the 2024 IFBA Convention in Richmond, Virginia.

Dennis Ahrens made a motion to accept the Richmond Flying Squad invitation to hold the 2024 IFBA Convention. Dave Williams seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

A By-Laws and Constitution discussion was led by Dennis Ahrens and Paul Schaetzle.

• The current By-Laws has us paying dues at the end of the fiscal year in June.
• All agreed that no other organization collects its due at the end of a fiscal year.
• The current dues payment date creates cash flow problems.
• A consensus of those present agreed to transition to a dues payment for FY 2020-2021 to October 2020 and FY 2021-2022 to July 2021.
• Dennis Ahrens will have the By-Laws Committee prepare a By-Laws Amendment for consideration at the annual meeting.

Paul Schaetzle led a discussion of the Budget which was previously sent to the Executive Board

• There has not been a dues increase since 1987
• Officers have been waiving their stipends and expense reimbursement to reduce expenses
• Our expenses are close to our receipts
• We anticipate expenses with Turnout
• We anticipate expenses with the Massachusetts convention
• We need to buy trumpets for the Fire Buff of the Year
• There was a consensus to raise the dues by $25 to $75 per year for member clubs and Associate Member dues by $5 to $15 per year effective FY 2021.
Wally Banks moved approval of the Budget with the dues increase. Bob Bowers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Good and welfare

Connie Spellman is the chairman of the Website/Newsletter Committee

We need to get Covid-19 information to the members.

Ian Duke moved that we adjourn. Dennis Ahrens seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

March 31, 2020

IFBA Member Groups
IFBA Associate Members

Subject: Request for Nominations for the Wilwers IFBOY Award
Request for Nominations for Kaminski Scholarship
Notice of Annual Meeting of the IFBA
Notice of Dues Notice Transmission Change

Dear Fellow Buff:

Pursuant to the IFBA By-Laws Article 8, I am soliciting candidates for the Henry N. Wilwers Fire Buff of the Year award for 2020, which must be received in the IFBA Executive Office by May 28, 2020. The requirements of the nomination require the submission of the nomination in writing with a resume stating the reason for the person’s nomination.

You may either send the nomination by attachment to an email to my address shown below, or by government mail or delivery service which must arrive at my office by May 28, 2020. I will submit all nomination to the Fire Buff of the Year Committee for their confidential handling of the nominations and the award.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the Roman Kaminski scholarship offer from the Executive Board to any first-time attendee to the Annual Convention equal to the registration fee of the Convention. Only one scholarship per convention.

You may tell your first-time attendee that they can write a letter to the Executive Office detailing their desire to earn the scholarship, their buffing experience, their reasons to attend the convention, and what they hope to receive from their overall convention attendance experience. Please have the first-time attendee send the letter to the Executive Office address below either by attachment to an
"HENRY N. WILWERS" FIRE BUFF OF THE YEAR AWARD

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rev022311
Virtual Meetings
2 - The Gong Club was the first IFBA club to hold a video club meeting via the IFBA Google Hangouts platform. Most members used the video feature but some called in by telephone. The system works.

3 - If you want to use the video conferencing, email your Regional Vice President with the proposed date, time with time zone, length of meeting, and the host’s email address.

4 - Your Regional Vice President will send the information to me, and I will schedule the meeting, send the host an invitation, then I will change ownership of the meeting from me to the host of the meeting.

5 - The host can then add participants by email address and/or forward the invitation by email to their guests.

6 - If there are any problems, questions, or concerns please contact me. I will try to be on line during the opening of the meeting to ensure there are no glitches in the technology.

7 - IFBA Committees, the Annual meeting is approaching, do you need to hold a video conference committee meeting???? Let me know.

8 - Regional Vice Presidents, do you need to hold a video conference Regional meeting???? Let me know.
Google Meet cheat sheet

Want to get more out of Google apps at work or school? Sign up for a free G Suite trial

Hold video meetings on the go, virtual training classes, remote interviews, and more.

Get Meet: Web (meet.google.com), Android, or iOS

Download Google Meet quick start (PDF)

1. Schedule or start a video meeting

From **Gmail:**

1. In the sidebar, click Start a meeting.
2. Click Join now for a video meeting, or click Join and use a phone for audio for an audio-only meeting.

From **Calendar:**

1. Click Create.
2. Add your event details and guests.
3. Click Add rooms, location, or conferencing.
4. Click Save.

See other ways to start a video meeting.

2. Join a video meeting

From **Gmail:**

In the sidebar, click Join a meeting and enter a meeting code.

From **Calendar:**

Click the event, then click Join with Google Meet.

From **Meet:**

Join a scheduled meeting or use a meeting code.

From mobile devices:

Open the Android or Apple® iOS® Meet app.
See other ways to join a video meeting.

3. Customize video settings, interact with participants, or share your screen

- View meeting participants
- Chat with meeting participants
- Pin a participant
- Remove a participant
- See additional settings, such as recording the meeting, changing your video resolution, and changing layout

- Share meeting details with guests
- Turn microphone on or off
- Leave meeting
- Turn camera on or off
- Share your screen or give presentations
2020 Nashville Convention Info
We are pleased to invite you to join us for the 68th Anniversary of Box 55 and the 68th IFBA Annual Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, known as the Music City.

Nashville Box 55 has updated the IFBA 2020 Convention registration form, the agenda, and the access to the hotel special rates. The first link shown above will take you to the revised Nashville Convention online registration form and the new convention agenda. I have been told that a paid registration to the IFBA Convention will result in a registration at Firehouse Expo at no additional cost. You will also find the link to the IFBA group rate hotel reservation (link 2 above) that can be clicked on the online form to take you to hotel reservations. Please note that you cannot go directly to the Marriott site by computer and get the shoulder rates at present you can only get the shoulder rates using the link previously discussed or by using the 800 number.

I look forward to seeing you in Nashville.

Wally Banks
Executive Vice President IFBA
Convention Agenda - *UPDATED*

TUESDAY OCTOBER 27

- Arrival: Registration in main lobby entrance of hotel
- 1100 – 2300 Hospitality room open
- 1300 Executive board meeting
- Evening: Dinner on your own / Buffing

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28

- 0900 – 1000 Opening Ceremony / Necrology
- 1000 – 1200 General business meetings
- 1200 – 1300 Lunch provided
- Afternoon/Evening: Dinner on your own. Ryman Auditorium, Grand Ole Opry, and buffing opportunities
- 1400 – 2300 Hospitality Room open

THURSDAY OCTOBER 29

- 0800 – 1630 Jack Daniel’s Distillery Tour, Jack Daniel’s Fire Brigade, and/or other workshops/tours (tentative)
- 1130 Lunch provided
- 1800 – 1900 Reception
- 1900 – 2100 Banquet
- 2100 – 2300 Hospitality Room open

FRIDAY OCTOBER 30
FIREHOUSE EXPO VIP EXPERIENCE

- 0800 – 1600 Hands-On Training (HOT) Classes
- 1730 – 1900 Opening Ceremony and Keynote
- 1900 – 2100 Firehouse Expo/IAFF Local 140 Welcome Party (Tentative)
- 1700 – 2300 Hospitality Room open

SATURDAY OCTOBER 31
FIREHOUSE EXPO VIP EXPERIENCE

- 1100 – 1700 Exhibit Floor Open (Exhibit Hall A)
- 1900 – 2200 National Fallen Firefighter Foundation Fundraising Event

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1
FIREHOUSE EXPO VIP EXPERIENCE

- 0930 – 1500 Exhibit Floor Open (Exhibit Hall A)
Hotel & Registration

Click below to open the registration package:
**Fillable Registration Package & Agenda (PDF) *UPDATED***

Hotel Information

**THE INN AT OPRYLAND** (Marriott Property)
2401 Music Valley Drive
Nashville, TN 37214
1-800-901-4211
(615) 889-0800

Rate: $139.00 USD per night plus taxes
Shoulder rate: 7 days prior and 3 days post convention
Cancel Policy: 72 hours prior to arrival
Last Day to Book Group Rate: October 5, 2020
Breakfast: Not included (several options within walking distance)
Parking: Complimentary on-site

Hotel Reservations - *UPDATED FOR NEW DATES*

Online: [https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1594831541970&key=GRP](https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1594831541970&key=GRP)

Group Reservations: 1-800-901-4211
Group Code: FBF
REGION 1

Boston Sparks Assn.
Att: Secretary
344 Congress St.
Boston MA 02210-1204
info@bostonsparks.com

Box 22 Associates
424 Elm St.
New Haven CT 06511

Box 52 Assn.
c/o William H. Wilderman
P. O. Box 848
Medford MA 02155-0009
bwilderman@firefire.com

Box 61, Inc.
c/o Carleton Winslow
257 Auburn St.
Portland ME 04103
carletonwinslow@yahoo.com

Connecticut Fire Photographers Association
PO Box 1181
Hartford CT 06143-1181
stretchinandlovmit@gmail.com

Essex County Fire Wardens
c/o Norman Stone
170 County Rd.
Ipswich MA 01938-2721
Box343@hotmail.com

Providence Citywide Fire Network
54 Coral Rd.
N. Attleboro MA 02760
Pefn51@comcast.net

Southern Maine Fire Notification Assn.
c/o Carleton Winslow
257 Auburn St.
Portland ME 04103
carletonwinslow@yahoo.com

Special Signal Fire Assn.
PO Box 25009
Providence RI 02905
pficanteen@yahoo.com

The Leather Helmet Society
131 Calef Rd.
Manchester NH 03103
cpierson@manchesternh.gov
vincetoland131@comcast.net
With runs to Boston and Belmont during the week keeping the crews busy the pace kept up over the weekend with Boston banging in 7 alarms for multiple three decker’s going good in Southie and a third in Cambridge for a large OMD.

About 03:20 hours early Saturday morning Boston Fire Alarm transmitted box 7421 for a reported fire on Douglas Street in South Boston. The fire building at #11 Douglas is next to the corner building at 1430 Columbia Road which runs parallel to Day Boulevard and the beach. The original fire building was a standalone Boston three decker and the rear porches were well alight upon arrival of first due Ladder 19 who indicated to Fire Alarm he had two buildings going and for Engine 2 to protect the exposures. The exposure two building was a connected three decker row house with five attached three decker’s facing on Columbia Road. The rear of the block was not easily accessible from the street and no apparatus could fit. The rear porches were well involved and spread to the five exposures on Columbia Road and eventually extended into the buildings on all floors to one extent or another and through the roof on three of the five sections of the rowhouse.

Seven alarms were transmitted in rapid succession to get the needed resources in to stop the rapidly spreading fire in this very congested neighborhood. At the height of the fire Boston deployed Tower 3 and four ladder pipes along with several Blitz guns and numerous big lines. There were no civilian injuries but five firefighters suffered minor injuries and were treated and released.

A-10 with member Tom Leone and A-11 with member Paul Boudreau arrived on scene and began the rehab set up and operations. We were joined on scene by members John Harris, Matt McSheehy and Mike Salvi who responded with Squad 10 and our good friend Mike Antoine. We set up a rehab area on the exposure one side on the grassy area between Day Boulevard and Columbia Road and provided seating and an area for Boston EMS to check vitals on the members during the rehab process.
During this event we provided the following rehab supplies: 14 cases of Gatorade, 21 cases of water, 120 cold towels, 9 Gallons of Coffee, 100 breakfast sandwiches, 4 dozen donuts, wipes and numerous snacks and we deployed our light towers and generators to light up the rear and side of the fire buildings. We returned to quarters for restock and clean up at 13:30 hours.

The City of Cambridge was next with a third alarm that started at about 02:45 hours when Box 28 was transmitted for the address of 17 Elm Street in the Inman Square area of town. First arriving companies found a large 3 story fully occupied multiple dwelling with heavy fire showing from the rear on all three floors. Division 1 Deputy Chief Sean White transmitted the working fire signal soon flowed by the second and third alarms. The fire building is about 75’ by 75’ and holds eight units, all residents were removed from the building and the fire gained rapidly spreading to the third floor and cockloft and gave the members quite a fight. Due to the very congested and tight streets apparatus placement was challenging and the jakes were able to get Cambridge tower Ladder 2 in a very tight alley to operate on the fire as well as Ladder 1 and many pumps to be able to utilize large caliber appliances including deck guns, ladders pipes and Blitz guns.

Member Dan Pags and Brian Kerins responded immediately with A-10 and member Paul Boudreau arrived shortly after with A-11. The rehab station was set up and due to the heavy smoke conditions down to the street level we moved it a couple of times.

Members Dave Stewart and Dave Florin relieved members on scene and A-10 returned to quarters at 1130 hours. Members in total distributed 6 gallons of coffee, 4 cases of Gatorade, 5 cases of water, 50 cold towels and 50 breakfast sandwiches.

Photos from Boston courtesy of Tom Leone and Damien Drella
Photos from Cambridge courtesy of Brian Kerins and CFD Jack Gelinas
The past week has brought much anxiety and concern for most of the nation with civil protests and uprisings occurring in many cities across the country. Boston being no exception and the resulting use of public safety resources involved in the keeping of the peace has kept the Boston Sparks Association A-10 Rehab unit extremely busy.

With several multiple alarm fires in the METROFIRE area including a 7th alarm in Boston among them, the crews of A-10 have had the challenge of providing our rehab services to support the fire service as well as the various law enforcement and National Guard agencies in town for the protest marches.
Since Sunday our crews have been out there almost non-stop providing rehab and comfort to the brave members of these departments as well as their state, local and federal allies during this period.

With record breaking numbers of rehab products and food provided to support these incidents, our dedicated members of the A-10 crew are working diligently to provide some level of comfort to these brave warriors on multiple days throughout this turmoil.

I am extremely proud of the A-10 Crew Members who have stepped up and provided this service non-stop to our public safety heroes, putting in numerous hours of community service doing what they do best, proving rehab and comfort to our public safety community.

Since this turmoil began we have provided over 200 cases of Gatorade, 250 cases of water, 80 gallons of coffee, 450 sandwiches, 250 hamburgers, 60 pizzas, 80 cartons of cookies and crackers, multiple cans of sunscreen and bug spray as well as cold towels and other support related items.

As it seems these protests will continue for the foreseeable future we will continue to remain vigilant and provide our support in the field as needed.
Many of our followers see our activities on the fireground and other incidents and how we support the firefighters, police and EMS in our response area. What you don’t see is the behind the scenes logistics and preparations that are required to make all the on scene magic happen.

Normally we make regular trips to the various stores to purchase items needed usually on a biweekly basis, but due to the high event activity we have encountered this past week we have been forced to go for stock everyday this week since Saturday.

The time and effort we have to expend to be prepared is tremendous and expensive, just as an example we have purchased over 200 cases of water, 150 cases of Gatorade, 800 sandwiches, 60 pizzas, numerous snacks and condiments this past week that we need to support the additional response activity that we have incurred with the recent protests.

Many of crew members donate so many hours of their time and dedicated hard efforts to operate this venture and make it successful.
It takes a lot of time, manpower, money and logistics for this operation to be successful and our entire budget is based on donations from the public and the union members we support.

Box 61 Club
Portland Maine

There have been several fires in the greater Portland area since January 1st. In Westbrook they have had 2 working fires and a second. Windham has had 2 seconds and several working fires. Scarborough has had 2 seconds. Cape Elizabeth has had a couple of working fires. Going south, Saco has had a couple of seconds and some working fires. Biddeford has had 2 seconds and several working fires. Carl and I went to the one second in Biddeford. It was windy and cold. They had 10 engines and 4 ladders. There were several hand lines laid in front and back of the building with 3 feeder lines laid. South Portland has had a couple of workers. Portland has had several working fires, 2 seconds and 3 thirds. The last second was started by a train as a grass fire then spread to a building and inside. For new equipment, Portland has a new Engine 11 Pierce. Cost was $710,000.00. A new heavy duty rescue that is very large and also a rebuilt decon unit that cleans up MED CU units after transporting covid-19 patients.

Bob Sherwood
Box 61 Club
Box 52 Association

The Line Box

I-F-B-A: Member club since 1955!

TURN-OUT REPORT SUMMER 2020

Welcome to the brave new world of coping with Covid-19! Box 52 in keeping with Massachusetts Governor Baker Emergency Order cancelled our March, April and May meetings, which was to be our bi-annual Ham & Bean Supper.

I am happy to report that our Membership has been coping well and those members who are on the frontlines of this pandemic are coping with this new way of responding to calls.

Fires in the area seems to being held to the second alarm level with only a few going to a third alarm or higher, except for Thursday May 14th! The day saw windy condition and was classified as a Class 4 day with dry conditions and high winds. Just after 1400 hours the following fires broke out. The mill city of Lowell started the action at 1406 hours for a fire in a large 2,5 story wood frame dwelling. Second and third alarms soon followed at 1416 and 1446 hours. The action then shifted to the Southeastern town of Seekonk along the border of the City of East Providence, Rhode Island. At 1445 hours Engine 1 of the SFD was dispatched for a brush fire under the power lines. Additional brush units were summoned. As this brush fire was being pushed towards numerous structures in both Seekonk and East Providence and was pushing a large loom-up visible for miles. A second alarm was transmitted summoning structural companies that were directed to use master stream devices to protect the exposures and cut the head of the fire off. An East Providence Engine was also dispatched at 1451 hours for the fire on their side of the line and a full first alarm assignment was requested. SFD C-1 ordered at full third alarm at 1638 hours. The action then shifted back to the Metro-Fire member community of Lynn with call being received for a house fire at 84 Burrell Ave. Box 322
was transmitted at 1532 hours. Arriving first due, Engine 5 reported heavy fire showing from the second and third floor rear porches. The duce was sounded at 1536 hours followed by the third alarm at 1540 hours.

Lynn’s 3rd alarm May 14th on Burrell Ave. Photo by member Peter Aloisi
Boston Jobs!

Christmas Day December 25, 2019 128 Newbury Street.
Fire in a four-story Brownstone third alarm box 1536 Commonwealth Ave. & Clarendon Street. Engine Co. 7 reported a trash fire at the rear extending to the building and ordered the box at 0959 hours. Car 4 District Chief Dillon ordered the second alarm at 1016 and C6 Deputy Chief Shea transmitted the third alarm at 1032 hrs. Fire had extended via interior walls to the second and third floors. Fire was confined to the rear of the structure. Multiple lines were advanced and made quick work of the fire.

Third alarm 1536. Photo courtesy of the BFD

BOSTON: February 5, 2020 409 E. 7th Street South Boston.
On Wednesday just about supper time, Boston Fire Alarm began receiving calls for a building fire at 409 E. 7th Street for a reported fire on the first floor. The 2.5 story wood frame dwelling was undergoing renovations and workmen had been working in the building during the day. Box 7423 E. 6th & G Streets was transmitted at 1725 hours. Ladder 18 arrived first due reported heavy fire showing from floors 1 and 2 of a 2.5 story wood frame. Car 6 arrived, and a second alarm was ordered by District Chief Kelly at 1729 hours. The fire was extending into the B exposure and the 1734 hours Car 6 ordered the third alarm. Companies operating in the rear found heavy fire conditions also. C6 Deputy Chief Shea ordered fourth alarm at 1753. And reported to Fire Alarm that he had a 2.5 mansard roof wood frame and the B exterior fully involved. Fire was knocked down and Companies were kept busy with extensive overhauling.
Both photos courtesy of the BFD

On the night shift of Thursday/Friday March 5th and 6th District 7 was hopping with two three alarm fires. All photo courtesy of the Boston Fire Department.

The first fire for box 3134 Stonehurst & Toplift Streets for a fire at 12 Stonehurst Street at 2010 hours. Car 7 on arrival reported heavy fire showing second and third floors of a 2.5 story wood frame dwelling. Second alarm was ordered by Car 7 at 2022 hours. A third alarm followed at 2043 hours. A MAYDAY signal was briefly transmitted at 2044j for a missing member, but was cancelled less than a minute later when the member was located and was not in trouble.
The second fire of four occurred a few minutes after 0400 hours, when the F.A.O. started to receiving calls for a building fire on Romsey Street. Box 1843 Sydney and Harborview was transmitted at 0409 hours for 77 Romsey Street. Arriving first due Engine Company 21 at 0411 hours reported heavy fire showing. The officer of Engine 21 ordered the second alarm at 0412 hours. The report was heavy fire on floor 3 of a 3.5 story wood frame dwelling and that they were also encountering ‘hoarding conditions’ in the building. Car 7 ordered a third alarm on the box at 0414 hours. Companies had difficulty gaining access into the building and the order to evacuate the building and go to exterior operations was giving at 0428 hours.

Three Decker’s are Ubiquitous
Lynn 4-646 March 11th, 2020

By Line Box Staff Member John Pozark Jr.

Ubiquitous, ubiquitous meaning pervasive, universal, everywhere, all over. In New England, three Decker’s are ubiquitous.

On Three Decker’s rear porches are ubiquitous. In fact, rear porches are notorious. For decades the rear porches were used to store everything from 55 Gallon drums of the range oil once used to fuel the kitchen stove to mattresses and other household leftovers. They were also used as an environmentally friendly laundry dryer. Clothing hung out on clotheslines received the gentle urban breezes and were freshened, often by the scent of the leather tannery next door. But there are variations. Front porches, open porches, enclosed porches, porches all around, and side porches, sometimes there are side porches.
It was the evening of March 11th, a Wednesday before the “Corona” storm broke. Nahant Engine 31 was out of service for warranty work leaving them with zero availability for out of town mutual aid. Lynn Engine 3 was operating at a Still Alarm for Medical Aid on South St.

Captain Cronin, the commander of Lynn Ladder 2 was in “The Big House” kitchen at Western Ave. looking out the window. In the distance he saw smoke. He gathered the crew and went to the apparatus floor to be ready when the tones hit.

MBTA Bus Driver Christina Gradozzi was deadheading, returning to the car barn on Western Ave. She saw smoke. She stopped her bus and attempted an initial attack with the 10# ABC Dry Chemical fire extinguisher from the bus. Making her way to the 2nd floor she emptied the extinguisher at the fire and, assisted by another person, began banging on doors to get everybody out. Conditions began to get bad. There was some type of electrical explosion. Rapidly the heat banked down. Ms. Gradozzi and her helper had to get out and they left the building.
Shortly before 1900 hours two phone calls came into Lynn FAO reporting a fire. The operators on duty transmitted Box 646 for reported building fire corner of Boston & Moulton Streets. Engine 3 responding second due on the box reported smoke showing from Elm Street as the box was being struck. As they came through Market Square, the officer reported fire now visible in the distance.

Ladder 2 Captain Cronin had had his crew mount up before the box was transmitted. Ladder 2 had difficulty approaching the fire due to heavy traffic. Spotting the apparatus on Boston Street, the Delta Side of the fire building, the crew exited the vehicle. They were met by the MBTA Bus Driver who reported people trapped on the second floor. Capt. Cronin split the crew and directed some members to throw a 28’ extension ladder to a second-floor window on the Delta side.

Meanwhile Capt. Cronin took the Thermal Imager and attempted to enter the second floor by way of the rear stairway. Fire was visible through windows on the first floor. Passing the first floor, Ladder 2’s Primary Search went up the stairs. Heavy fire stopped their entry to the second floor. Backing out, the company came around to the front of the building and was able to make the 2nd floor via the front stair.

Ladder 2 performed a Vent/Enter/Isolate/Search Operation in the front of the apartment with negative results. They moved towards the rear but were met by flames coming down the hallway. The “Devil” was coming right at them forks first! With conditions untenable Ladder 2’s crew exited the building and began exterior operations. If they still named fire companies as they did in the Victorian Era, Ladder 2 would be known as “Valiant”.

Engine 3, commanded by Lt. Barnard and using a spare engine (Engine 4), laid a supply line from a hydrant, up Boston St. to the Delta/Charlie corner and stretched a 2 1/2” handline to the rear of fire building. The pipe was opened, and a stream began to hit fire on the side porches of the original fire building and Exposure 2 using tank water. The Aide to the on-duty District Chief, radio call sign C-4A, pulled a 1 3/4” Pre-connect Handline and played his stream at the fire operating adjacent to Eng. 3’s crew.

Engine 7, responding from their quarters on Pine Hill, came down Moulton Street taking a hydrant a few houses before the fire, and laid towards the fire building. But the hydrant at 31 Moulton St. was dead.

Engine 9, commanded by Capt. Leighton, came up Boston Street from their quarters on Tower Hill. Engine 9 also took a hydrant and stopped opposite Moulton St. in front of the Lynn Products Co. factory building. Engine 3 had used their limited manpower in stretching the big attack line. Now they needed water. Engine 9’s crew made Engine 3’s hydrant and then stretched their own handline. Medic 1’s crew made Engine 9’s hydrant.

Car C-4, District Fire Chief Collier, on scene and in command, sized up what he had. Original fire address is 1-3 Moulton Street a 3 Decker with side porches on Bravo Side. Exposure 1 is Moulton Street Exposure 1A, is 397 Boston Street a large 2 1/2 Story, Wood Frame 2 family house. Exposure 2, 5 and 5A Moulton Street is a 3 Decker building similar to the building at 1-3 Moulton Street with side porches on the Delta Side facing the side porches of the original fire building. Exposure 2A, 7 Moulton Street is a 3 Decker similar the others.

Exposure 3, 383 Boston Street is a 2 1/2 Story Wood Frame two family house which ran back from the street behind the fire buildings. Wires in front of fire building and Exposures 2 & 2A with a transformer on the pole and another at the corner of Boston & Moulton Streets complicated matters.

Exposure 4 is Boston Street at Marion & Brookvale Streets were two single family wood frame houses and a block long 4 Story metal clad wood frame factory which runs along Boston Street are opposite the original fire building.

District Fire Chief Collier struck 2nd Alarm at 1902 followed by a 3rd Alarm at 1904.
2-646 Eng. 10-1-5 L4 L1 (RIT), C2 (Deputy Fire Chief Arthur Richard), C1 (Chief of Department Steve Archer), FIU, Atlantic Paramedic Ambulance 7 along with a BLS Ambulance and one Field Supervisor.

3-646 Eng. Swampscott E21 Saugus E1, Salem E4 with Malden E2 and Malden L1 as R.I.T.

After making Eng.3’s hydrant, Eng. 9 took a 2 ½ inch Handline to the Bravo Side of the original fire building trying to cut off extension to Exposure 2 but water initially was a problem.

Lynn Tower 4, Acting Lt. Greely as the Boss and Eng. 10 with Lt. Duffy in command, coming from the Broadway Firehouse, came down Boston St. to the Charlie/Delta corner. The bucket was put up and fed with water to hit the side porches from the rear. Engine 1 commanded by Lt. Power came in via Brookvale Street to Boston Street opposite the fire building. Eng. 1 assisted by the crew from Lynn Fire Medic 1 stretched a 2 ¼" handline to the front of the fire building and also a 1 ¾ inch handline to the Delta Side for exterior attack. Initially Eng. 1 had water problems with a dead hydrant on Brookvale Street Lynn Ladder 1 stood fast as a R.I.T.

Third due on the 2nd Alarm, Engine 5 with Capt. Noone in command, took a 1 ¾ inch line into the original fire building and attempted to make the 2nd floor. With fire extending and water supply problems, DtC Collier decided to go defensive and ordered Eng. 5 to back out of the building. During the withdrawal, one firefighter was injured coming down the stairway. That firefighter was treated and transported to Salem Hospital by an Atlantic Ambulance BLS unit.

At this point the focus of the fight shifted to protecting the exposures and stopping extension. In particular, stopping the fire from spreading up Moulton street and completely taking out the row of “Irish Battleships” (Old Boston slang term for the three story wood frame dwellings with one family occupying each floor - Editor)

Swampscott Engine 21 (Capt. Gambale) and Tower Ladder 21 (Lt. Pickett) went into the fire together. Via Moulton Street. TL 21 set up the bucket and put a master stream into operation to cut off the fire spread between exposure 2 and 2A.

DtC Collier transmitted the 4th Alarm at 1914 bringing Melrose Eng.3, Peabody Engine 5 and Marblehead Eng. 2 along with Swampscott Fire Chief Graeme Archer in car C21.

Malden Ladder 1, initially dispatched as part of a R.I.T. Assignment, went up Boston Street to Exposure 1A and threw their stick towards the fire building. Saugus Engine 1 fed Malden Lad.1 when they set up their ladder pipe.

With the need for multiple master streams flowing large volumes of water and some dead hydrants, water supply was inadequate. With help from a member of the Lynn Water & Sewer Commission workforce Deputy Fire Chief Richard setup a water relay with inline pumping from a new hydrant on Western Ave. on a 10" Main. DtC Richard grabbed Salem Engine 4.

Salem Engine 4 dressed the hydrant on Western Ave. with their hydrant assist valve and dropped 1000′ of 4″ feeder line up Brookvale to the fire. Salem Engine 4 hooked up a feeder line and pumped into Lynn Engine 1. Salem E4’s crew then assisted with defensive firefighting for the rest of their duty at the fire.

To assist with water supply, additional engine companies were special called over the 4th Alarm. Winthrop Engine 1, Boston Engine 56, Revere Engine 5 and Boston District Fire Chief from East Boston, Car 1, responded on the Special Calls. Winthrop Eng. 1 went to Western Ave. and Brookvale St. and pumped Salem Eng. 4’s Hydrant Assist Valve.
Lynn Ladder 2 and Tower 4 Operate Aerial Master Streams on original Fire Building as Malden Ld. 1 sets Up Their Ladder Pipe. Photo by Member Peter Aloisi.

Boston Engine 56 took a hydrant at Walnut Street and Cedar Street and dropped a feeder down Moulton Street to the fire. Boston Engine 56’s crew operating with Boston Car 1, went into Exposure 2A with a 1 3/4 inch hoseline and knocked down fire to stop the fire extension.

There would be no “Pearl Harbor” for the row of “Irish Battleships” today. As water improved master streams were put into play. Ladder 2 had a ladder pipe on the fire. Engine 9 set up a “Blitz” gun portable monitor.

The Melrose, Malden and Marblehead engine companies stood fast or assisted with setting up outside streams. National Grid Outside Service was called 2316 hours to shut off gas in the street. Fire crews were unable to access cellar of fire buildings due to flooding. Gradually companies were released. Atlantic Ambulance Service provided initial rehab supplemented by the Salvation Army. Eventually the American Red Cross Disaster Services was contacted to provide some support the many displaced people.

Coverage During the Fire: C-7 District Fire Chief McBride Covering Lynn
Western Ave.: Wakefield Eng. 2, Massport Eng. 1, Revere Ld. 2
Fayette St.: Chelsea Eng. 3, Beverly E5, Boston Eng. 5, Chelsea Ld. 2
Broadway: Reading Eng. 3
Swampscott: Eng. 22.
Lynn Engine 3 Running with Spare Engine 4 (Their Old Engine 3) Puts Water on Original Fire Building. Visible is Charlie Side Showing Exposure Buildings. Photo by Member Peter Aloisi.

Notes:
Swampscott Engine 22 is staffed on an as needed basis with recalled personnel. An engine company from Fayette St. covers Swampscott until E22 is staffed. When Ladder 21 is sent to an incident, the Ladder Company at Fayette St. covers Swampscott also. Boston Engine 5 was returned after Engine 22 came in service. Swampscott's District Mutual Aid availability is typically 1 engine company. The Swampscott ladder is available to the City of Lynn and the Towns of Marblehead and Nahant however. During the Fourth Alarm the Fire Alarm Office handled 20 additional incidents between the three communities it serves.

Brookline Establishing Auxiliary Stations
Information by Member and Brookline Ass’t Chief Keith Flaherty

As a means of social distancing to minimize contact between members, the Brookline Fire Department relocated two fire companies to satellite locations.

Effective April 8, 2020, Engine 1, normally assigned to Station 1 at 140 Washington Street (or Station A as you history buffs know), was relocated to the Main Public Library garage at 361 Washington Street. Engine 5 normally assigned to Station 5 (or Station E) was relocated to the Stedman Street side of the Coolidge Corner School located at 345 Harvard Street. These relocations were prompted by five (5) members who tested positive for Covid-19. These members inadvertently presented potential exposure to a large number of members. When one member reports positive, the other members in the same station and anyone else he has worked with
(overtime, details) is sent home to self-monitor for fourteen days. In the current configuration, if a member tests positive, we only have to send home one half (1/2) of the members we did before. At one time, approximately fifty (50) members were either recovering, quarantining, or self-monitoring for symptoms. This represents one third (1/3) of the department.

The stations and apparatus are getting disinfected twice daily and the training division is continually reinforcing strong policies regarding patient care while social distancing and minimizing exposures. The BFD Covid-19 Task Force meets regularly and works in concert with the Town Covid-19 Task Force to address policy and procedures being promulgated by the CDC, IAFF, DPH, and other regulatory agencies.

Both photos this page by Member Keith Flaherty

Brookline Engine 1 in its temporary auxiliary station at the Main Library
Engine 5 in its temporary auxiliary station at the Coolidge Corner School 345 Harvard St.

Meanwhile, in Cambridge crews made a disinfecting spray gun using an old air pack and an automotive spray gun. It is used to disinfect the station and apparatus several times during a shift. This ingenious tool is now being used in numerous fire departments across the Country.

Boston Fire Department and the Spanish Flue Pandemic of 1918

The information below was taken from the 1918 BFD Annual Report and was written by William J. McNally M.D., Medical Examiner.

"The efficiency in man power of the department has been put to a severe test during the past year, due in a great measure to the epidemic of influenza and numerous deaths from same, and also the large number drafted into the war service. The number of cases of illness in the Department totaled 661 and deaths to members of the Department from influenza started in September of 1918 and through Jan. 31, 1919 were 23

This year marks the Associations 108th year as the oldest fire buffing association in the Nation. So, with this in mind I took a dip into the Clubs archives for what was happening in 1920, only eight years after the Club was founded. I hope you like what we found
BOSTON & MAINE RAILROAD YMCA AND FREIGHT HOUSE FIRE
160 Beverly Street
3-1341 JAN. 20, 1920

Tired crews of Boston & Maine overnight freight and passenger trains trudged through the snow and biting wind making their way to a warm bed at the Railway YMCA building located near the Warren Bridge on Beverly Street. The warmth of the Y and the welcoming of fellow railroaders was very relaxing to the overnight crews. But the most welcoming of all was a hot shower and a warm cot to sleep in.

The men snuggled in under the blankets as the wind outside howled driving the temp into the sub-zero range. The YMCA was owned and operated by the Boston and Maine Railroad. The first floor of the building was occupied by the Freight Departments offices. The YMCA dinning room, recreation rooms. The third floor were the bedrooms. The building was three and a half stories wood frame with just a few flimsy fire stops. Interior walls of the offices and rooms were coated with a heavy varnish finish which contributed to the fire spread. The building measured 100 feet by 75 feet.

At just about 0630 hours, a lodger was awoken by the smell of smoke. He went to a staff member, who told him not to worry as they had just built a fresh fire. The lodger returned to getting dressed and left the Y for his railroad job.

In the downtown fire stations, the morning committee work was well underway. The junior men were sent to the basement to stroke the boilers and make sure that the radiators were hissing away, doing their best to keep the house warm.

Meanwhile at 0935 a fire was discovered in the walls and ceilings of room 19 on the third floor. Instead of turning in the alarm, the railroad men tried to fight the fire for nearly fifteen minutes. At 0952 a passerby spotted smoke coming from the third floor and ran to box 1314, which on the sidewalk in front of the building. At the same time a fire alarm from the freight offices was transmitted to American District Telegraph (ADT) Central Station and sent promptly transmitted box 414 to the Fire Alarm Office. The lodgers were still trying to fight the fire as Fire Alarm was transmitting the box. The fire was now raging inside the walls and had dropped to the second floor before the first alarm companies arrived.

The men on watch counted the box, checked the location and turned out. The companies rolled out into the clear day with the bitter cold and howling winds. Engine 4 arrived first due and found smoke pushing from the second and third floors. Chemical 1 ran a line to the third floor to try and hold the fire until the engines got their lines into position. Meanwhile Ladders 1 and 8 started to search and evacuate the building. Many of the men fled in only bed clothes. There fellow railroad workers quickly got them warm clothing.

Engine 31 had cast off and its whistle signaled its arrival at the fire. Engines 6, 8 and 4 along with Chemical 1 were all still working on the two fire floors and Companies Officer felt that they had a handle on the fire and thought it was under control. The fire had other plans and had already made its way into the freight shed. At 1010 hours a hot air explosion rocked the building trapping the companies on the upper floors, who had to fight their way out of the building. Several lengths of hose were burned during their escape. The fire now had full extended through the roof of the Y and the freight shed was becoming well involved. The second alarm was ordered by Acting Deputy Chief Caulfield.
Chief Caulfield had no choice now but to fight a defensive operation and trying to protect the exposures. As the companies prepared for a long siege in the bitter cold. Chief of Department Walsh arrived on scene and ordered the third alarm to be transmitted at 1030 hrs.

At the height of the fire 13 engines companies, 2 fireboats, 1 chemical engine and Water Tower 1 and the Rescue were hard at work. And were well ice coated along with the crews.

The fire caused $80,000.00 in damage. One fireman was seriously injured by a fall from ladder. Several others were overcome by smoke and taken to the Haymarket Relief Station. Many other firefighters suffered from exposure and frostbites. Members of the Box 52 Association served hot coffee and sandwiches from a warm railroad owned building that was a welcome relief for the crews.
Engines 31 & 47 working at 3-1314 Jan. 18, 1920. Photo Digital Commonwealth Leslie Jones Collection

Photo from the Leslie Jones Collection Digital Commonwealth Engine Company 8’s wagon.

Timeline of Box 1314 courtesy of Retired Commissioner Paul Christian

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Engines</th>
<th>Ladder</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Chiefs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0952</td>
<td>1314</td>
<td>4, 6, 8, 31 (fireboat)</td>
<td>1, 8</td>
<td>R1 Chem. 1</td>
<td>Division 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>District 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1010</td>
<td>2-1314</td>
<td>50, 27, 40, 25, 47 (fireboat)</td>
<td>9, 18</td>
<td>Water Tower 1</td>
<td>C2 District 7, 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1030</td>
<td>3-1314</td>
<td>7, 26, 36, 39</td>
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</table>
Engine 50's 1920 ALF 750 gpm pumped worked at the fire and was praised in the Fire Engineering article for its pumping capacity. Photo Collection of member William Noonan.

The Boston Fire Department 100 Years Ago
1920

In 1920 the BFD was under the command of Chief of Department Peter E. Walsh. Division 1 was commanded by Deputy Chief Henry Fox, Division 2 had Deputy Chief Walter M. McLean in charge. The third Division was under the command of Deputy Chief Daniel Sennott. The Fire Commissioner was James R. Murphy.

Division 1 was comprised of Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
Division 2 was comprised of Districts 6, 7, 8 and 11
Division 3 was comprised of Districts 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 15

Division 1 Headquarters at Ladder 8's quarters Fort Hill Square

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 1</th>
<th>East Boston</th>
<th>District Chief Fitzgerald M. O'Leary</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marion Street</td>
<td>Engine 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paris Street</td>
<td>Engine 9</td>
<td><strong>Ladder 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saratoga &amp; Byron</td>
<td>Engine 11</td>
<td><strong>Ladder 21</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>521 Commercial St</td>
<td>Engine 31 (Fire Boat)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer St</td>
<td>Engine 40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adjoining South Ferry</td>
<td>Engine 47 (Fire Boat)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saratoga St</td>
<td>Chemical Engine 7</td>
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</table>
**District 2 Charlestown** District Chief William E. Reilly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elm St</th>
<th>Engine 27</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bunker Hill Street</td>
<td>Engine 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monument Street</td>
<td>Engine 36 Ladder 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winthrop Street</td>
<td>Engine 50 District 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Street</td>
<td>Ladder 9</td>
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**District 3 Fort Point Area Downtown** District Chief Cornelius J. O’Brien

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fort Hill Square</th>
<th>Engine 25 Ladder 8 Rescue 1, District 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>344 Congress Street</td>
<td>Engines 38 &amp; 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ave. Bridge</td>
<td>Engine 44 (Fire Boat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburg Street</td>
<td>Ladder 17 Water Tower 3</td>
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**District 4 City Proper** District Chief Edward J. Shallow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bullfinch Street</th>
<th>Engine 4 Chemical Engine 1 Water Tower 1 District 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leverett Street</td>
<td>Engine 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salem Street</td>
<td>Engine 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friend Street</td>
<td>Ladder 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Grove Street</td>
<td>Ladder 24</td>
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**District 5 Downtown/South End** District Chief Albert J. Caulfield

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>East Street</th>
<th>Engine 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>River Street</td>
<td>Engine 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mason Street</td>
<td>Engines 26 &amp; 35 District 5 Chief of Dept Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrison Ave</td>
<td>Ladder 17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Division 2 Headquartered at Engine 22 quarters Warren Street**

**District 6 South Boston** District Chief James J. Caine

| Dorchester & 4th Sts Engine 1 Ladder 5 District 6 |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| O Street & 4th Street | Engine 2                                      |
| Dorchester Avenue    | Engine 15                                      |
| Andrew Square        | Engine 43 Ladder 20                           |

**District 7 South End** District Chief Frank A. Sweeney

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bristol &amp; Harrison Engine 3 Ladder 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warren Ave Engine 22 Ladder 13 District 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boylston &amp; Hereford Engine 33 Ladder 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire HQ Bristol St Tower 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>District 8 Roxbury District Chief Frank J. Sheeran</td>
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<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cabot Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centre Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Longwood &amp; Brookline Ave</td>
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<td>Tremont Street</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 11 Alston/Brighton District Chief James F. McMahon</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chestnut Hill Ave</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Ave</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harvard @ Camb.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oak Square</td>
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| Division 3 Headquartered at Ladder 4’s quarters on Dudley Street. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 9 Roxbury/Grove Hall District Chief Joseph H. Kenney</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dudley Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northampton Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warren &amp; Quincy</td>
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<td>Dudley St</td>
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<tr>
<th>District 10 Dorchester District Chief Francis J. Jordan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting House Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harvard St</td>
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<td>Callender &amp; Lyford</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 12 Jamaica Plain District Chief John N. Lally</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centre Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Egleston Square</td>
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<td>Washington St</td>
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<tr>
<th>District 13 Roslindale/West Roxbury District Chief Michael J. Kennedy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centre Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington &amp; Poplar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walkhill &amp; Wenham</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 14 Dorchester District Chief Allan J. MacDonald</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>River &amp; Temple Sts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walnut Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorchester Avenue</td>
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District 15 Hyde Park District Chief Joseph A. Dolan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Norfolk Street</th>
<th>Engine 19</th>
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<tr>
<td>Harvard &amp; Winthrop</td>
<td>Engine 48</td>
<td>Ladder 28</td>
<td>District 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milton &amp; Hamilton Sts</td>
<td>Engine 49</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fire Headquarters 60 Bristol Street

Shops 363 Albany Street

Veterinary Hospital Atkinson Street

Fire Alarm Office 60 Bristol Street

Total runs for 1920 = 4,396
Second alarms = 27
Third alarms = 12
Fourth alarm = 2
Fifth alarms = 0

Box 52 Association Membership Roster 1920


Robert H. Field          Henry D. Warren
Nathan R. Flynn          Alden D. Wheeler
Theodore E. Grant        George Whitney
Walter T. Hannigan       Nelson Whitney
Harry J. Harding         Waldo E. Windhorn
Raymond Hemenway
Frank M. Kelliher
William F. Lehman
W.F. McDonough

Box 52 Association Officers 1920
President-----------------Timothy J. Toomey
Vice President-----------P. Hildreth Parker
Secretary-Treasurer------Harry Belknap
Asst Secretary-Treasurer---Nelson Whitney

Executive Committee
George S. Cole          William Dolan
William Lehman          E.H. Milliken

B.F.D Doin's!

JOHN 'JACK' DEMPSEY APPOINTED BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMISSIONER

Mayor Martin J. Walsh announced the appointment of longtime Boston firefighter John (Jack) Dempsey as Commissioner of the Boston Fire Department. Commissioner Dempsey has served in the interim role of Commissioner since the retirement of former Commissioner Joe Finn last month. Since taking leadership of the Boston Fire Department in March, Commissioner Dempsey has proactively prioritized the health and safety of firefighters during the COVID-19 pandemic by supplying firefighters with personal protective equipment, ensuring the frequent sanitization of firehouses, adjusting staffing levels to ensure social distancing, implementing mandatory training for infectious disease response, and more. Commissioner Dempsey has been a member of the Boston Fire Department for 35 years, having served in multiple leadership capacities including most recently as Chief of Operations for the department. He also previously served for four years as the Boston Fire Marshal, where he managed the Fire Prevention Division. Commissioner Dempsey has previously served in several other capacities including on the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations, the Automatic Sprinkler Appeals Board, the Walsh-Kennedy Commission on Hot Work, and the Construction Fire Safety Partnership. He is a current member of the Fire
Service Advisory Council and was instrumental in the development and implementation of the National Fire Protection Association’s Hot Work Safety Certification program.

The three new Emergency-One Typhoon pumps have been delivered and assigned to Engine Companies 9, 30 and 48. They are all 2020 models and equipped with 1,250/560/30 Class A foam.

Photo by Member Michael Boynton

Brush 55’s 1998 International/E-One has been replaced by a combination Brush Unit/High Water Rescue Unit. This new apparatus is based on a 2005 Stewart & Stevenson chassis with a 2019 Acela Body equipped with a 500 gpm pump with a 1000 gallon tank and 30 gallons of foam. The unit will be housed at Engine during the spring and fall brush seasons. The rest of the year, it will be housed at Engine 10’s quarters. The brush module can be removed from the body of the truck by a forklift for conversion into the High-Water Rescue Vehicle.

Photo by Member William Noonan
Hackney has completed construction/installation of a new dive rescue body on the 2011 International 4400 chassis of the previous dive rescue unit (J20). The Hackney FP0778R body features a 20.8-ft heavy rescue body with seven (7) roll-up doors and forward personnel compartment.

The Collapse Rescue (H6) has returned to service after having the 1997 Hackney body remounted to a 2020 Freightliner M2 chassis.

Two 2020 Chevy Suburban’s were assigned to District 1 Chief in East Boston and the Safety Chief (H1).

TSU-2 the 2018 Freightliner/Hackney Tech Rescue Unit has been reassigned as H8 and retains duties as the Tech Rescue Unit.

Decon Unit 2 is now designated as H5.

Four 2019 Emergency-One Cyclone Metro 100 foot rear mount aerials have been placed in service at Ladder Companies 4, 6, 9 and 23.

Engine 20 has received a 2009 Emergency-One 1,250/500 pump that formerly served as Engine Companies 30 and 21. With the rehabbing of the Tobin Bridge, the increase in traffic has caused the BFD to reactivate Ladder Company 22. It is in service from Monday-Friday in Charlestown. The apparatus is housed in a temporary building near the foot of the bridge in City Square. The Company has been issued a 2008 Emergency-One rear mount aerial. The rig was the former Ladder 28. Manning is by firefighters and officers on an overtime basis.

Ladder 22 was also reactivated from July 26, 2004 at 0800 till July 30th, 2004 and was quartered with Engine 32 and Ladder 9. This was due to the Democratic National Convention being held at the T.D. Garden.

Ladder 22 was officially placed in-service on April 21, 1905 and Combination-Ladder 5 was deactivated. On November 13th, 1972 the Company was transferred to the quarters of Engine Company 51 in Oak Square Brighton where it remained until deactivated on April 10, 1981. Ladder 22 was in service for 76 years. Below photo by member Peter Aloisi.
On September 16, 2019, the Boston Fire Department held a formal groundbreaking ceremony for the first new fire station in the City of Boston in over 30-years. The new station will replace the quarters of Engine 42, Rescue 2 & District 9 located on the same site at 1870 Columbus Ave., corner of Bragdon St.

![Artist drawing of the new station](image)

The current station opened on December 19, 1952. The following units have been assigned to these quarters throughout the years.

- **Engine Co.42 (1952-2019)**
- **Ladder Co.30 (1952-1981)**
- **Division 2 (1954-1984)**
- **District 9 (1984-2019)**

![Out with the old, photo by Member Mark Roche](image)

During construction, Engine 42 and District 9 are being housed in temporary quarters located at 95 Atherton St. between Amery & La Martine Sts. Rescue 2 will relocate to the quarters of Engine 52 at 975 Blue Hill Ave. (Rescue 2 once shared these quarters from 1973-1981).
BOX 52 ASSOCIATION NEWS

Our 108th year has certainly been exciting to say the least. Like the rest of the Nation we are coping with the Pandemic as best we can. The Board of Directors is embracing new technology for meeting using the Zoom app.

Our meetings are well attended, and the entertainment committee always ensures an interesting program that members and guests always enjoy. During this abbreviated season our speakers have presented programs on recent major fires, modern fire apparatus. At Christmas we had our traditional Italian Buffet courtesy of Honorary Member Ralph Sevior at the quarters of Wayne Alarm with Vice President presenting the last of his multi year shows on the history of the Lynn, Massachusetts Fire Department. The last meeting of the season took place in February was member and former Wakefield Fire Chief David Parr presented a program on the loss of the Wakefield First Baptist Church on October 23rd, 2018 with seven alarms being transmitted on Wakefield Box 3413. Member Michael Boynton presented a video presentation on all 2019 apparatus deliveries in the Commonwealth.

The staff of our newsletter The Line Box presented the memberships with quarantine issue with articles of interest from the archives from 1900 to 1940. Since we were all in ‘lockdown’ it made for some great reading!

Our bi-annual Ham & Bean Supper was also cancelled. This meeting was resurrected from the past and is enjoyed by members and guests. The Ham & Bean Supper is a very New England tradition with baked ham, baked beans, rolls, salads and all types of deserts. The first Box 52 Ham & Bean Supper was held in 1974. They started as church suppers and many types of organizations adopted them over the years.

So, wanna know a little history and trivia about the Box 52 Association? Great! Here we go.
In 1912 a group of well known businessmen and fire buffs meet with Boston Fire Chief John A. Mullen and Commissioner Charles Cole, who after some grumbling granted permission to start and Fire Line Passes were issued to all members.
In 1918 the Association became incorporated under Massachusetts General Law.
- Membership was capped at 104 members (52+52=104)
- During the 1920's up through the early 1950's, luncheon meetings were held at the Boston Parker House Hotel (Home of the Parker House Rolls) as most members were businessmen working in the downtown area.
- Many of members served our Nation in the armed services during World Wars I & II, Korea, Vietnam and the Gulf. Box 52 lost one member during World War II.
- Today, the Association is made up of Buffs, active and retired firefighters, fire alarm operators, and other public safety employees.
- All Boston Chiefs of Department and Fire Commissioners, State Fire Marshall are all Honorary Members.
• In 2012 we celebrated our Centennial, and marched headlong into our second century!
• 2020 finds us still following in the footsteps of our founding members and headed into a new world that they could never imagine in 1912!
  Wishing all our fellow Buffs a healthy and safe summer. Let us all hope that we will be out on the fire ground, musters and parades before too much longer!
  
• If you find yourself in the Boston area on the third Friday of the month from September to May, check our website at www.box52.org for meeting location, or check out our Face Book page. Visitors are welcome at all meetings, except for December which is members only.

Photo from the Box 52 Archives
Greetings from the Connecticut Fire Photographers, and congratulations on the return of Turnout. The last few month have been interesting and slow for some. Our fire duty has gotten slightly busier. Our members that make station visits for apparatus have almost gone silent for new photos. We have been posting a lot of older apparatus from around the country. This has kept our members busy with fire duty, revisiting our collections, and sharing them with our social media audience.

This year is our 45th anniversary. All plans we had, are on hold for now. We regret that we had to cancel this years Silver City Fire Fest and our bi-yearly photo exhibit is on hold until the Connecticut Fire Museum open’s and restrictions are lifted. If the governor decides to open the indoor museum, our photos will be on display.

As for fire duty, this has not down slowed our members. We may be following social distancing guidelines and safety precautions on the fire ground, but we continue to produce some great photos and video. No one has been denied scene access as of now and we continue to do our best to bring the world great coverage.

The CFPA membership has reached 115 members, from around the country. The digital age has helped our group grow immensely. We have some of the busiest photographers in the North East part of the country along with a great group of members from several other state. We always have room for more to share our passion with.

Join Here: [CTFirePhoto.org/BecomeAMember](CTFirePhoto.org/BecomeAMember)
We continue to produce our monthly newsletter, The Lens, and it can be viewed on our website www.ctfirephoto.org. Also look for the “News & Newsletters” section on our site, that we publish one every month. Its filled with plenty of action and some apparatus photos. It also has our members Bio’s and camera tricks and tips.

2019 Silver City Fire Fest Recap: The CFPA once again co-hosted the 10th annual Silver City Fire Fest on July 20, 2019, in Meriden, CT. In honor of this anniversary, VP Mike Quinn arranged for actor Randolph Mantooth, known to many for his role as firefighter/paramedic, John Gage, on the hit 70s tv show “Emergency”, to be our special guest. Randy was on hand all day to sign autographs, pose for pictures, and share stories with fans of all generations who filled the ballroom to meet him. His presence made this year’s event our biggest Fire Fest yet, as well over 1,000 people attended from all over the northeast and as far away as Georgia, California and Canada. In addition to Randy, dozens of model builders displayed their scale fire apparatus creations and numerous area fire departments, antique apparatus owners, and police car owners brought their vehicles by throughout the day for our large outdoor display area. Over a dozen vendors, including long time attendees Fire Apparatus Journal, Eagle Emblems, and Cookie’s Diecast, were also setup selling all kinds of items for every fire buff of every age. Unfortunately, our 11th annual event, scheduled for July 17, 2020 has been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but the hotel has already been booked for next year’s event in July 17, 2021, so we will be back and as good as ever!

CFPA President Glenn Duda, Randolph Mantooth and CFPA VP Mike Quinn
Our social media footprint sites and data are provided below. This data represents the 2019 totals. All totals have grown from 2018 and some broke prior club records. We continue to bring more content to our followers, as new social media venues come out. We are looking to see which direction we will venture into next. Our presence on social media has brought the CFPA and its members more recognition within our coverage area, along with a worldwide following.

---Website Stats---

- Highest Viewed Website Album in 2019: Apparatus 4 Alarm fire on Webster Ave in the Bronx by Dave Kempter. The most viewed album in club history!
- Second Highest Website Viewed Album in 2019: 26,605 views Apartment fire on Allen St in New Britain by Chris Sargis. The second most viewed album in club history!
- Third Highest Viewed Website Album in 2019: 15,052 views Multiple alarm fire on Barnhart Ave in Sleepy Hollow

---Instagram---

- Most Liked 2019 Instagram Photo: 1,156 Likes, Photo of FDNY 10 Truck by Paul Shea.
- 2019 Photo Biggest Reach: 27.3K Reach, Photo of Houston FD Tech Rescue 11 by Mike Quinn.
- 2019 Photo Most Impressions: 35.3K Impressions, Photo of Tivoli Firehouse Fire by Bill Johnson.
- 2019 Most Engaging Photo: 1,308 Engagements, Photo of Houston FD Tech Resc by Mike Quinn.
- 2019 Most Saved Photo: 176 Saves, Photo of Houston FD Tech Rescue by Mike Quinn.

---Twitter---


---Facebook---


*Green means UP/Improvement, Red means DOWN/Loss, New Stats*

Visit Our Website: CTFirePhoto.org
Follow Us On Twitter: Twitter.com/CTFirePhoto
Like Our Facebook Page: Facebook.com/CTFirePhotographersAssociation
Follow Our Instagram: Instagram.com/CTFirePhotographers

CFPA members continue to have our work featured in many of the nation's top fire publications, as well as local and national media outlets.
CFPA President Glenn Duda’s Recent cover photo on Fire Engineering Magazine.

May 2020 cover of Fire News Photo by, Ken LaBelle
Holyoke, MA 141 Oak Street. 2nd alarm May 25, 2020 Photo by Ken Beliveau

Taftville Fire Department, Norwich CT, 1945 Seagrave ladder
Photo by Mark Redman

Grosse Pointe MI, Firefighters work this sailboat fire, May 29, 2020
Photo by Ted Roney
San Antonio Fire, worked this commercial building fire at N Trinity St. & W. Salinas, in May
Photo by Zack Newton

Photo by Robert Ladd
The Leather Helmet Society Fire Buff Club has begun it's 28th Year. Times have changed drastically for all of us across the USA, Canada and around the globe in the past three months. Here is a different type of newsletter to share with our local LHS Members and our brothers & sisters in IFBA Chapters everywhere. We all miss the Fire Trucks, but most of all... the Friends and Fellowship... stay healthy! Some photos of what we have enjoyed over the past years... buffing together. We will all be back at it soon!

THE LEATHER HELMET SOCIETY
Manchester, N.H.
“Twenty-eight years of commitment”

The Leather Helmet Society is a fraternal organization of firefighters, retired firefighters and fire buffs, all with common interests in the firefighting profession. Organized with five charter members in 1992, by-laws were adopted and the very first business meeting was conducted with former Concord, N.H. Fire Chief John Dionne as guest speaker. Thirteen new members signed up that evening.

Two months later, over sixty members and guests attended a general business meeting with former Boston, Massachusetts Fire Commissioner Leo D. Stapleton as guest speaker. At that meeting it was voted to proceed with application for affiliation with the International Fire Buff Association (IFBA). September 9, 1992 the Leather Helmet Society was accepted into IFBA membership at the annual convention at Westlake, Ohio.

Our organizational mission is to promote the fire service. Over the intervening twenty-five years we have honored commitments to support the Manchester, N.H. Annual Fire Prevention Parade and Muster, the establishment of a substantial memorial monument dedicated to and including the names of Manchester Firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty and the New Hampshire Fire Service Committee of Merit.
In the past we have hosted annual fire buff shows with guest speakers, photographers and fire ground video makers conducting audio-visual presentations. Annually we host a Christmas holiday banquet that features presentations of recognition for Outstanding Service Awards to persons representing the finest traditions of firefighting and fire buffing.

Numerous occasions we have traveled on field trips to visit fire departments, museums, voyaged harbors upon fire boats and enjoyed meeting new acquaintances in the firefighting business in places like Portland, Maine, the Dartmouth-Upper Valley, N.H., Nashua, N.H., New Hampshire Seacoast Area fire departments. In Massachusetts.... Boston, Logan Airport, Lynn, Newton, Lawrence, Lowell, Brockton, Cambridge, Somerville, Worcester, Springfield & Providence, R.I. In Connecticut.... Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport. Also, visitations to Jersey City, N.J., the Gong Club and several FDNY tours through Manhattan, Harlem, Washington Heights, the South Bronx, and the Prospect Heights, Crown Heights, Bushwick, Brownsville and East New York sections of Brooklyn, N.Y. and.... the Fairchester Hose Haulers Muster at Valhalla and Croton-on-Hudson.

Some members enjoy the annual IFBA Convention visiting great firefighting traditional centers like Dallas, Milwaukee, Seattle, Hartford, Boston, Montreal, New Orleans, St. Louis etc...
The club conducts bi-monthly general business meetings usually in the Manchester area, but in past occasions have found us visiting, Nashua, Milford, Amherst, Hooksett, Pembroke, Auburn, Raymond, Portsmouth, Dover, Hudson, Goffstown, Litchfield, Lawrence, MA and the Boston Sparks/Boston Fire Museum where former Boston Fire Commissioner Marty Pierce addressed our members.

The mission is worthwhile, the brotherhood and ambassadorship unlike any other.

Join the Leather Helmet Society

Name ___________________________________ DOB _______________________
Mailing address ______________________________________________________

Telephone #’s (home and/or cell) ______________________________________

Work profession & place of work ________________________________________

List any other fire service or fire buff organizations you belong to __________

___________________________ ________________________________________

Principle interests are: fire buffing ____ fire ground communications ____ scanner buffing ____ new apparatus ____ antique apparatus ____ fire photography/videography ____ mechanics ____ visiting firehouses ____ patch collecting ____ fire service instructor/training ____ artwork ____

toy collecting ____ model building ____ fire service history ____ publications/books ____

memorabilia/collectibles ____ musters & parades ____

List two members of the Leather Helmet Society that have given their approval to sponsor you:

1. ___________________________________ 2. ___________________________________

Submit $20.00 application fee to: The Leather Helmet Society
131 Calef Road, Manchester, N.H. 03103
REGION 3

Anne Arundel Alumers Assn.
115 Glenmont Ave., Ferndale
Glen Burnie MD 21061
alumers11@verizon.net
alumers8@verizon.net

Box 234 Assn., Inc.
22 Walker Ave.
Baltimore MD 21208
kjacobson@verizon.net
eo156@bcfba.org
pvfc3251@verizon.net

Box 414 Assn., Inc.
414 North Baltimore MD 21202
Rkatzenberg1014@msn.com
Labelgy414@gmail.com
sfreund@yahoo.com

Metro Richmond Flying Squad, Inc.
Att. Steven Korb
6006 Park Ave.
Richmond VA 23226
Stevekorb804@gmail.com

S.H.C. Assn.
c/o Guy Ceplas
203 N. Carey St., 1st Fl.
Baltimore MD 21223

Friendship Fire Assn.
Engine 3, D.C.F.D.
439 New Jersey Ave. NW
Washington DC 20001
waltergolz@verizon.net
jkenbrey@msn.com
dewalt@msn.com

Greater Springfield Vol. Fire Dept., Inc.
7011 Backlick Rd. PO Box 833
Springfield VA 22150
Canteen22@acl.com
jjjackson@acl.com

Old Dominion Historical Fire Society
PO Box 4196
Chester VA 23831
gdhoermann@gmail.com
tom-herman@att.net
odhswebchief@gmail.com
Activity Report for the Alarmers 2020 Region 3 Meeting

We have made some progress over the last few months on our new ReHab vehicle. We have taken delivery of a new 2020 Ford F-350 pickup truck. It has a utility body on it and dual wheels in the rear. The County has ordered a new slide-out tray for us, and we can customize the layout to fit our purposes. The new unit will carry 2 pop up tents for shade and shelter, 1 large electric misting fan and 3 smaller battery operated misting fans for the summer. We have cooling towels, and extra water and ice. We will carry a propane heater and walls for the tents, that become warming tents in the winter. We plan to install a 2000 watt inverter for electric power.

We have had several meetings with the new Deputy Chief of Operations. He wants us to respond now to all working fires, and he wants us to be able to add our units to fires on the very hot days of summer. This is something the County has always been against.

We got a $5000 grant from BGE this year to buy some new equipment for the new unit. A new misting fan and 2 new pop-up tents are on order.

But all this good news is on hold right now because of the coronavirus thing. During this health emergency we are able to respond to only 3rd alarm or greater fires. We are limited to going to our building, except for runs. I know the other clubs have similar policies in place right now. Hope we can get past this pretty soon, I would at least like to be able to go to the building just for routine walkthroughs if nothing else.

Submitted by Keith Hammack
By Stuart M. Nathan

As we fight through the current pandemic and keep safe, let's take a look back at last year's statistics. During 2019, the Box 414 Coffee Wagons responded on 73 fires, including 24 two alarm fires, 3 three alarm fires, 2 four alarm fires, 24 working fires, 6 hazmat incidents, 6 fires with fatalities, and 8 other runs. The total of 29 multiple alarm fires during 2019 was a slight increase from the 25 multiples in 2018 and 21 in 2017. Back in the busy 60's and 70's, we often had about 100 additional runs during a year, now we run about 20-30 multiples per year.

Our coffee wagon traveled 1166 miles during last year, and in addition to fires, we went on 92 details. Our details include serving at the Fire Academy graduations, parades, police incidents, funerals of active duty members of the Fire and Police Departments, and the like. Our many volunteers not only served on the wagon but also worked many hours staffing our museum. The top volunteers were Charles Shultz with 527.5 hours, Joe Freund with 207.0 hours, Shaun Freund with 178.5 hours, Roger Katzenberg with 157.5 hours, and Sam Katzenberg with 152.0 hours.

A brief review of the food we served on the Coffee Wagons last year shows the following amounts dispensed:

- Coffee: 154 gallons
- Water: 484 gallons
- Gatorade: 581 gallons
- Hot Chocolate: 769 cups
- Soda: 724 cans
- Hot dogs: 1844
- Sandwiches: 1707 (breakfast and lunch)

SAVE LIVES • INSTALL SMOKE DETECTORS
As noted above, there were two four alarm fires last year, the first of which on June 6th was our shortest run of the year as a two story mattress warehouse directly behind Oldtown Station, where our canteen is housed, was engulfed in fire. The wagon served for 22 hours over two days at that fire. Only a few weeks later on July 1st was the second four alarm fire of the year in a four and five story vacant warehouse in West Baltimore. We served for 8.5 hours at that fire.

MEDALS DAY

On May 11, 2019, the Fire Department held its annual Medals Day ceremony at the War Memorial Building in downtown Baltimore. In addition to the Departmental awards given for meritorious conduct, exemplary performance, distinguished service, CPR saves, and distinguished unit citations, a number of special awards are given for the most notable acts of bravery or dedication to service. Box 414 Association presented its Special Award to the Fire Department Special Operations Command (SOC), headed by Chief James W. Wallace, for its work at many complex rescue incidents, including a trench rescue, several swift water rescues, harbor rescues, and a very difficult confined space rescue aboard a ship. Of particular note was the SOC Water Deployment Team’s mission in North Carolina during Hurricane Florence in September, 2018. The team conducted search and rescue operations assisting more than 200 civilians stranded by floodwaters. They also provided food, water and other necessities to remote areas of the region only accessible by boat or ATV. Box 414 was proud to present its medal to the members of the Special Operations Command for their professionalism in handling so many difficult responses during the year.

We are also proud to report that our very own Walter Lemmon (Box 414 member and retired BCFD lieutenant) was presented the Chief Herman Williams, Jr. Humanitarian Award for his many years of service as Chair of the Coffee Wagon Committee and top worker on the Wagon. His cooking skills were legendary, and his Egg McLemmons threatened to put McDonalds out of business. We would be remiss if we did not mention Walt’s wife Marie who also worked countless hours on the Wagon and was primarily responsible for purchasing the food and other supplies needed to keep the Wagon fully stocked.
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

On September 28, 2019, we had the special opportunity to celebrate both the 70th anniversary of the incorporation of Box 414 Association and the 40th anniversary of the opening of the Baltimore City Fire Museum in our quarters at historic Engine 6 Firehouse. We were pleased to be joined by Chief of the Fire Department Niles Ford and buffs from clubs throughout Region 3 for this special event. We had a short program recounting the history of Box 414 which actually was organized in 1946 but not incorporated until 1949, and former 414 President Bob Brown unveiled a plaque which paid special tribute to the chaplains who have served the Baltimore City Fire Department.

IFBA CONVENTION

Our thanks to the Pompieres Auxiliaries de Montreal for hosting an outstanding convention. Special congratulations go to PAM President Steve Garnett who was awarded the 2019 Hank Wilwers Fire Buff of the Year trumpet. We in Baltimore have a special relationship with the Montreal Fire Department and Operations Chief Patrick Trudel who along with our own BCFD Battalion Chief David Goldman and members of both Departments visit and train with each other during “home and away” trips each year.

SPECIAL PANDEMIC OPERATIONS

Thanks to 414 members Roger Katzenberg and President Joe Freund, we have developed excellent guidelines for our coffee wagon operations during these extraordinary times. We have provided a copy of these procedures to the IFBA Executive Office and made them available upon request.

Everyone stay safe as we battle through the COVID-19 health emergency.

SAVE LIVES - INSTALL SMOKE DETECTORS
4-ALARM CHURCH FIRE in E. BALTIMORE 3-28-20

In the early morning hours of March 28th a torrential rainstorm came through Baltimore and residents reported hearing a loud boom in the area about 8:00 AM.

At around 0900 hours Fire Communications received calls reporting a church fire at Aisquith and E. Eager Streets in east Baltimore. Fire Box 6-20 was dispatched at 0907. Units from the Oldtown Station arrived and found smoke showing from the top of the steeple of a very large 187 year-old multi-story brick church. Battalion Chief 2 immediately made it a working fire followed quickly by a second alarm.

Companies made entry into the church and attempted to reach the steeple. Crews were having trouble pulling handlines and navigating the narrow winding stairs in the tower leading to the 250' high steeple.

Within minutes heavy fire was coming from the steeple and the interior crews were ordered to abandon their mission and evacuate the building. Due to falling slate shingles and the fear of the steeple collapsing, a collapse zone was established and exterior operations were ordered. Homes in the immediate area were also evacuated as a precaution.

Initially low water pressure hampered efforts of the water reaching the steeple. The fire continued to burn down into the tower as shingles and chunks of burning wood rained down onto the street below.
Around 0945 the whole steeple was fully involved and Command requested a third alarm and special called Tower 81. Around this time the Water Department arrived on the scene and started shutting off different grids in the area to increase water pressure in the immediate area of the fire.

By 1030 the whole outer covering was burned off and just the inner support structure was standing and still burning. And suddenly, without warning, the top half of the steeple collapsed forward and into the street below. Command requested the fourth alarm at this time.
Tower 81 relocated closer to the corner of the church and began to flow water into the top of the structure knocking down the remaining visible fire. Eventually units were able to re-enter the church to overhaul and evaluate the integrity of the church tower.
No injuries were reported and a lightning strike was listed as the probable cause of the fire.

This church was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982. The cornerstone was laid in 1833 and was originally known as St. James the Less Roman Catholic Church. In 1966 the parish merged with St. John the Evangelist and was renamed St. James and John Parish. The parish closed in 1986 and later sold to a non-Catholic congregation. It is presently occupied by the Urban Bible Fellowship Church.

The church is 184' long by 65' wide and the ceiling is 51' from the floor. The steeple is 256' high with a 10' cross on top. It is the second tallest church in Baltimore. A peal of 4 bells is in the tower. The largest weighing 5000 pounds and was cast by McShane foundry of Baltimore in 1885.

Articles & Photos By
HOWARD MEILE III
Friendship Fire Association
Canteen Operations

Article & Photos By
Chris Oliphant, Coordinator of Field Operations

FFA Canteen on scene of 2nd alarm 1525 Church St, NW. November 16, 2019.

Friendship Fire Association has been consistently providing a Canteen Unit to the District of Columbia Fire Department since the 1940’s. FFA currently operates a 2005 Chevrolet C5500 Custom built Canteen Unit Manufactured by Krammes Kustom Body (No longer in business) and a Ready Reserve Canteen Unit a 1988 Chevrolet Step-Van. Friendship Fire no longer operates the dedicated Rehab Unit due to increased demands related to Cancer.

2019 saw a decrease of about 33% in requests for service from 2018 and through June 1st FFA has responded to 7 requests. COVID-19 has had an impact on service but our units have remained IN SERVICE.

The key points of our COVID Response Plan have included:
FFA COVID Response Plan

1. No FFA member is allowed to be at ANY DCFD firehouse unless you have permission of the COFO. The Self-Dispatch protocol has been suspended.

2. If you are in quarantine, sick with OR without a fever STAY HOME!

3. No member over the age of 60 is allowed on the fireground By Order Of DCFD.

4. If you are the designated Unit DRIVER you are required to sign the "VISITORS LOG" at the station watch desk AND have your temperature taken by a on duty member if available. Any member who has a temperature higher then 99.9 will NOT be allowed to assume duty. A maximum of 3 members will be allowed on the fireground and you must notify the Coordinator prior to reporting to the scene.

5. When the Unit arrives on scene remind the Incident Commander that you are Available for service and to please limit the number of companies at the Unit to 1 or 2 companies only. If a member reports to the scene they must have their temperature taken. Any member who has a temperature higher then 99.9 will NOT be allowed to assume duty.

6. While on scene all FFA Members shall practice social distancing of at least 6’ both inside and outside of Unit. All members should wear a Face Mask and gloves while at the scene. Also, while you are on the scene please frequently wash your hands and use hand sanitizer.

7. All members are to have their temperature taken again prior to leaving the scene except for the Unit driver who will have their temperature taken prior to leaving the station at the conclusion of the call.

While these restrictions are very limiting, they are for the HEALTH, SAFETY and WELFARE of both FFA Members and the Department we serve.

FFA Canteen on scene of 2nd alarm 1525 Church St, NW. November 16, 2019.
The DC Fire & EMS Museum is operated by the Friendship Fire Association (FFA) and is located on the third floor of the active Engine Co. 3 at 439 New Jersey Ave. NW.

It is normally open Monday thru Friday from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM and some Saturdays during the same hours. Last year, we had over 1200 visitors to the museum and this year, before the Covid-19 forced shutdown in mid-March, we had over 350 visitors. At the present time, we remain closed due to the virus, but hope to open sometime later this year, depending on the fire department’s restrictions. Normally it is best to call a few days prior to a planned visit to ensure one of our volunteers will be available. (See phone numbers below).

For those unable to use the spiral stairwell, a handicap lift is available. The museum is rich in our department’s memorabilia from the early volunteer companies to the present, displayed in the 4,000 square foot third floor. Examples of our collection include volunteer parade hats, leather high eagle helmets, leather fire buckets, an early Gamewell fire alarm box relay transmitter, a box alarm tape of the 1929 4th Alarm fire at the White House, early breathing apparatus (including the McCaa Masks used by the rescue squads) and so much more.
Also, the last horse-drawn steam fire engine used in Washington is located in the small bay of the apparatus floor. We are probably one of the few fire museums in an active firehouse. We especially welcome firefighters, fire buffs and other groups to the museum. We not only talk about the past, but also the present operating procedures in the DC Fire & EMS Department. Bring your family so they too can see the history and progress of firefighting in Washington, DC.

National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Replica

For further information, please contact:

Walter Gold, Executive Director - (202) 439-1936
Mark Tennyson, Curator at (703) 929-1579
Jim Embrey, President FFA at (571) 436-7774

DCFD Museum Sign – FFA Museum sign on the front of DCFD Engine 3. Photo by Walter Gold
Museum Exhibits
Photo by Mike DeWalt
NFFM Replica in DCFD Museum,
Photo by Mike DeWalt
As with most other IFBA clubs, the pandemic has changed the way the Friendship Fire Association of Washington DC has been doing business.

On the operational side, members are not going into firehouses unless there is a response, and the practice of doing standbys and discretionary responses has been discontinued for the time being. The canteen unit only responds when assigned on the second alarm or special called by incident command, and then with a maximum of two members allowed in quarters.

Monthly meetings have been cancelled for the past several months and will continue as such until conditions improve.

There have been two significant fires that required our canteen to respond in recent months.

**300 M Street SW**

The first took place on May 24th in the Districts Southwest quadrant not far from Nationals Stadium. A Box Alarm was sounded shortly after 2 PM for fire at 300 M Street SW, a large 8 story occupied apartment building. Several calls were received, including some from frantic residents reporting they were trapped.

First arriving units reported fire showing from the third floor, and there were occupants at several balconies waving for assistance. A Working Fire Dispatch was requested, followed shortly afterwards by a 2nd Alarm. This brought approximately 20 units and 100 personnel to the scene.
Firefighters began an interior attack on the blazing apartment, while others removed distressed occupants via aerial ladder and the bucket of Tower 3. Inside, members were directed to those units where people had telephoned for help. In most cases, residents were advised to shelter in place.

The fire was confined to the apartment of origin and extinguished in about 15 minutes. Work than began on smoke removal and checking hallways and staircases for any victims. Although several occupants were evaluated on scene by EMS, only one required transportation to the hospital with a non-life-threatening condition.

Fire investigators determined the blaze was accidental, result of improper use of a candle. The canteen unit, staffed by several FFA members, operated for a couple of hours.

Two days later, the Canteen Unit was again dispatched, this time to a second alarm in the downtown area, opposite the Capitol One Arena.

**Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Headquarters**

This fire did considerable damage to top floor offices of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Headquarters.

What was to become a Two Alarm blaze was initially dispatched as an automatic fire alarm at 6:16 AM. As Engine 2 was leaving their firehouse a few hundred yards away, they could see smoke coming from the eight floor of the square block building at 600 5th Street NW.
The balance of the Box Alarm was dispatched, followed by a Working Fire Dispatch. As firefighters were working their way to the fire floor, flames erupted from the windows, and a Second Alarm was requested. That brought a total of approximately 20 units and 100 personnel to the scene, including the FFA Canteen Unit, which was operating with the Reserve Canteen while the regular vehicle was undergoing maintenance.

An attack was made on the blaze using the building’s standpipe system, and the fire was prevented from spreading further and then extinguished.

The next challenge was to remove smoke that had banked down onto several floors of the structure. This was difficult and took considerable time due to the construction of the building. At the same time, salvage operations were underway to minimize water damage on the lower floors.

All these operations were undertaken with no injuries to either Metro staff or fire department personnel. Investigators were able to determine the fire was accidental, the result of an electrical issue.

The structure, also known the Jackson Graham Building, was built in 1974, prior to laws requiring all high-rise buildings to be fully sprinklered. Only the below grade areas have sprinklers.

**New Air 1**

In DC Fire and EMS news, the department has placed the new Air 1 in service at the quarters of Engine Company 4 on Sherman Avenue in Pleasant Plains.

This is a specialized vehicle, one of two purchased, with the primary responsibility of providing and refilling self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) bottles at the scene of emergencies.
The vehicle is a 2019 KME Severe Stainless-Steel Cab and Rescue Body powered by a Cummins L9 450 hp Engine with an Allison 4000 EVS Transmission. It has Federal Signal Warning Lights, Pioneer Scene and Flood Lights, a 20 kw Onan PTO Generator, two 200’ Electric Cord Reels and two Command Light 2,700-Watt LED Light Towers.

A six Cylinder 6,000 psi. Cascade Storage System with a Sierra Booster Pump and Scott Revolve Air Containment and Filling Station allows the unit to replenish expended SCBA bottles on scene. The vehicle also carries 84 spare SCBA cylinders and 57 spare medical oxygen cylinders.

There are working pressure air reels that can provide air to a remote location and another for refilling the cascade system. Salvage Equipment includes several covers to throw over furniture or other valuable items, as well as dewatering equipment.

Additionally, a 2,000 lb. winch is mounted aboard for moving motorized wheelchairs of patients who are being transported to the hospital. This responsibility is handled by the air units, which prior to this vehicle used a second vehicle that was equipped for wheelchair transport.

The other state-of-the-art vehicle, Air 2, is expected to go in service shortly. It is quartered at Engine Company 8 in the Kingman Park neighborhood.
ODHFS Owners Pride:
Chesterfield County, VA
By Mike Sanders – mnsand@visuallink.com

The Mack CF – a popular fire engine owned by numerous fire departments across the country, and very popular in Virginia. Our Old Dominion Historical Fire Society (ODHFS) Virginia club members also have a variety of Mack CF’s as well.

Chesterfield County, Virginia ran a variety of Mack CF’s, and ODHFS is fortunate to have a variety owned by club members. Chesterfield County is known for their yellow apparatus, which is the color today. This has been a long color tradition in Chesterfield County, although some of the Mack’s were painted red. Member Coleman Goodman is the proud owner of Chesterfield County Engine 64, a yellow 1981 Mack CF equipped with a 1500 gpm pump, 500 gallons of water, and carries Mack serial number 1439.

Engine 64 spent most of its career at Chesterfield County Station 6 in Enon. From Station 6 it was later re-assigned to be used as a training center engine and was eventually sold at auction to Coleman Goodman.

Several interesting facts about Engine 64. At one time, Engine 64 was one of two Chesterfield County engines equipped with a higher 1,500 gpm pump due to Enon’s proximity to a heavy industrial area.
Another interesting feature of Coleman’s Engine 64 is that the backboard was carried in the roof of the jump seat area. At one time, this equipment placement was not unusual in Chesterfield County. Ultimately, for safety reasons, Chesterfield County discontinued carrying the backboard in the jump seat areas. Today, Engine 64 has the backboard mounted in the jump seat area, which makes it unique.

With the help of the Enon volunteers, a variety of original equipment that was once carried by Engine 64 is back on Coleman’s Mack.

Visit the ODHFS antique roster at www.odfhs.smugmug.com to see many of our club member’s fire and rescue apparatus.
Report from Metro Richmond Flying Squad

We are happy to announce that we have cleared another step in the purchase of a former Richmond Firehouse that was built in 1915 and occupied as an active firehouse until 2012.

The process now has to go to a City ordinance with approval from City Counsel. We seem to have support from most Counsel persons at this point. The purpose of this building will be a headquarters for our club and a possible future firefighter museum.

Our membership is up about 10% and new members have become very active with responses in our club. We now have an agreement with the Richmond FD to allow for our officers to self deploy based on fireground radio traffic.

Our group provided services at our first fire that was outside the City of Richmond. We provided support at a two alarm apartment fire in Chesterfield County. This is a positive step for our organization as we have envisioned serving the entire Metro Richmond area in the future.

Respectfully submitted

Steve Korb

Yours In Safety,

Steve Korb, Chief
Metro Richmond Flying Squad Inc.
"Professionally operated by Volunteers"
Cell: 804.912.6369
rvaflingsquad@gmail.com

Firehouse Restoration Proposal

2901 Bainbridge Street
REGION 5

Box 4 Fire Buff Assn., Inc.
PO Box 181914
Dallas TX 75218
Ksd573@aol.com

Firefighting Historical Society, Inc.
c/o Chris Mickal
143 40th St.
New Orleans LA 70124
firelinephotos@aol.com

Fort Worth Red Helmets, Inc.
PO Box 17484
Fort Worth TX 76102

Greater Houston Fire Battalion
P. O. Box 697
Bellaire TX 77402
tmcfire@aol.com

Signal 51 Group
PO Box 7512
Bossier City LA 71171-5712
Signal51group@suddenlink.net
Crescent City Blazes

New Orleans Area Fires

Courtesy of Chris Mickal
DISTRICT CHIEF
NEW ORLEANS FIRE DEPARTMENT
www.FIRELINEPHOTOS.com

03-24-2020  New Orleans  3rd Alarm
Burgundy & Piety Sts
Heavy fire and collapse
04-10-2020  Jefferson Parish FD  2nd Alarm
Kim St    Dwelling

03-29-2020  Third District FD  3rd Alarm
7925 Macon St  Dwelling
Above It All

02-23-2020  New Orleans  2nd Alarm
St Bernard & N Claiborne Aves
Large fire leading to structural collapse
REGION 6

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Box 8 Club of St. Louis  
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lrquick@charter.net

Extra Alarm Assn. of the Twin Cities  
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Indianapolis Fire Buffs  
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president@indianapolisfirebuffs.org

Metro Emergency Support Services  
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Fox Lake IL 60020

Metropolitan Fire Associates, Inc.  
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1630 8th Ave.  
Moline IL 61265  
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Racine Fire Bells, Inc.  
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West Licking Firefighters Assn.  
PO Box 1120  
428 Jefferson St.  
Pataskala OH 43062

Western Reserve Fire Museum  
310 Carnegie  
Cleveland OH 44115  
nelsonp@wrfirem.com
By Chuck Bleck and Mike Penchar

The first five months of 2020 have been a challenge to say the least. Like most municipalities, the City of Chicago, as well as the State of Illinois, have taken drastic steps to protect the citizenry from the effects of the COVID 19 virus. All of our restaurants, bars, theaters, churches and Chicago’s lakefront trails have been temporarily closed. Sadly, even with all of the precautions and PPE mandates, the CFD has lost two active duty members and the CPD has lost three active duty members. Hundreds of others have either been hospitalized or placed on 14 day home quarantine. In light of this situation, the 5-11 Club and our partner, The Fire Buffs of Illinois, have cancelled the annual fire muster and flea market that was to be held in June of this year. We look forward to holding this event in 2021.

The fire action for 2019 was lower than normal with only 20 multiple alarm fires, mostly 2-11 fires. Through the first half of May 2020, the CFD has responded to one 3-11 and ten 2-11 fires. A major fire (3-11 with three special alarms) occurred on June 7th 2019 in a vacant two and three story ordinary and heavy timber joist structure built in 1917. The building was located on the far south side of Chicago in the Roseland area at 112th Street and Michigan Avenue. It once housed Gately’s Department Store and, except for three small commercial stores on the first floor of side “A”, the rest of the building had been vacant for 40 years. The original call came in at 3:30 a.m. The 150’ x 200’ building had bricked up windows making it unsafe for an interior attack. The exterior attack was mounted using four tower ladders, one snorkel (Squad 5) and numerous multiversals and aerial ladders. The fire was eventually struck out just after 10:00 a.m.

New equipment purchases include new engines, trucks and special duty rigs. Three new 2019 E-One engines with 1500 GPM two stage pumps, 530 gallon booster tanks and 30 gallon foam bladders have been placed into service at Engines 11, 39 and 74. A 137’ aerial tower with a pre-piped waterway has been received from E-One and has been placed into service at Truck 8’s house. Also, the CFD received and placed into service a 2020 E-One 100’ Tower Ladder at Tower 10’s quarters. Seven new pumpers have been received and will be placed into service shortly. All seven are E-Ones with 1500 GPM two stage pumps, 530 gallon booster tanks and 30 gallon foam bladders. Thirteen new 100’ rear mount aerials, each on a tandem rear axle chassis from E-One, are due to be received soon. The Dive Rescue Unit, 6-8-7, stationed at Engine 13...
quarters in the downtown area has received a new rig from E-One on a Ford F750 chassis. Dry chemical rig, 6-2-4, has been retrofitted with a new F550 Ford chassis. Unit 6-2-4 responds citywide on electrical and flammable liquid fires. The Special Operations Division has received two swift water boats on a trailer which can be towed to any City or Lake Michigan emergencies. Midway Airport has a new Stairway Unit (6-3-4) mounted on a 2019 Ford F550 chassis that will soon be in service. Additional cars for battalion chiefs and EMS field commanders are also due in 2020.

The new Fleet Maintenance Facility located at 69th Street and Wentworth Avenue is up and running and maintaining and upgrading the CFD fleet. The complex is 155,000 sq. ft. and does all heavy duty truck and apparatus PMs and upgrades. All major repairs are sent to local and regional dealers. A new fire station for Engine Co. 115 at 119th Street and Morgan Avenue is about 40% complete and should be finished by late 2020. It will house one or two engine companies, one aerial, two ambulances, and offices for a deputy district chief for the 5th District and an EMS field officer. Another station, which opened in July, is Crash 2 at O’Hare Field. The four bay station is located in the northeast quadrant of the airport.

For 2020, the 5-11 Club canteens have responded to 105 calls for service. This includes 60 responses for the CFD, 29 responses for the CPD and 16 responses for other suburban fire and police departments.

Please note, the photographs in this Turn Out issue were all provided by Steve Redick, a retired CFD fire alarm operator and a good friend. Steve has a new book titled “Black and White Fire Ground Imagery”. Contact Steve at his website: https://www.blurb.com/b/9696061. Also, a group called “Chicago Fire Boat Tours” has set up shop on Chicago’s lakefront and is offering daily river and lake cruises and sunset evening cruises on a retired Chicago fireboat, Engine 41, the Fred Busse. Contact the group at 312-919-3367 for details, or visit their website www.fireboattours.com.

Please visit our website, www.5-11clubchicago.org, for the latest news about our 5-11 Club activities and a growing photo gallery. The 5-11 Club now has a Twitter page. The link for the site can be found on the 5-11 Club’s home page. We look forward to hearing from you. Also, it would be appreciated if you currently shop at Amazon, please use Amazon Smile, select the 5-11 Club as beneficiary, and continue your regular shopping as you normally would on this site. A portion of the sales will support the 5-11 Club of Chicago.
Engine 11 2019 E-One 1500 GPM Pumper (Photo by Steve Redick)

Truck 8 2019 137’ Aerial Tower (Photo by Steve Redick)
Tower 37 on Side A, 112th and Michigan (Photo by Steve Redick)

View from Side C, 112th and Michigan (Photo by Steve Redick)
Side B/C, 112th and Michigan (Photo by Steve Redick)

Tower 5 on Side A/B, 112th and Michigan (Photo by Steve Redick)
Side C view, 112th and Michigan (Photo by Steve Redick)
Greetings from Columbus and Central Ohio! Hope everyone is taking the necessary precautions and stays safe and healthy. If nothing else, the pandemic should prove how vulnerable the world can be. As a matter of “due diligence”, Box 15 has written an “Operation during declared Pandemic” SOG. If anyone is interested in reviewing it, please email Board@Box15.org and we’ll be more than happy to share it. We remain fully operational and all the fire departments that we serve have been made aware of what precautions we take to prevent the spread of disease. We have suspended our “in person” regular meetings (opting instead for virtual meetings via Google Hangouts). Special and social events have been postponed or cancelled, acting within the guidelines established by the State of Ohio.

Well, it is finally gaining some traction! As far back as 2010, Box 15 began advocating for occupational cancer mitigation. At that time, we were only able to offer pre-moistened wipes and (as you may suspect) it was like pulling hen’s teeth to get those tough, invincible firefighters to use them. In 2016, we acquired our first shower unit. We even had a hand in producing a training video on the recommended way to flush and doff PPE. To view it, check: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=7&v=F-MnnM9wlQ&feature=emb_logo

We have altered the process shown somewhat. We now use “one time” disposable gear bags instead of the reusable bag and we also use a “DeconPak” (by Task Force Tips) to apply a safe surfactant/detergent to the PPE before using the shower. This does a much better job of pre-cleaning the gear, on scene. We also carry full “decontamination kits” on each truck, that include the detergent, nitrile gloves, N95 face masks, soft-bristle brushes, the disposable gear bags, ID tags and other supplies. The kit is placed in the gear doffing area, prior to entering the rehab sector. Only time will tell just how well all of this works to reduce the cancer risk, but it’s the best that we can offer right now – at least until research shows us that there is more that would help.

2019 turned out to be another record-breaking year for us. We hit the road 129 times. In addition, we served 26 “extreme weather” standby shifts that do not figure into that number. During the “cold weather” standbys, we experienced chill factors as low as minus 35 degrees. This may seem like a “cake walk” to some northern folks, but it was mighty cold to us.
We lost a few good friends in 2019, two to PTS, one to cancer and one to a heart attack. We also lost long-time member, Jim Henderson. Jim was a member for 42 years, serving 21 of them as our Treasurer.

The “big” run for the year was this spectacular 3-alarm fire in a cabinet manufacturing plant, and our most unusual run was to provide support for the local Humane Society as they shut down a puppy mill and rescued more than 200 animals from deplorable living conditions. We also responded as a resource unit with the Central Ohio Task Force, to the Dayton OH area following an outburst of multiple tornados. All in all, our responses included 53 fires, 35 days of support for training evolutions and 31 public safety education events, 2 funerals, 4 hazmats and support for the Central Ohio Strike Team during post-tornado structure searches.
Through 2019, we served nearly 8,000 bottles of water, more than 1,700 bottles of sports drink and over 1,000 cups of coffee. We logged more than 2,000 man-hours on runs, an additional 500+ hours on extreme weather standbys and nearly 600 man-hours on training, support and maintenance activities. Use this link to view the report:

Over the past 8 months, we’ve added some new equipment. We now have an additional decontamination shower, this one on RSU-1, thanks to the generosity of Campbell Restoration, a local contractor that rebuilds damaged properties. We also added powered awnings on both RSU-1 and RSU-2, thanks to generous donations from the Eisel family, the Violet Township Firefighters Assn and individuals honoring the passing of retired Fire Chief John Eisel, and in the fall of 2019, Advanced EcoSystems donated a 13’x16’ Zumro inflatable shelter. This is now on RSU-2 and has seen use during the coldest days this winter.

Thank you to MSC Supply! For the fifth year, they have donated huge quantities of surplus Gatorade and Sqwincher products. Being more than we can use, ourselves, we share this "bounty" with as many other rehab and canteen units in Ohio, as possible. This spring, it amounted to 20 pallets worth of product that included bottles, powder & liquid concentrate and pre-measured "sticks" for ½ liter water bottles. We were able to supply eleven different groups with enough sports drink to carry them through the summer, if not beyond. If any Rehab Unit has an MSC facility in your area, reach out and ask if they will do the same for you.
When 2020 rolled in, we wasted no time in getting started. On January 1st, we had two runs dispatched, only a minute apart. One was on the east side of Columbus while the other was in the far northwest corner of Delaware County. Eight days later, we were requested back into Delaware County for a house fire. A week after that, a second alarm in a 24-unit apartment building and then overnight from January 19th to the 20th, three back-to-back fires, followed by another large house fire, the following day. We rounded out January with another extra company fire on the 30th. Total for January was 9 fires and three days of rehab support for firefighter training. Twelve runs for the month – not bad! Things did slow down from there, though. As of this writing, we’ve already booked twenty-two runs for 2020.

And finally, as Box 15 approaches our 75th Anniversary (June 24, 2022), we’re writing a book on our story. The intent is to publish it as an E-book around July 1, 2022. So far, it contains more than 180 pages and includes 300 photographs. When finished, it may be twice that size.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy 2020. Hope to see you in Nashville!
Since our last article in Turnout, the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club (MFBC) responded to eight emergency events in our Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Washington County service area.

On a hot July afternoon, with temperatures above 92 degrees, a fire broke out at a welding shop in the City of Milwaukee. MFBC responded with both rigs and provided cool drinks, snacks, and hamburgers to firefighters and police officers at the scene. Seven days later we took Rehab 2, which is equipped with two restrooms, to an early morning apartment fire in West Bend, Washington County.

During the Summer and early Fall we participated in several community and fire safety events. At the Milwaukee Area Technical College’s Fire/Police/EMS Expo we ran the food concession, selling hamburgers and hot dogs, as one of our fund-raising events. We also provided service to the Milwaukee Fire Department at their “Recruit Final Burn” as well as other MFD events.

Late November started a 45-day run of four fires. The first of these was a fire at an automobile repair facility in downtown Grafton in Ozaukee County. MFBC provided our usual service to the firefighters.

Firefighters help themselves at Rehab 2’s self-service refrigerators at the welding shop fire. Coffee, water, Gatorade, and snacks were available at the Grafton auto repair shop fire.
Two weeks later we responded again in Grafton for an afternoon fire in a $750,000 house which started by materials next to a fireplace. Multiple departments assisted with water tender operations at this fire. Unfortunately, the house was a total loss.

The third in this string was an early morning fire in another Ozaukee County home, this time in the city of Port Washington. Multiple departments responded and the apparatus stretched on for blocks closing the main highway into the city.

The new year was barely four days old when a fire broke out in a Grafton landscaping company’s equipment storage building. As this fire was at the dead end of the street two blocks from where the tender dump tank was located, Rehab 2 was positioned at the corner of the intersecting street and provided liquids, snacks and restrooms to the tender crews. The fire was extinguished by the time the Chief had us move up to the fire scene. From there we could see the result of the extreme temperatures on this aluminum structure.

February brought us a three-story, multi-family structure fire in Cudahy, Milwaukee County. Eleven people were displaced by this fire which was extinguished by the time we arrived. We provided fluids and facilities to the firefighters cleaning up. Our short time at this service contrasts with the three days we spent at the nearby July 4, 2014 Patrick Cudahy fire.

In late February, the Milwaukee campus of Molson-Coors Brewing Company was the scene of a workplace mass shooting. Five people in addition to the shooter died. MFBC took both rigs to the scene and offered support to fire and police personnel. As this was a cold day, over a dozen government officials sought shelter in Rehab 2 for a pre-press conference meeting. This included the Wisconsin governor, Milwaukee County executive and sheriff, and the City of Milwaukee mayor, police chief, and aldermen, as well as their respective aides.

*Photos by Chuck Liedtke and Bob Domrois*
Box 42 Associates
PO Box 1810
Royal Oak, MI 48068
Box42det@gmail.com

We are thrilled to hear that the Turnout Magazine will resume publication and appreciate the opportunity to submit an article about Box 42 Associates in Detroit, Michigan.

Box 42 was established on April 24, 1942 by a group of Detroit auxiliary firefighters who were assigned to Engine 42 and Ladder 21 located at 6324 W. Chicago St. Their role was to supplement the ranks of the Detroit Fire Department, as many firefighters were in military service during World War II. The name of the club, Box 42, was chosen in respect and as a tribute to the firefighters of Engine 42.

Upon being phased out at the end of World War II, the former auxiliary firefighters decided to keep Box 42 going and dedicated their services to assisting the Detroit Fire Department in various ways.

Through the years Box 42 has hosted the IFBA convention and regional meetings. Today, the club meets every third Saturday of the month at various fire stations and related emergency service operations, both public as well as private located in the metro Detroit area. To learn more, follow our Facebook page, Box 42 Associates, or subscribe to our monthly newsletter by sending an email to box42det@gmail.com
Greetings from the Northeast Ohio affiliate of the IFBA. On behalf of our members I hope everyone is well and making their way, safely, through these trying times. When the virus situation improves we hope you will stop by the museum and see our wonderful exhibits.

2019 was a busy year for the museum and I would like to recap some of our activities. The museum closed down in late December 2018 in order to allow our fire sprinkler contractor access to the building to install a brand new sprinkler system. We were closed longer than anticipated, but we now have a fully compliant system on all three floors of the building. This was a much needed step in order to complete further renovations.

In March we hosted our 34th annual Firematic Flea Market. It was another successful event and we thank Cleveland Fire for allowing us to use the gymnasium at the Fire Training Academy. Thanks also goes to our vendors and visitors. Without you, there would be no event. We held our 35th event this year and just beat the virus close-down by two weeks.

In May the museum held our major fundraiser for the year. For the second time we hosted a Hawaiian luau complete with roasted pig, native dancers, tropical drinks and a 50/50 raffle and silent auction. The weather was definitely NOT tropical. Our event (under a large tent) was buffeted by high winds and rain, straight off of Lake Erie. Fortunately, no injuries and everyone went home happy, if not a bit damp.

June saw the official Grand Opening of our 2019 exhibit. The museum highlighted two local, suburban departments using an American LaFrance and an Ahrens-Fox to anchor the exhibits. Artifacts and memorabilia were also provided by Parma FD and Fairview Park FD.

September rolled around and the museum hosted our annual muster at Barlow Farm Park in Hudson, Ohio. The location is significant because one of the museum’s founding members, and long time firefighter/buff Bill Varnes, was an active member of Hudson FD. Bill is no longer with us but we like to think he’s looking down on us at each muster and smiling.

In October the museum held an open house to kick off Fire Prevention Week. Our Public Education Director Bob Szabo planned a fun day of activities including a kid-size firefighter combat challenge. Participants had to pull hose, connect to the ‘hydrant’, rescue a baby, and put the fire out. Future firefighters in the making!
The museum closed out the year with hosting a blood drive, doing a Facebook livestream with Cleveland Fire, helping the Boy Scouts with their Fire Safety merit badge, and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Whew!

Please watch our web site (www.wrfinc.com) or our Facebook page for our announcement of our re-opening. We anticipate opening our doors July 1. We are open Wednesday-Saturday, 10am-4pm.

Take care and we hope to meet up with you this summer at a muster or show.
James (Jim) Bell, President
Western Reserve Fire Museum
and Education Center

Western Reserve Fire Museum
310 Carnegie Ave.
Cleveland Ohio, 44115
216-664-6312

Museum Hours
Wednesday thru Saturday
10 am to 3:30 pm
Admission: Adults $8,
Seniors $6, Children $5
REGION 7

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HALL OF FLAME VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION
The Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting
National Historical Fire Foundation

Since this is our inaugural report, I thought I would give a synopsis of when the Museum began and who the volunteers are.

In 1955 on Christmas Day a Chicago businessman George F. Getz Jr received a present from his wife Olive and son Bert, a 1924 American La France pumper. That was the beginning of the Hall of Flame in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. In 1961 George organized the National Historical Fire Foundations a non-profit institution to sponsor the operation of the museum. In 1970 the Getz family moved to Scottsdale, Arizona and put a small display in a store front in Old Town Scottsdale. In 1974 the museum re-opened in a 12,000 square foot building in Papago Park in Phoenix with twenty pieces of apparatus. Today the museum’s total square footage is over 66,000 square feet.

In 1993 the museum was looking for volunteers. Three former firefighters signed up, one from Chicago and two from Long Island, NY. They started to help doing whatever was needed to support the fast-growing museum. As the museum grew the number of volunteers did as well.

On March 5, 2015, the Volunteer Organization became a separate but dedicated organization to support the Hall of Flame. The reason was to become better organized, more effective and be a more social group. The Volunteers mission statement in their by-laws explains what we are achieving.

To provide volunteers who will enhance the Museum’s programs by complementing, expanding, and supplementing the work of the Museum staff.
To work with the Museum staff and the volunteer officers to determine the needs for volunteer placement and design volunteer jobs to meet the existing as well as the changing programs of the Museum.
To help create and promote in the community and the local fire departments an understanding of the Museum and all its facets.
To assist in the education of the citizens of the community in proper methods of fire prevention, safety, and the historical significance of the Fire Service in America to promote fellowship amongst the members of the Volunteer Organization and their family members.
To assist in the education of the citizens of the community in proper methods of fire prevention, safety, and the historical significance of the Fire Service in America to promote fellowship amongst the members of the Volunteer Organization and their family members.
As of June 2020, the Volunteer Organization has 44 members and 3 applicants.

**Dr. Peter Molloy Retires as Executive Director; To Be Succeeded by Glendale (AZ) Fire Department Deputy Fire Chief Chuck Montgomery**

On October 28, 2019, the Board of Directors of the National Historical Fire Foundation announced the appointment of Mr. Chuck Montgomery as the new executive director of the Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting in Phoenix. Founded in 1961 by Chicago industrialist George F. Getz, the museum represents the largest collection of fire apparatus, firefighting equipment and related artifacts in the world that is regularly open for public viewing. After over three decades of growing and curating the collection, the current executive director, Dr. Peter Molloy, will retire after finalizing the transition of management responsibilities to Chief Montgomery.

Chief Montgomery has served the citizens and visitors of the Phoenix metropolitan region for nearly four decades in several roles within the Arizona fire, rescue, and emergency medical services community. In addition to being a “blue card” fireground commander and a nationally registered paramedic, he is a sought-after speaker on a variety of fire service subjects including the National Fire Protection Association’s Standard 1403 for Live Fire Training and situational awareness.

Prior to his March 2019 retirement from the Glendale (AZ) Fire Department, Deputy Chief Montgomery was the director the Glendale Regional Public Safety Training Center. Before he being hired with the Glendale Fire Department, Mr. Montgomery served as a fire cadet in the Phoenix Fire Department, a volunteer firefighter with the Tolleson Fire Department and a flight paramedic with Air-Evac, a local company providing helicopter med-evac service.

![President of the Foundation, George F. Getz, and Museum Executive Director, Chuck Montgomery](image)

**1948 American LaFrance V-12 J Model Fire Engine Joins Collection**

In October 2019, the Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting added this beautiful 1948 American LaFrance (ALF) pumper to its collection. She is an ALF 700 series Model 710 PJO engine, with a V-12 gasoline engine and 1,000 gallon two-stage centrifugal pump. This new cab-forward configuration engineered by American LaFrance revolutionized and greatly influenced the design of American fire apparatus in the second half of the twentieth century. The radical design greatly reduced the engine’s turning radius and provided room for five firefighters to ride seated in the cabin. This pumper is a model J, the most popular of all the 700 series rigs.
Over 3,000 apparatus in the ALF 700 series were built between 1947 and 1959. The cab forward design was a huge risk for American La France but was hugely successful. Within a few years virtually all-American fire apparatus was built with this trendsetting cab-forward design.

After many years of service with the Jamestown (ND) Fire Department this pumper was acquired by former Jamestown firefighter Larry Phillips who subsequently donated it to the museum. She is in sound mechanical condition and after some detailing by our staff of dedicated museum volunteers, this American LaFrance 700-series pumper will regularly be rotated into Gallery III and used at off-site static fire apparatus displays.

1948 American LaFrance (ALF) pumper

*Museum Presents Re-Boot Open House Event in November 2019*

The annual open house at the Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting resumed this past November after a one-year hiatus due to on-going construction at the sprawling SRP complex across Project Drive from the museum’s front door. Over 600 visitors were treated to free admission to view the museum’s extensive collection of historical fire apparatus, related equipment, and other memorabilia as well as rides on some of the museum’s vintage fire engines. The museum’s 1971 Maxim-Pierce 75’ Snorkel, original to Muncie, Indiana and later Riverdale, Illinois proudly displayed Old Glory from her elevated boom to welcome our guests.

Local fire departments and allied agencies assisted in this endeavor by bringing some of their latest apparatus and used this opportunity to explain more modern fire and rescue techniques, methods, and equipment to our inquisitive visitors. In addition to the wide array of pumper’s, the Gilbert (AZ) Fire Department brought their new utility truck that provides breathing air and lighting to incident scenes while Air-Evac landed a helicopter used to transport trauma patients in the parking lot. The event was capped off by a vehicle extrication demonstration executed by members of the Scottsdale (AZ) Fire Department.
Museum Staff and Volunteers Help Spread Holiday Spirit Throughout the Valley

As in previous years, staff and volunteers from the Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting have been helping the Phoenix Fire Department and other entities make the holiday season merry and bright for those less fortunate. In the evening hours of December 7 and 14, volunteers took the museum’s 1966 Mack C pumper from Baldwin, New York to shopping centers on the east and west side to work side by side with Phoenix police officers and firefighters in their annual Toys for Rides campaign. Shoppers who purchased and donated a toy to the cause had the option to ride in a marked Phoenix Police SUV, Phoenix Fire Department Ladder Tender, or the museum’s pumper. The museum’s classic open cab pumper had the longest line!
In a new partnership with the Arizona Burn Foundation (azburn.org) staff and volunteers from the Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting were honored to assist in delivering, via classic fire engine, a $12,000.00 professionally decorated Christmas tree to the UMOM Shelter (umom.org) located on Van Buren Street in east Phoenix as part of the foundation’s annual fund-raising campaign, Holiday Festival of Trees. UMOM is a local charity focused providing food, shelter, healthcare, and other essential needs to homeless families in Phoenix. This tree and its festive accessories will be displayed in UMOM’s Zimmerman Chapel.

The Arizona Burn Foundation (ABF) provides support programs for burn survivors and their families during the crisis and recovery phases of their care in addition to burn prevention advocacy. This annual holiday cocktail party and silent auction event of one dozen themed Christmas trees assorted wreaths and other holiday decorations generated nearly $200,000.00 towards meeting the operational needs of the foundation’s mission. The Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting is excited about our new partnership and looking forward to working with the Arizona Burn Foundation in our future endeavors.

**Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting Uses Period of Closure Due to Pandemic to Make Improvement to Facility**

In common with museums throughout the Valley, across the U.S. and indeed around the world, The Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting closed its doors to the public in March in response to the global Coronavirus pandemic. We regret being temporarily unable to offer our collection first-hand to visitors from around the world.

In a facility as large as the Hall of Flame, however, it is possible for a small number of staff members and outside contractors to practice social distancing with ease. Therefore, the Museum staff have not been idle; we have taken the opportunity to make progress on several long-postponed projects to improve the building.

In mid-April the museum contracted with Valley commercial painting firm All Finishes to repaint the public restrooms off the gift shop, as well as the “Safety House” located in the museum’s Kids’ Area at the rear of Gallery Four. The Safety House color scheme was changed from yellow to a cool gray, with the same bright red accents on the door and window trim, and expanded to the railings, to maintain the connection to fire service tradition. In addition to a vibrant new color, the lavatories have had “diamond plate” accent panels added, which also helps to suggest the atmosphere of a fire station. New art and decorative touches will be added to both areas before reopening.

In addition to this, the well-worn carpet in the Museum’s administrative offices was torn out, and the tile floors in the Hall of Flame library and the office lavatory were also removed. The Peoria flooring firm Timeless Flooring was hired to install the new tiles and completed the work in about a week’s time. Due to their appreciation of our mission to educate the public about fire history and safety, both Timeless Flooring and All Finishes made generous donations to the Museum in reduced labor and material costs, and we would like to express our gratitude.

While these physical improvements have been progressing, the Hall of Flame has also been attempting to continue, in so far as it is possible, to present the collection and programs to the public virtually. Thus we have launched the Hall of Flame YouTube Channel, giving viewers a video “tour” of some of the most notable exhibits at the world’s largest historical firefighting museum, and providing historical context on vehicles and artifacts ranging from our English Newsham manual pumper from 1725 to our elegant 1844 Bates/Jefferis pumper from Pawtucket.
Rhode island to our 1904 “Metropolitan” steamer from Reno, Nevada to “Number One,” the 1924 American LaFrance truck which started the Hall of Flame Museum when it was given to founder George Getz as Christmas gift in 1955.

The Hall of Flame YouTube Channel also serves to keep afloat the museum’s longtime tradition of entertaining and inspiring younger visitors with story times. Hall of Flame Curator of Education Mark Moorhead has recorded readings of such classic firefighting tales as No Dragons for Tea, Hercules, Bravest of All, Fireboat, and The Fire Cat, among others. All this content is available for free and is a great go-to option for homeschooling in history, or just for bored shut-in kids needing to pass the time.

Links to the Hall of Flame Museum’s YouTube Channel may be found at the Hall of Flame website: hallofflame.org.

Longtime Hall of Flame Museum Volunteer Docent Gary Bohling’s Life of Service

If you asked for the life story of many of the Hall of Flame’s volunteers, most of whom are retired or former volunteer firefighters, you will often get a tale with adventures and experiences most people can’t claim. Gary Bohling, at 85 the Museum’s senior volunteer, is no exception. How many people, after all, can say that they have been mistaken for St. Peter?

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Gary studied business administration at Clarkson University in Potsdam, New York. While in college in the 1950s, he joined Potsdam’s Volunteer Rescue Squad, and became an American Red Cross volunteer. He became an EMT, one of the first in the state of New York, in 1962.

This public safety experience would go on to influence the course of Gary’s career. While working as an accountant at Chevrolet’s Tonawanda Engine Plant, Gary was assigned to train the plant foremen in first aid, after several medical emergencies at the plant resulted in mass confusion. He also joined the Tonawanda plant’s fire brigade.

Gary later accepted a position as Safety Director at Allied Chemical’s plant in Buffalo, New York. He was also in charge of the plant’s fire brigade and medical department. In 1972, he moved to the position of Safety Director at CWC Foundry in Muskegon, Michigan where, again, he oversaw the plant’s fire and EMS Squad.

Settling in nearby Whitehall, he joined the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Department and the White Lake Ambulance Authority as an EMT. By 1981 Gary was Whitehall’s Fire Chief, and in 1983 he became a paramedic. He taught courses in firefighting, EMS, and Hazmat as an adjunct instructor at Muskegon Community College.

Gary, who has been married to his wife Gail since 1960, retired in 1997 and moved to Phoenix. He didn’t leave behind his passion for safety work, however; he served as an EMT for more than ten years with Phoenix Fire Department’s crisis response team, retiring in 2013 at the age of 80. Yet even THAT retirement didn’t end Gary’s devotion to the fire service. Around 2002, he became a volunteer here at the Hall of Flame Museum. He has been here ever since, becoming one of our most valuable docents: conducting countless tours for children and adults, informally educating visitors to the Museum, and participating in many other Museum activities from parades to sweeping the floors.
He claims the experience has been broadening. “During my service as a docent,” he notes, “I have met people from all fifty states and about a dozen different countries.”

This suits his personality, as he and Gail are avid global travelers, having visited countries ranging from Turkey to Morocco to Italy to Tahiti.

Asked if, out of his years of public service, he has a favorite story, Gary recalls an incident from his time in Michigan:

“Sometime around 1980 I was working the paramedic shift for White Lake Ambulance Authority in Whitehall, Michigan. In those days there were only five paramedics in the whole community and only one of us was on duty at a time. We had a basic EMT driver.

We were dispatched to a code at the VFW Hall in Montague. Upon arrival some volunteer firefighters were doing CPR on a 60-year-old gentleman. I did a quick look through the paddles, found VF, and shocked him. He converted to a sinus rhythm and started to breathe on his own. I put him on a high flow of oxygen, started an IV, and loaded him in our ambulance and started toward Hackley Hospital, which was about 25 miles away.

While I was bending over him, auscultating him with my stethoscope, he opened his eyes wide, looked directly into my eyes and said, ‘Are you St. Peter?’ I assured him that he was still alive.

Lloyd made a full recovery. Later, on several occasions I saw Lloyd after his release from the hospital and he always addressed me as St. Peter.”

Example of apparatus on display in the Museum

1957 Ahern-Fox / Approved Fire Approved Fire Engine
1973Seagrave Model P, 1200/500 former Benson, AZ
Acquired February 2019 with donation from the Volunteers Org.

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Visit our Website: www.hallofflame.org
Facebook page: Hall of Flame Firefighting Museum

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TWO GRIELING DAYS IN GREEVILE

As the additional alarm was being transmitted, Fire Dispatch advised that they received a call of people trapped on the 2nd floor but another call that they were out of the building. Eng. 13 pushed in, knocking down fire on the 1st floor and reporting “primary search negative”. Batt. 2, Batt. Chief Peter Griese, assumed command and reported “We have heavy fire in the rear of 2 buildings; exposure problems; 3 lines stretched; 2 lines in operation; trucks opening up; searches underway.” Deputy Chief Michael Monaghan arrived at 05:06, assumed command and assigned Batt. 2 to the interior.

Eng. 17 reported they were in the rear with heavy fire on the exterior and they could hit it from the exterior. The company was ordered to hit the exterior but avoid the windows as units were advancing into the interior. Res. 1 then reported that they were on the 1st floor rear with Squad 4 and heavy fire was coming up from down below us. D. C. Monaghan ordered the companies to back out and Eng. 17 to put the 2 ½” line in the basement rear to darken that down.

The situation rapidly worsened at that point. D. C. Monaghan ordered a 3rd Alarm and to have the companies stage on Kennedy Blvd. Eng. 13 reported fire was now venting through the roof of the exposure building at 220 Neptune Ave. and the companies were evacuating from that structure. Car 3, Chief of Dept. Steven McGill arrived on the fireground at that point as well it was now 26 minutes since the box was transmitted.
Batt. 2, B. C. Griese then transmitted an urgent message, “We have fire in a window frame in a building. C side, one street over. We need a company to come in from the next street.” D. C. Monaghan directed Engines 10 and 18 on the 3rd Alarm to report to Winfield Ave. Batt. 2 added that the fire was in a building about 7 houses from Kennedy Blvd. and they were hitting it with a 2 ½ from the outside. Fire Dispatch advised that they received a call from 213 Winfield Ave. reporting a fire in their back yard. Meanwhile Batt. 4, Batt. Chief John Ruddy, reported that all visible fire in the exposure was knocked down and they were hitting fire in the original fire building from the exposure. Batt. 2 also reported that companies were advancing into the basement of the original fire building.

Around the corner, Eng. 10 reported that they had an inch and ¾ line to the 2nd floor of 213 Winfield Ave.; had fire in a window sill and they needed a company with hooks. Car 3, Chief McGill ordered Fire Dispatch to “make Winfield Ave. a separate box if you haven’t done so already”. Additional companies were dispatched to give a full assignment for the Winfield Ave. address at 05:21.

Companies were gaining the upper hand on the 2 dwellings on Neptune Ave. Eng. 10 advised Lad. 2 that there was fire coming up from the floor below into the window frame. The additional companies assigned to Winfield Ave. tackled that task. The fire at 213 Winfield Ave. was placed under control at 05:49. D. C. Monaghan polled the battalion chiefs in charge of the various sectors on conditions and placed the entire incident under control at 06:32.

A few minor injuries to firefighters were sustained, but the occupants of all 3 buildings safely escaped harm. Thanks to the parking lot of the Jersey City Education Assn. at the southwest corner of Kennedy Blvd. & Neptune Ave., Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, was able to utilize that space for rehab operations. In addition to the usual cold weather fare of coffee and hot chocolate, the crew of 4 members doled out some 2.5 gallons of oatmeal and distributed some 40 pairs of hand warmers!

The next day, Thursday, November 14, 2019 was a sunny, clear day but still unseasonably cold for mid-November. The Greenville companies were on the move again at 10:08 hours when a fire was reported at 15 M. L. King Dr. (formerly Jackson Ave.), Box 840. This was the address of the Jackson Ave. A & P supermarket, one of 10 such neighborhood supermarkets in Jersey City when the A & P chain was in its heyday. Now a church, firefighters and buffs alike feared this could be something, but Capt. Robert McCann, Eng. Co. 19, reported an outside rubbish fire; “We’re stretching a line and we’re going to work”. The fire was quickly knocked down but was against a van so 2 engines and 1 ladder were held with the rest of the assignment dismissed at 10:13.

At 10:14 Box 841 was struck for 28 Terhune Ave. another quiet residential Greenville street, a scant 4 blocks from the now extinguished rubbish fire. Companies clearing from the rubbish fire were grabbed for the next box, with Fire Dispatch advising we have reports of a fire in an abandoned house. There was no doubt that this would be work; a column of black smoke was now towering in the crystal clear sky!
Eng. Co. 8, commanded by Capt. Gary Byrne, was headed up Terhune Ave. from Spring St. and reported a working fire. Upon his arrival the fire was already extending to an exposure. Batt. 2, Batt. Chief James Nickerson, cleared from the first box and, although assigned as the Working Fire chief, was the first arriving chief officer and transmitted a 2nd Alarm. That was the end of the rubbish fire! Hastily throwing their inch and ¼ line on top of the hose bed, Capt. McCann radioed “Put 19 on the 2nd Alarm!” Eng. 19 dropped a 5” supply line to Eng. 8 and then stretched a 2 ½” line to the fire. Eng. Co. 13 approached from Fowler Ave. to the west. Capt. John Cuttingham reported “Heavy fire in the rear. We’ll need a 2 ½ back here”.

The fire building was a 2-story frame dwelling with a grade level basement, attached to a similar structure to the east. Separated by a 5’ alley, the dwelling to the west sits at the northeast corner of Terhune and Fowler Avenues; a 2 ½ story frame structure. Lad. Co. 8 placed their brand-new E-One stick to the roof of the exposure and Capt. John Ripnick reported fire in the cockloft, extending to 2 rooms.

Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Stephen Drennan, reported from the attached exposure that primary searches were negative and they were operating hand lines into the fire building through the walls. D. C. Paul Drennan (yes, they’re related!) reported the primary search of the fire building proved negative but there were 3 propane tanks on the 1st floor. Companies couldn’t make the 2nd floor from the interior due to the condition of the stairs. Car 3 provided a detailed progress report, noting that all visible fire was knocked down. Batt. 1, B. C. Sean Verdi, was assigned to the roof sector.

With the situation well in hand Chief McGill transferred command to D. C. Drennan at 10:56. Deputy Chief Drennan placed the fire under control at 11:06. Companies had plenty of work left; overhaul and extinguishing hot spots in all 3 buildings. A watch line was maintained through the night. Car 26 made its second consecutive performance in as many days in the 2nd Battalion. A crew of 3 served a gallon of coffee, 4 gallons of hot chocolate, 2 gallons of Gatorade and 40 bottles of water.

The rundown:

11/13/2019
04:48 Box 805 Eng. Co. 13-19-22-8 Lad. Co. 8-4 Res. Co. 1 Batt. 2 Div. 1 FTO
04:52 WF 805 Sqd. Co. 4 Lad. Co. 11 Batt. 4 MSU Car 14
04:52 2-2 805 Eng. Co. 17-9-15 Lad. Co. 9 Batt. 4 Car 3-26
05:14 3-3 805 Eng. Co. 10-18-7 Lad. Co. 12 MSU Batt. 1 Car 4-OEM 5
05:31 Box 805 Eng. Co. 10-18-14-6 Lad. Co. 12-2 Batt. 3 (213 Winfield Ave.)
06:32 Fire under control
11/14/2019
10:08 Box 840 Eng. Co. 19-13-22-8 Lad. Co. 8-4 Res. Co. 1 Batt. 2 Div. 1 FTO
10:14 Box 841 Eng. Co. 13-8-17-Sqd. 4 Lad. Co. 4-11 Res. Co. 1 Batt. 4 Div. 1 FTO
10:17 WF 841 Eng. Co. 22 Lad. Co. 9 MSU Batt. 2 Car 14
10:19 2-2 841 Eng. Co. 19-9-18 Lad. Co. 8 Car 3-4-26
10:29 3-3 841 Eng. Co. 15-7-5 Lad. Co. 2 Batt. 1
11:06 Fire under control

Meanwhile Box 746 was transmitted at 07:35 for 84 Orient Ave. Engine Co. 8, although only quartered only 2 blocks east, had to plow their way through the morning rush hour traffic, school buses and a double-parked car to arrive on scene. Capt. Gary Byrne reported “2 ½ Class 5 residential structure working fire, top floor; stretching a line”. That report was quickly followed by “Eng. 8, also be advised we’re starting to get extension into the exposure. We’re gonna transmit a 2nd Alarm”.

Batt. 2, Batt. Chief James Nickerson, arrived as the 2nd Alarm was being struck, reporting detached exposures on either side. Squad 4, Capt. Anthony Klocko, reported extension into the exposure at the “B C” corner. Eng. 8 reported that they had “water on the fire but looks like we might have extension to the top floor. We need hooks on the 2nd floor”. With fire extending upward and outward, Batt. Chief Nickerson transmitted a 3rd Alarm a scant 4 minutes after his arrival. Deputy Chief Gerald Fisher arrived at that point and took command.

Both dwellings were now involved and both featured a full attic with a peaked roof. Batt. Chief Nickerson ordered “All ladder companies, make sure you have roof ladders on that roof!”. Ladder Co. 11 raised their aerial to the roof of the fire building while Ladder Tower 4 extended their bucket to the exposure. The morning news helicopters captured the companies precariously positioning roof ladders on the peak, climbing onto the ladders and cutting several holes with their saws.

IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME!

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 dawned bright and cold; the first workday of the week following the Martin Luther King Holiday. Fire Fighter Keneyada Thompson, on his way in to Engine Co. 13 for his 24-hour tour, decided to stop at a Dunkin’ Donuts at King Dr. and Kearney Ave., recently dubbed “Jackson Square”. The City of Jersey City has built a City Hall Annex at this corner with a number of municipal offices. Plans for a new Police and Fire Headquarters at this location were announced in September 2019.

However, this would be no time to make the donuts! Fire Fighter Thompson spotted smoke from a dwelling on Orient Ave., one block south of the Dunkin’ Donuts! He raced around the corner, reporting the fire on his cell phone. Thick brown smoke was pushing from a 2 ½ story home. Fire Fighter Thompson dashed into the building, rousing its residents and located a fire in a 2nd floor bathroom. He continued a search of the building while a New Jersey Transit Supervisor, also a passerby, grabbed an extinguisher in an attempt to confine the fire.
Batt. Chief Thomas Conforti, the Field Training Officer for Group B, reported heavy fire on the 3rd floor rear. “We need companies to the exposure, 3rd floor. Eng. Co. 22 took on that assignment.

Third alarm companies arrived and went to work, as did Chief of Department Steven McGill at 07:46. Using 6 handlines, companies pushed into the attics of both buildings, bring the fire under control at the one-hour mark. It was a busy morning for Chief McGill. After the fire was brought under control, he had to dash downtown for the promotion of 6 fire fighters to captain at City Hall. Then, back to the fireground for a live press conference for the Noon news shows. Fire Fighter Thompson was hailed as a hero by the press and rightfully so!

Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, was manned by 3 members, serving 2 gallons each of coffee, hot chocolate and Gatorade. The crew also tested a newly purchased radiant heater, much to the delight of the companies shivering in the 20° weather that morning!

Rundown:

07:35 Box 746 Eng. Co. 8-Sq4-17-22 Lad. Co. 11-4 Res. Co. 1 Batt. 2 FTO Div. 1
07:39 WF 746 Eng. Co. 19 Lad. Co. 8 Batt. 4 MSU Car 14
07:43 3-3 746 Eng. Co. 5-10-7 Lad. Co. 2 Car 4

Two days later, on Thursday, January 23, 2019, all 3rd Battalion companies were detailed to CPR training. Two engines and a ladder were relocated from other parts of the City to cover “The Heights”. As luck would have it, while the companies were training, a fire was reported at 72 Columbia Ave., a quiet residential block literally around the corner from the now empty quarters of Eng. Co. 11. Box 429 was transmitted at 10:35.

But there was no lack of luck that morning! Lad. Co. 4, a 2nd Battalion company, had left their Ocean Ave. quarters for some gear replacement at Turn Out Fire & Safety, the City’s PPE vendor. Turn Out, at 3468 Kennedy Blvd., is one block east of the Columbia Ave. address. The crew spotted smoke in the sky. Capt. Terrance McGee radioed “Lad. 4, we’re gonna take in the Box” and was on scene within seconds! They were greeted by a woman at the front door frantically waving them in. Capt. McGee called off, reporting “2 ½ story frame; working fire in the rear”. Once he got to the rear, Capt. McGee reported “We have a rubbish fire in the rear, extending up the siding to the rear of the building. We need a line in the rear.”

The first arriving engine was Eng. Co. 17, relocated at Eng. Co. 14. Capt. Daniel Domacke reported “Eng. 17 on the scene; we’re stretching a line”. Lad. 4 reported that the fire had extended to the 2nd floor. “Stretch the first line to the 2nd floor”.

Batt. 4, Batt. Chief John Ruddy, arrived at 10:42. Deputy Chief Richard Casella arrived immediately thereafter, assumed command and assigned Batt. 4 to the interior. Lad. Co. 12 reported heavy fire in the rear and Batt. 4, B. C. Ruddy asked for a 2 ½ line in the rear. Car 3, Chief of Department McGill, arrived at that point, but Deputy Chief Casella retained command. Batt. 4 reported making progress on floor 1, with most of the fire knocked down.
However, Res. Co. 1 reported that the fire extended to the exposure at 70 Columbia Ave. Deputy Chief Cassella then radioed “Transmit a 2nd Alarm. Have the companies stage at Lincoln St. and The Boulevard until needed. We have extension into the D exposure.”

Batt. 3, Batt. Chief John Bowen, reported that all companies were ready from training. Those units returned to their respective quarters, providing coverage for the north end of the City. On the fireground, Batt. 4 reported “All visible fire in the interior has been knocked down. Companies are performing as secondary search”. D. C. Casella ordered an extensive search of the 2nd floor. Meanwhile, Res. Co. 1 and Lad. Co. 9 were cutting the roof of the exposure building. Batt. 4 then reported the secondary search of floor 2 was complete and negative; companies were searching floor 1.

Deputy Chief Casella reported that the fire building had heavy fire on floor 2, extended to the roof and to the exposure. All fire has been knocked down but all companies were engaged in extensive overhauling. Primary and secondary searches were negative. The fire was placed under control at 11:35.

Member Jim Fay was the chauffeur for Car 26 for Run #4 of 2020.

Response:
10:40 WF 429 Eng. Co. 6-Sq. 4 Lad. Co. 4 Batt. 1 MSU Car 14
10:50 2-2 429 Eng. Co. 19-9 Lad. Co. 2 Car 3-26

MANY CARS = MULTIPLE ALARM!

Wednesday, February 5, 2020 began quietly with a light rain and fog making for a somewhat eerie atmosphere in the early morning darkness. Continuing the atypical winter for the area, temperatures were above freezing. Good thing, as the morning would turn out to be anything but typical!

Jersey City Fire Dispatch began receiving calls reporting a fire at 482 Mercer St., a residential block near McGinley Square in the center of the city. Box 549 was transmitted at 03:25. Batt. 4 and Engine 9 rolled from their Bergen Ave. quarters and arrived simultaneously. Capt. George Conroy led the crew of Eng. 9 to the rear of the 2-story frame structure and found “a car on fire next to the building; we have multiple cars on fire. Residents are reporting all people out of the building”. Capt. Conroy later recalled hearing a hissing noise and then heavy fire, leaping into the sky like a tornado. Turns out one of the vehicles was a van converted to a food truck with a propane tank!

The Working Fire assignment was dispatched. Batt. 4, Batt. Chief John Ruddy, reported that Squad 4 was lining into the building and he ordered Eng. 7 to drop a feed line to Eng. 9. Fire was now roaring up the back of the 2-story frame dwelling at #482 as well as a rear 1 story extension, a small frame garage and a large 3 story tenement at #484. “Batt. 4 to Dispatch, let me have a 2nd Alarm” radioed B. C. Ruddy. He added that they were evacuating the exposure building.
As the 2nd Alarm was being struck, Deputy Chief Richard Casella arrived and assumed command. He assigned Batt. 4 to the interior and reported “We have a 2-story frame heavily involved in the rear, extending to the exposure. We need a unit to Baldwin & Mercer for ember patrol.

As the 2nd Alarm units arrived, D. C. Casella set up his sectors, assigning Batt. 1, Batt. Chief Thomas Jones, to the rear and the Field Training Officer, Batt. Chief Joseph DiTommaso, to the exposure building. Lad. Co. 9, Capt. Patrick Nestor, reported from the exposure at 484 Mercer St. that they had opened the return on the roof and had light smoke. D. C. Casella ordered Lad. 9 to open all natural openings. Lad. 9 later reported that they have fire in the cockloft and need a line to the top floor. Batt. 4, B. C. Ruddy, reported primary search in the fire building negative, but needed 1 more company to man a line coming in the front door. Meanwhile Batt. 1, B. C. Jones, reported that fire had entered the building on the 2nd floor.

Car 3, Chief of Dept. Steven McGill, arrived on the scene at 03:49. D. C. Casella advised Lad. 9 that 2 lines were being stretched to the top floor. He then reported “We have heavy fire in the rear of the fire building; fire extending the exposure B building; extending to the 2nd floor. Give me a 3rd Alarm”.

After hearing the 3rd Alarm assignment, D. C. Casella ordered Ladder Tower 6 to respond down Mercer from Summit Ave.; “We need the bucket up to the B1 exposure”. 486 Mercer was another large 3 story tenement attached to the now involved tenement at #484. Rescue 1 “Roof” reported that they had made entry into the cockloft and were knocking down fire; hitting hot spots and opening the rest of the roof. Res. 1 later reported that a trench cut was made.

This would prove to be successful to stopping the fire from extending to the 2nd large tenement at #386. Eng. Co. 2 and 22, from the 3rd Alarm assignment, were tasked with keeping the fire out of the top floor of that exposure. Eng. 2, Capt. Anthony Gonzalez, reported that they were pulling the ceilings and checking the cockloft. Res. 1 asked for more saws to the roof. The combination of the roof operations and the assignment of several companies to the top floor were key to gaining the upper hand. Eng. 2 reported the cockloft was clear in their building and Eng. 7 reported all visible fire in the cockloft was knocked down in #484.

D. C. Casella reported “The original fire building is 482 Mercer; 2 story frame, with multiple cars in the rear. Fire extended to the building; heavy fire on the 2nd floor. Minor extension to exposure B cockloft area; lines in the building; multiple holes being cut. Primary searched negative. All hands working”.

Companies worked hard in the 3 buildings for well over an hour and a half. Feeling the need for some fresh troops. D. C. Casella asked Fire Dispatch to “send me 2 pumpers and 1 truck from the 4th Alarm assignment. Fire Dispatch struck a 4th Alarm at 05:33. The fire was placed under control at 05:45 but a host of companies continued to work for several hours as all structures required extensive overhauling.

This was the 5th multiple alarm of the year and the first 4th Alarm since October 11, 2019 when fire swept through several buildings on Wade St. and Rutgers Ave., Box 856.
Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, operated for over 5 1/2 hours. The crew served 4 gallons of coffee, 6 gallons of hot chocolate, 3 gallons of Gatorade and 106 bottles of water along with dozens of cookies, snack cakes and fruit cups. Strategically positioned at Baldwin Ave. & Mercer St., the rig served as a backdrop for the live morning newscasts!

Response:

03:25  Box 549  Eng. Co. 9-15-Sq4-7  Lad. Co. 9-3  Res. Co. 1  Batt. 4  Div. 1  FTO
03:31  WF 549  Eng. Co. 10  Lad. Co. 12  Batt. 1  MSU  Car 14
03:36  2-2 549  Eng. Co. 18-5-8  Lad. Co. 2  Car 3-26
03:51  3-3 549  Eng. Co. 2-22-11  Lad. Co. 6  Batt. 3  Car 4-10
05:33  4-4 549  Eng. Co. 14-6  Lad. Co. 7

COPING WITH COVID-19

As with the rest of the world, the Covid-19 pandemic has brought some strange times and a host of precautions. Car 26 has continued to provide the same service as it has been the Gong Club tradition for nearly 70 years. The rig is stocked with masks, gloves and hand sanitizer and members are mindful of the precautions needed to prevent the spread of the virus. Monthly meetings have gone virtual, taking advantage of the IFBA Google Hangouts feature.

Fire duty has been relatively quiet; a few routine 2nd Alarms, a mid-day 3rd Alarm near quarters that was quickly controlled and a roaring house fire in Secaucus. Fortunately, that dwelling was a corner property and, despite the pre-dawn hour, Secaucus fire fighters held the fire to the building of origin.

However just as the deadline for this edition of TURN OUT approached, a frequent customer from years past had yet another fire on the sunny, pleasant afternoon of Saturday, May 30, 2020. Jersey City transmitted Box 280 at 16:23 for a fire in a warehouse opposite 300 Coles St., a new residential high-rise just north of the Holland Tunnel. Simultaneously Hoboken companies turned out to a reported fire in the vicinity of 700 1st St., near the western boundary with Jersey City. The Hoboken dispatcher advised companies that he was receiving numerous calls with conflicting addresses, all in the western boundary. Jersey City Fire Dispatch advised Batt. 1, Batt. Chief Thomas Jones, that they were also receiving numerous calls with differing locations.

Eng. Co. 6, Capt. Robert Legrein, reported they were on Coles St. but had nothing showing. Meanwhile Hoboken companies reported that they had fire showing from an unknown type structure across the NJ Transit Light Rail tracks. The correct location turned out to be the infamous 2 Hope St., Jersey City, a large trash and paper recycling facility. To quote from the Spring 2001 Edition of TURN OUT:

“The location is now known as the All American Recycling, but has been more familiarly referred to as V. Ponte & Sons. The scrap paper recycler has been the scene of many multiple alarms in the past, including a 2nd Alarm plus Special Calls on July 3, 2000.
The complex includes a large 300' x 150' brick and corrugated steel storage building. This structure, along with an open corrugated steel shed measuring approximately 50' x 100' were heavily involved upon arrival. Both buildings were filled with baled scrap paper, piled almost to the ceiling."

That 2001 TURN OUT article detailed an all-night battle from December 28, 2000; a 4th Alarm on Box 288. For the May 30, 2020 fire, we can simply say “Ditto”!

Hoboken companies went to work while the Jersey City companies, about 5 blocks south, were re-directed to the correct location. Batt. 1, B. C. Jones reported a working fire. Normally first due for this location, Eng. Co. 14 and Lad. Co. 7 from the Heights section of the City, were assigned.

Situated at the base of the Palisades and hemmed in by railroad tracks, this location has always been challenging for water supply. Companies stretched large diameter hose into Hoboken to supplement the limited water pressure available at the complex. All Hoboken companies were engaged so North Hudson Engines 1-9, Ladder 1 and Batt. 1 journeyed to Hoboken to cover the city. However, the Hoboken incident commander requested one engine to assist with water supply. North Hudson dispatched the entire assignment to the fire. Three different departments were now operating.

Jersey City companies also worked on water supply, but numerous handlines and ladder pipes would be needed. Deputy Chief Richard Casella, now in command, ordered a 2nd Alarm for Box 280. With a crew in quarters, Car 26 turned our immediately, arriving with the 2nd Alarm units. Pungent smoke spread north and east into Hoboken, but the fire could not be called spectacular. Piles of baled paper had to be pulled apart, spread out and saturated with water, a labor intensive job in filthy, odiferous conditions! Employees of the company were pressed into service to operate heavy equipment, breaking down the burning bales so fire fighters could complete extinguishment.

More than 2 hours into the battle, D. C. Casella transmitted a 3rd Alarm to relieve the companies that had been working from late afternoon into the evening. Once the 3rd Alarm companies arrived and set up, the 1st and 2nd Alarm companies and the Hoboken units were relieved. Jersey City units maintained a watch line until Midnight.

The 3 departments operating at this fire mustered a total of 15 engines, 8 ladders and 2 rescue companies; a sizable response by any means. Car 26 operated for nearly 5 hours. A crew of 5 served up 245 bottles of water, 7 gallons of Gatorade and 120 slices of pizza!

The Jersey City ticket read as follows:
16:23 Box 280 Eng. Co. 6-5-7-18 Lad. Co. 6-2 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 1 FTO
16:35 WF 280 Eng. Co. 14 Lad. Co. 7 Batt. 3 MSU Car 14
17:06 2-2 280 Eng. Co. 2-19-10 Lad. Co. 3 Batt. 2 Car 3-26
18:42 3-3 280 Eng. Co. 22-15-17 Lad. Co. 4
REGION 10

Assn. des Pompiers Auxiliaires de la Montérégie
200 Rue Josee
Rougemont, Quebec
CANADA J0L 1M0

Assn. Pompier Aux Lanaudiere
10 Place St. Jean
Assumption, Quebec
CANADA J5W 3L7
Patricktrudel.apal@outlook.com

Box 43 Association
PO Box 30102
Upper James PO
Hamilton, Ontario
CANADA L9B 0E4
Box43chief@gmail.com

Box 690 Fire Dept. Canteen Assn.
c/o Gary Dinkel
15 Muskoka Ct.
Kitchener, Ontario
CANADA N2B 3M2
corhealth@rogers.com

Appel-99 Quebec
Att. Richard Garvin
140 Rue St. Jean #307
Quebec City, Quebec
CANADA G1R 1N7
info@clubapelle99.ca

Pompiers Auxiliaires de Montreal
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CANADA H2T 1R8
museedespompiers@videotron.ca

Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Assn.
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gtmaa1975@gmail.com

The Ontario Fire Buff Assoc., Inc.
PO Box 56, Don Mills
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ontariofirebuffs@yahoo.ca

UCMU Montérégie
82 de l’Amandier
St. Constant, Quebec
CANADA J5A 2P6
Dans.egming@robin.com
May 04, 2020

Our year had started off slow but then picked up when the epidemic hit. We had to scramble to put in extreme measures of prevention and decontamination protocols to be able to maintain our services throughout this serious period. Our fire services were advised of our protocols and supported us 100% and are respecting our limits.

Our annual budget consists of contracts with the 48 fire services that we serve and the balance coming from donations, fundraisers and open houses. We have cancelled all our activities and fundraisers at least until August unless the governments raise the ban. We foresee our year will be very difficult financially. We had to look to other avenues and attend meetings with the other associations similar to ours to join forces and form a federation. With the federation formed we will now approach the government and enterprises for support.

On the intervention side we have been steady and had a major warehouse fire on April 19-20. We were there for 23 ½ hours.
On behalf of our members and myself we hope that you all stay healthy and safe during these trying times. We hope to see some of you soon at the next convention!

Everything is going to be alright!

Eugene Zalesny, Director
Association des Pompiers Auxiliaires de la Montérégie
Rougemont, Québec
Canada
Region 10: Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Association

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Greetings from Toronto... In 2019 the Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Associates attended 36 responses. We operate using a single canteen called Support 7 and mainly cover the east end of the city. This was a sharp drop from the 55 responses we tallied in 2018. Even though our total runs declined 1280.75 hours of service were provided by 57 different members (and prospects). This speaks to the dedication and commitment of our very large and active membership. We welcome enthusiasts, those with an interest in the fire service who want to give back to the community, prospective, serving and retired firefighters and other first responders. In addition to our usual compliment of community service and funeral details we attended a few significant fires. These included the 5th alarm fire at the Glen Watford Community Centre in January and the 6th alarm fire at York Memorial Collegiate in May. Our usual social highlights were well-attended, the Bruce Beauchamp Annual Banquet in May, the annual barbeque at the Marine Fire Station complete with a harbour cruise on the Fireboat William Lyon MacKenzie in June and our dual Christmas celebrations, the dinner at the Canadiana Restaurant and the buffet supper at the TPFFA Union Hall. The year featured several major blazes, such as the aforementioned Glen Watford Community Centre fire:
Early in the fire, an exterior attack has been mounted and personnel try to access the thick wooden roof.

The rehab sector, crews exchanged air bottles at the Airlight on the right (several were rotated through the night), obtained hot drinks and food from our canteen, center, and then warmed up in the Rehab Unit.
A fifth alarm at 31 Glen Watford Drive on Thursday, January 31st.

A haze was noticed by staff and patrons up in the ceiling area of the pool at the large, 1-story Agincourt Community Centre and when maintenance staff began investigating, the utility room was found to be in flames. Staff and life guards quickly evacuated everybody, some of whom were still in bathing attire. R.243 crew arrived and began attacking the fire while other crews checked for extension. This was found in the heavy timber structure of the peaked roof space above the pool and entranceway. Personnel were detailed to open up the space and try to vent the roof but the 14” thick covering above stymied this effort. By this time, some of the beams were found to be burned through and parts of the superstructure were collapsing and the third alarm went in. An additional concern was the presence of pool chemicals in the utility area but these were not involved in the fire. Multiple lines had been laid from the front (facing south into the parking lot) and the rear corner and A.113 was positioned to provide a master stream but little headway was being made against the wind driven flames. The severe cold was also taking its toll, with air packs freezing up, every surface icing over and the potential for pumps and hose lines also freezing. Two hours in, the evacuation tones were sounded and a defensive attack commenced. AT.114 had also joined the fray and crews poured water through any openings they could reach well into the night as the flames travelled the 200’ length of the roof space over the pool. Crews again went in, pulling ceilings and attacking what flames they could reach. This lasted until 21:15 when, with ice building up all over the roof and flames breaking through in several areas, everybody exited the building again. They were finally contained around midnight but heavy equipment had to be brought in to remove large sections of roof tin in order to access hidden pockets of fire. The OFM brought an operations vehicle and TIC equipped drone to help locate burning areas and access points. This operation continued until the next night when it was declared out, after 39 hours. Dozens of relief crews were brought in beyond those listed here as the brutal weather and punishing fire-fighting conditions took their toll, amazingly, there were no injuries. Losses are in the millions but they adjoining office area was primarily saved and the attached arena was untouched except for some water damage.
Another long, cold night as a basement fire mushroomed throughout a large mansion.

A sixth alarm at 111 Rochester Avenue on Thursday, March 7th.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIR</th>
<th>1922</th>
<th>P131, 121</th>
<th>A131</th>
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Heavy smoke and high heat conditions were found in the basement of this 5,000 sq ft, two floor mansion being built in Lawrence Park and P.131, R.122 and P.121 made entry, knocking down visible flame. Most of the fire was at the back of the large dwelling and crews stretched from hydrants on St. Leonard’s Ave. Personnel searching up stairs did not initially find any extension but it became apparent that the deep-seated blaze was travelling upwards in hidden voids in the walls and floors. Extensive areas were opened up but the floor became unstable and everybody was pulled from the building an hour into the call. By this time five lines were in use from the back and the same from the front.

Conditions worsened on the ground floor, then the second but it was impossible to obtain enough water at that elevation, especially from the residential mains, to knock down the fire. It burned through the roof as crews using a ladder pipe and 15 hand lines poured water on it. High winds fanned the fire and cold temperatures hampered operations. Water pooled in the yards behind the scene and flowed out in a river onto St. Leonard’s and eventually reaching Bayview Ave. forcing TFS personnel to protect several homes behind the scene from flooding. It took more than six hours to knock down the blaze, 14 to control and the rest of the day to finally extinguish it. Losses amount to $5 million, the cause is under investigation.

An attack team stretches onto the roof of an exposure at the sixth alarm on Rochester Ave.
A fourth alarm at 540 Jones Avenue on Monday, May 6th.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<td>1720</td>
<td>Bal. of 3rd</td>
<td>P125, 311, 314</td>
<td>P114*</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1730</td>
<td>Additional</td>
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<tr>
<td>1745</td>
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<td>1752</td>
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<tr>
<td>1808</td>
<td>Additional</td>
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</table>

Things were barely in hand at a third alarm in the west end when calls were received for an outbreak at another old school, The Jones Avenue Adult Learning Centre in Leslieville. During roofing operations, flames broke out at the south end of the tall, 3-story brick building, forcing the seven workers on the roof to the other end, where they were rescued by TFS personnel using an aerial. As crews set up, the blaze burned across the tar and gravel roof, much of it newly applied. Initially, an interior attack was mounted to open up the ceilings and apply hose streams from below but it was impossible to access the cockloft and prevent hidden flames from taking hold of the entire roof area. Crews on the roof also opened things up and applied hose streams.
An hour into the incident, the roof became unstable and a defensive approach was taken with three aerials provided master streams from B and D sides and AT.333 covered the centre after being erected in the field behind the building. Aside from knocking down the intense flames over most of the roof, crews had to protect propane tanks near the flames. Water pressure was also a challenge, even after water works boosted the pressure. Relays were set up from Danforth Avenue and distant hydrants on other grids. It took over an hour to knock heavy fire, an interior attack commenced to put out the blaze, which destroyed the roof and gutted several top floor classrooms. It took several more hours for overhaul, damage is in the $4 million range.

Support 7 operating at the 4th alarm on Jones Avenue.
A sixth alarm at 2690 Eglinton Avenue West on Tuesday, May 7th.

Fire - school 0324  R421, P442  A421  R341,423  Car 42
W/F 0330  A133  Sqg445, R345(RIT)  A/L421
Bal. of 2nd 0331  P146, 342, 422  HZ145  Car 34
Additional 0333  MPV341, P343  CMD10, Car 10
Additional 0346  Car 13
Bal. of 3rd 0414  P135, R441  A341  Car 44
Additional 0500  A/L333
4th Alarm 0523  P114, 132, 312, 443  A426  Sq331  T333,P333  Car 31
Bal. of 5th 0546  T114  A/L111
Additional 0550  Car 1,3,9
Additional 0554  CMD30
Additional 0609  BOX12
Additional 0710  A423
Additional 0729  P143
Additional 0749  P116  Car 13
Additional 0819  A345
Bal. of 6th 0933  R426(RIT)Additional
Additional 1002  P415  Car 14
Additional 1010  A331,415  R134
Additional 1018  P315
Additional 1039  HZ332  A/L421
Additional 1051
Additional 1052  P114,333  Car 8
Additional 1112
Additional 1121  P121 (Foam)  SUP7
Additional 1212
Additional 1231  Car 31
Additional 1239  Sq445 (Foam Supply)

TFS was alerted by School Board Security of smoke coming from the rear area of York Memorial High School and a WF assignment was sent soon after dispatch. They were on watch following a three-alarm fire the day before. R.421 arrived to see flames from the 2nd floor and pulled the deuce, they entered with a line, backed up by A.421. P.442 stretched to the ground floor and encountered heavy smoke, also finding it in the basement, the RAM fan was requested at this point. P.422 and R.341 added to the interior attack, by now structural integrity in the auditorium was becoming a problem. An hour-and-a-half in, with the ceilings below the stage failing and thick smoke on floors 1 and 2 and in the basement, crews were cleared from the interior and A.421 used their ladder pipe through the windows. The offensive attack continued, even ceiling tiles and other debris began falling. Two hours in, flames vented through the roof and these were attacked by A.421, A.341 and A.426. Both towers were set up and trench cuts made in the roof as the fire was now taking hold on all floors around the auditorium. Most hand lines were being applied from the perimeter, the fire was now front to back in the centre portion of the large structure. Crews setting up on Eglinton were hampered by the Crosstown LRT project, currently occupying the west-bound lanes and one east-bound lane, minimizing access to the A side from the street.
Once the flames were knocked down, areas of the roof were opened up revealing heavy involvement underneath. By 08:00, all personnel were ordered off and ladder pipe operations resumed. Exhausted crews were exchanged for the incoming day shift and everybody settled in for a protracted battle. By 0930, clouds of smoke from the roof were banking down in front of the school and the entire block opposite on Eglinton was evacuated. By now six aerials and a tower were pouring water on the top of the building. For the next four hours, flames spread inexorably to the B and D sides of the roof, in spite of the addition of another tower and a deck gun, as well as the numerous hose lines being played from safe areas.

Foam operations were initiated to more effectively fight the fire in the tar roof and a large installation of solar panels. Fourteen hours in, with heavy fire conditions persisting in areas of the roof and in the atrium, heavy equipment was requested to allow access to hidden areas. The solar panels also had to be dealt with as they shielded much of the burning roof from the master streams. Around 1500 the following day, the fire was considered under control and a fire watch started. This was terminated at 1800 on May 9, loss in this fire hit $90 million. Our crew replaced Box 12 at noon and stayed into the evening, between the two calls we logged 170 person hours.

![Image of smoke and fire](image.png)

Heavy smoke engulfs the buildings across from the burning school, dwarfing the two ladder pipes visible in the center.

The Toronto Fire Service finished the year with a lower than average 248 multiple alarms but there were fourteen 3\textsuperscript{rd} alarms, five 4\textsuperscript{th} alarms and five fires that went to five alarms or greater.
Pompiers auxiliaires Montréal

Hello to you all!
It has been almost a year since the IFBA convention was held in Montreal and what a great time we had being your host. From the time the first guest arrived at the hotel until the last guest left, it was all about laughter, sharing stories, reminiscing and was always about FUN, FELLOWSHIP AND FIRE TRUCKS! As we look back on 2019, we have nothing but fond memories of that fantastic week in June! Congratulations to all members of the Pompiers Auxiliaires, the Montreal Fire Department, the Montreal firefighter’s union, the Caisse Populaire Bank and all the volunteers/partners who made this event possible.
The new year started off slow and progressively got busier in the middle of January until March when everything pretty much shut down. Our weekly meetings, activities, parades, and events were cancelled. Meetings are now done via video conference and we were responding automatically to the 3rd alarm fires with minimal staff and protective equipment in place. We are now back to responding to the second alarm fire with the same protective measures in place. Fire action has also decreased dramatically which means a decrease in canteen runs compared to last year.

MEET OUR ADMINISTRATORS

There have been a few changes in our administration to the vice president and captains’ positions. Some of you may already know them, but for those who do not please allow me to introduce them to you as well as the rest of the administration.

President: Steve Garnett

Just like most of us in the IFBA and ever since I can remember I have been chasing fire trucks. Maybe it was to do with the fact that my dad and uncle were fire fighters and I had spent countless hours at the fire house playing with the turnout gear and sitting in the big red trucks. Although the dream of becoming a firefighter never happened, the passion and dedication is still there. Although antiques, I still get to play with the big red toys. My chosen career is with Mistras Group Inc. as a level 2 non-Destructive testing (NDT) inspector of aeronautical components. I have been with the company for over 27 years and am still passionate about keeping planes safe for all of us to travel. I joined the Montreal Auxiliary in 1997 and was nominated President in 2004 and still hold the position today.
Vice President Operations: Rene Bougie
As a mechanic by trade, I was hired by the city of Montreal in September of 1990. Ten years later I transferred departments and now I get to maintain the Montreal fire department’s fleet of vehicles. I joined the Montreal Auxiliaries as an associate member in 2014 to help the group maintain the antique vehicles. In 2019 I moved to the rank of Captain to learn the ropes and obtain the knowledge knowing one day I would like to move up in the administration. That day came sooner than I expected and in January of 2020 I was nominated as Vice President. To be successful, you must use each day as an opportunity to improve, to be better, to get a little bit closer to your goals. It might sound like a lot of work—and with a busy schedule, next to impossible, but the best part is, the more you accomplish, the more you will want to do, the higher you will want to reach. So, if you have the hunger for success, you will always have the power within you to achieve it.

Vice President Finance: Daniel Fournier
I have been a salesman & manager for several years. Younger I always had an interest in the fire department. My study’s having led me in another direction, I joined the Montreal Auxiliaries in 1996. I have evolved within the organization under the titles of regular member, secretary, vice-president and presently hold the position of vice-president of finance. They have given me the opportunity to learn a lot and to specialize myself in the art of REHAB.

Captain: Tracey Brighten
I work as a pharmacy lab technician; I love fishing and being outdoors and I am the proud mom of two remarkable young adults. A lifetime ago, Steve Garnett and I were high school classmates who lost touch after graduation. Fast forward to our 25th anniversary reunion, all the catching up amongst friends and hearing about the Montreal Auxiliaries for the first time. I was fascinated by the group, the antiques, the museum... I joined the PAM in the summer of 2016 thinking that it would be a fun pastime and get me out of the house now that the children have grown and flown. I had no idea .... I never expected to be consumed by the group, to dedicate so much of my time and energy, to learn so much, to meet so many wonderful people. At the beginning of this year I had the honor of accepting the position of captain, becoming the first woman in the group’s 75-year history to do so. I look forward to many more years of volunteering with this remarkable group, keeping in mind, of course, that it is all about Fun, Fellowship and Firetrucks!
HONOURING THE MONTREAL AUXILIARY

September 2019 officially marked our group’s 75th anniversary. The Pointe a Calliere museum showcases Montreal’s history and archeology. They have a fabulous intriguing permanent display and have three to four temporary exhibits every year. They wanted to recognize our dedication and devotion and offered to set up a display in their museum of the services that we have provided through the years. A huge thanks to our members Barry Adams and Rose Laurence Noel for their time and energy in helping put together a wonderful display.
KEEPING THINGS ROLLING
Future additions to the Montreal Fire Department’s fleet

Montreal will be adding 5 new Pierce 100’ Ascendant tower mid-mount heavy duty ladders. The ladder will be mounted on a Pierce Arrow with a frame rail of 13” in hot galvanized steal. The emergency lights are Federal Signal, with a Harrison generator. Her length will be under 42’ and only 10’8” in height. The payload capacity is 1,000 lbs dry or 500 lbs wet. There will be a 20 degree below grade operation and a 50 degree below grade scrub area, with integrated ground pads for rapid aerial operation set up. Thanks to L’Aresenal, the exclusive Quebec Pierce dealer for their collaboration in this project. Here is a sneak preview!!
The Ontario Fire Buff Associates
29th Annual
FIRE SERVICE COLLECTIBLES SHOW & SALE
Toronto Fire Services – Training Academy
(895 Eastern Ave. at Knox Ave., M4L 1A2)

Saturday, November 7, 2020 from 08:30 to 12:00
FREE ADMISSION – PUBLIC WELCOME

If you are looking to add to your firematic collection or purchase a Christmas gift for that special someone, or you have anything of a firematic nature that you wish to sell, such as books, photos or slides, toys, diecast or plastic models, patches, pins, or other fire memorabilia, please join us.

Sales tables are readily available at no charge. For further information, please call Robert Herscovitch at (416) 497-8968.

Directions to the Toronto Fire Academy

From the East: West on Kingston Rd., continue onto Eastern Ave. and turn left on Knox Ave. The academy is on the right. The entrance to show and parking is at the rear of the building. Turn right at the first entrance.

From the West: Take the Gardiner Expressway to the end onto Lakeshore Blvd. and continue east to Leslie St. Turn left and go north one block to Eastern Ave. Turn right on Eastern and go east one long block to Knox Ave. and turn right.

From the North: Go South on the Don Valley Parkway to Lakeshore Blvd. Turn left onto Lakeshore Blvd. and follow above directions to Leslie St and Eastern Ave.
REGION 11

Box 55 Assn.
Att: Rick Short
P. O. Box 202
Madison TN 37116
Rick.short@box55.org
Thomas.bilbrey@box55.org

South Florida Rehab & Emergency Support Team
1722 Sheridan St. #197
Hollywood FL 33020
Darren.wells@southfloridaest.org

Metropolitan Fire Assn. of Atlanta, GA
PO Box 80607
Atlanta GA 30366-0607
info@metrofire.org

P. O. Box 23
Gladeville TN 37071
Wema603@gmail.com
Welch Road Fire

May 23, 2020 Rehab 55 responded alongside the Nashville Fire Dept to an apartment fire on Welch Rd that quickly turned into a 2nd alarm. Responders were on scene for nearly 4 hours.

This was an apartment off of Nolensville Pike and Harding Place. Started in a roof air conditioner and spread across the whole building. Hot and Humid conditions were obvious. Engine 6 arrived on the scene first and reported heavy smoke and fire.

Engines 21, 27, 4 and 5 arrived afterwards with Trucks 27, 21 and 9. A second alarm was transmitted rather quickly and all hands were working. Rehab was on the scene for 4 hours approximately and we set up a tent, two misting fans, and tables and chairs.....
Moss Trail Fire

March 24, 2020 Rehab 55 responded alongside the Goodlettsville Fire Dept and the Nashville Fire Dept to an apartment fire on Moss Trail. The fire quickly turned into a second alarm. Crews were on scene for over 10 hours.

This shows an apartment complex with heavy fire. This occurred at approximately 3:30 in the afternoon and it was in Goodlettsville, which is a suburb of Nashville but still in Davidson County.

Engine 41 and their Chief arrived on the scene first and reported heavy smoke and fire.

Nashville’s fire equipment was on the way including Engines 39, 31, 38, 1, 29, Trucks 29, 25, 9, Rescue1 and several other chiefs.

A second alarm was struck shortly thereafter which brought more equipment to the scene.

Engine 41 advised that they had several people that they had to rescue from upper floors upon arrival.
There was a thunderstorm in the area but that was not the cause! Not sure at the moment what caused the fire. Many Box 55 members including Rehab stayed on the scene for close to 8 hours...... A sidebar to this fire was there was not enough water pressure early on to extinguish the fire no matter how many engines were there!!

12th Ave N Fire:

July 2, 2020 Rehab 55 responded alongside the Nashville Fire Dept to an address on 12th Ave N. The incident started as a vehicle fire that quickly turned into a house fire. Responders were able to knock the fire down quickly but were recalled at 1629 for a rekindle.

At approximately 1 pm Engines 11, 19, 2, 13 Tower2, Truck 19, Rescue13 and a host of Chiefs arrived on the scene of this house fire with heavy smoke showing. The fire began in the back of a pickup truck and quickly moved up the eaves of the house.
It took firefighters nearly an hour in the high heat and humidity to get this under control, however at 4:30 as the Fire investigators were checking on the cause, the fire roared back up and he requested a full assignment to return!!

SOUTH FLORIDA REHAB & EMERGENCY SUPPORT TEAM
BROWARD & PALM BEACH COUNTIES

South Florida Rehab & Emergency Support Team, Inc
1722 Sheridan St, Ste #197
Hollywood, FL 33020
Phone: 954-903-7139
Greetings from Atlanta! This is a milestone year for fire buffing in Georgia as the Metropolitan Fire Association will hit our 50th anniversary in June. Unfortunately, with the COVID-19 restrictions and personal feelings of being in large groups, a celebration dinner has been indefinitely postponed for now. The MFA did something historic on Tuesday 26 May 2020 when fourteen of us conducted our May monthly meeting as a virtual meeting. We were joined by IFBA President Rick Short and IFBA Executive VP Wally Banks. Rick gave our members a first-hand update on the 2020 IFBA Convention to be held in Nashville TN in October. Wally covered several items on going within the IFBA. We appreciate both taking time from their schedules to join us. In this time when clubs cannot meet due to physical distancing rules, we highly suggest contacting Wally Banks to have him set up the IFBA Virtual meeting system for your scheduled event.

The Metropolitan Fire Association was formed in Bill Durret’s garage on June 17, 1970. Officers were elected at that time with Floyd McRae elected as Foreman; Ed Milam became the Assistant Foreman. The Secretary was Bill Durrer and Peter Wilcox was elected treasure.

Department Chief P.O. Williams, Deputy Chiefs Steve Campbell, Claude Lemke and A.P. Black all supported the idea of an organized Fire Buff club in metro Atlanta. The first meeting held in an Atlanta Fire Department facility occurred on July 9, 1970 when we were invited to conduct business in the Board Room at AFD Headquarters which at that time was at 46 Courtland Street SE.

The objectives and purposes of the MFA are:

- TO PERPETUATE THE MEMORY AND SPRIT OF THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE FIREFIGHTING PROFESSION.
- THE PRESERVATION OF DOCUMENTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, AND RELICS PERTAINING TO THE HISTORY OF FIREFIGHTING.
- INCREASE KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS OF THE FIRE SERVICE.

TO SUPPORT THE FIRE SERVICE THROUGH ANY MEANS POSSIBLE

The governing body of the MFA consists of a Foreman, Assistant Foreman, Executive Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and Three Directors. Meetings are normally held on the fourth Tuesday of every month in various metro Atlanta area fire stations although the week of the month or day of week does change depending on the speaker’s schedule. Please see our web site for a complete history of the organization and meeting location and date information, www.metrofire.org

The MFA newsletter, HOT NEWS is published monthly. The newsletter is e-mailed to almost 300 fire departments or individuals throughout the United States. If your club produces a newsletter, please add us to your e-mail list at Firebf881@Gmail.com
We also annually produce an Apparatus/Shift calendar which has color photos of local fire apparatus and shows both the 24/48 and the 24/24 fire department shift schedules. The first edition was in 1988 and continues to this day. These can be ordered online through our website above.

Fortunately, the Atlanta area does not experience a lot of multi alarm fires for a metropolitan area approaching 7 million population in a 29-county area. Photos and details of these are normally posted on the MFA Facebook page.

Metro Atlanta, like most areas has shifted fire radio traffic to trunked 800 Mhz. Buffing became more difficult when Clayton and Gwinnett Counties encrypted their radio traffic. Two regularly active departments are now unable to be monitored. Many buffs who used to intently listen to scanners have given up due to cost of the new scanner units or being unable to hear the area where they live. Although, with limited input, the MFA continues to operate the Hot News Alert Network “pager” service with most transmittals now going to e-mail or cell phones.

During 2019 and early 2020 the MFA added several new members and we welcome Denise Martin; Judy Karnap, Avery Guthrie, Shane Shifflett, Elliott Fried and Mark Carr in various membership categories.

Due to changes in the NFPA regulations relating to rehab operations the MFA operated Rehab-880 canteen truck was rarely getting called to fire scenes. Departments were now required to establish their own rehab sectors on working incidents so business for the MFA operated truck dropped dramatically. In the last two years of operation we were averaging one or two runs a year. Financially for the club, cost for insurance, supplies and maintenance could not be justified when requests for the truck dropped to nothing. Rehab-880 as a vehicle owned and operated by the MFA was discontinued in the summer of 2014.

The City of Sandy Springs operates a volunteer Citizens Fire Corps and the DeKalb County Fire Rescue Department has a Fire Reserve program. DeKalb operates an Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) provided canteen truck manned by the fire reservists. Several MFA members are part of the DeKalb Fire Reserve. Since the “880” number is well known to department members as the “Canteen”, DeKalb has designated their apparatus as REHAB-880. The MFA has partnered with the Sandy Springs Fire Corps and the DeKalb Fire Reserve where we provide the “supplies” for their operations and they agree to respond into the City of Atlanta when requested for large events. This program is in its infancy and some bugs in notification etc., are still being fine-tuned.

Sadly, MFA members miss the buff publication “The VISITING FIREMAN” which is no longer published. Via Facebook and other social media we see posts from “buffs” in Georgia that we did not know about. I am sure other clubs also see potential members that you were also unaware of. We find that most of these people, including some rehab operations are not aware of the existing organized buff clubs or the IFBA. Even if just a pay-for online directory, there remains a real need for this “publication” and directory.

That is it from Atlanta… Stay well. and good buffing.
TIMELY TOPICS
Fireground Rehab: 
An Important Job That’s Tough to Fill

Photo by Darin Overstreet / www.defenseimagery.mil

By P.J. Norwood

According to some in the fire service, the most dreaded spot on the fireground is in rehabilitation (rehab). What many fire and emergency medical services (EMS) professionals fail to realize is the importance of this position and division in the overall incident.

For many years, the fire service defined rehab as the place to obtain a new full self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) bottle, a cup of coffee, and a donut. However, rehab should be very different; it is a critical part of incident management crucial to providing a standard each and every time.

Firefighter rehabilitation should be governed by a set of standard operating guidelines (SOGs). The SOGs should be consistent with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1583, Standard on Health-Related Fitness Programs for Fire Department Members. Although NFPA 1583 is a consensus standard, it is not law; it is the standard of care and best practices that all departments should follow whenever possible. Firefighter rehab is not only for the fireground; consider rehabilitation and perform training evolutions as well.
The fireground is an extremely dynamic environment that exposes firefighters to extreme conditions. Extreme conditions exist on every fireground and at time during extreme weather conditions. Rehab is an intervention designed to mitigate against the physical, psychological, and emotional stress of firefighting to sustain a member’s energy, improve performance, and decrease the likelihood of on-scene injury or death.

Firefighter rehabilitation consists of the following five elements:

1. Initiation of the rehab sector.
2. Define the responsibilities.
4. Ensure safety.
5. Release personnel from rehab only when it is safe to do so.

Initiate rehab at the request of the incident commander (IC) through previously established SOGs, which should have been clearly communicated to all personnel. Define clearly the responsibility of the rehab sector, especially when EMS personnel are staffing the rehab sector. The initiation and responsibilities, when defined ahead of time, will provide the necessary groundwork that sets up the team for success.

On the fireground, accountability is of utmost importance. Within the rehab sector, accountability must include accounting for who is in rehab, who has been in rehab, and when and where they were released. The system will also ensure that personnel do not leave without approval.

The rehab sector must be safe for those working within and entering it, spending time in, and eventually being released from. Some of the safety items also include keeping those assigned to rehab safe from the incident, the environment, the media, societal threats, and “prying eyes.”

The last piece is release from rehab. Release from rehab may mean the firefighter is capable to return to active firefighting or possibly less demanding tasks or to EMS for further evaluation and possible transport. Release from rehab is the most difficult piece of the process to manage. It is critical that release parameters are clearly defined and understood by those staffing the rehab sector and the firefighters entering ahead of time. Following are the standard set of questions that you should ask that will help guide release:

1. Is the firefighter adequately rested?
2. Is the firefighter adequately hydrated?
3. Has the firefighter received proper nutrition?
4. Has the firefighter responded appropriately to care measures?

The ultimate decision to allow or disallow a member to return to work is vested in the rehab sector officer through authority delegated by the IC. This does not mean it will be clear cut or easy to make the right decision each and every time. Most firefighters clearly know and understand the process and may be inclined to twist the facts so they can be released to go back to work rather than be released from the scene.
One of the most important pieces of firefighter rehab comes in the preparedness and the development of SOGs. The SOGs developed should include and address the following:

1. Relief from climactic conditions.
2. Rest and recovery.
3. Active and/or passive cooling or warming as needed based on the event and climate.
4. Rehydration.
5. Calorie and electrolyte replacement.
6. Medical monitoring.
7. EMS treatment.
8. Accountability.

Rehab Setup

Although the incident will always be very dynamic, an impromptu setup may have already occurred. Assess the location to ensure adequate safety, and move it if necessary. Some of the items and scene aspects that you must consider when establishing the rehab location include the following:

- Protecting the firefighters:
  a. From the media.
  b. From prying eyes.
  c. From the incident.
  d. From the elements (i.e., smoke from the fire, carbon monoxide from vehicles).

- It must be large enough to accommodate the needs of the incident and have it be easily expanded if the incident expands.
- It must be located with EMS so that it can facilitate quick transfer to transport vehicle, if necessary.
- It must be close to the incident and easily identified by personnel.
- The setup and operation must be in accordance with preestablished guidelines and SOGs.

Medical Monitoring

NFPA 1584, Standard on the Rehabilitation Process for Members During Emergency Operations and Training Exercises, calls for a minimum of basic life support care available at incident scenes and the resources for transport, if needed. Personnel performing the medical monitoring should evaluate all working members for symptoms suggestive of a health or safety concern when they enter the rehab process and prior to being released. This will help ensure there are no obvious indications that they aren’t capable of performing their job requirements.
The standard also specifies that EMS personnel performing medical monitoring should assess for the following:

- Chest pain.
- Dizziness.
- Shortness of breath.
- Weakness.
- Nausea.
- Headache.

Additionally, you should assess each firefighter for the following symptoms:

1. General complaints such as cramps or aches and pains.
2. Symptoms of heat- or cold-related stress.
3. Changes in gait, speech, or behavior.
4. Alertness and orientation to person, place, and time.
5. Abnormal vital signs (the specific vital signs and what defines abnormal is to be defined by the department medical authorities).

Firefighter rehab starts well before the incident. Educate firefighters and give them the time to focus on their health and fitness levels. Firefighters who maintain a high level of fitness will recover quicker and exhibit fewer negative effects from the incident. Additional education to the rehab SOGs is crucial for the rehab sector’s success.

The firefighter rehabilitation sector is a crucial piece to every incident and training ground that should be governed by established SOGs consistent with NFPA 1584. Communicate the SOGs to all personnel, and then have them train on them.

Although the fireground can still include coffee and donuts, they should be carefully monitored and ingested appropriately.

**P.J. NORWOOD** is a deputy chief training officer for the East Haven (CT) Fire Department and has served five years with the Connecticut Army National Guard. He has authored Dispatch, Handling the Mayday (Fire Engineering, 2012); coauthored Tactical Perspectives of Ventilation and Mayday DVDs (2011, 2012); and was a key contributor to the Tactical Perspectives DVD series. He is a Fire Engineering University faculty member, co-creator of Fire Engineering’s weekly video blog “The Job,” and host of a Fire Engineering Blog Talk Radio show. He is certified to the instructor II, officer III, and paramedic levels.

COVID-19 AND THE FIRE SERVICE
By Gerry Mahoney

May 9, 2020

In January 2020 the media began talking about a virus, known as a Coronavirus, that had apparently erupted in the Wuhan Province of China. According to the Centers for Disease Control, (CDC) the first confirmed case in the United States was reported on January 21, 2020.

As of May 8, 2020, there are more than 1.2 million cases in the United States with over 75,000 fatalities attributed to the disease now known as Covid-19.

We all remember how the fire service and indeed the world changed after September 11, 2001. Eighteen plus years later the fire service has had to adapt once again. However, this time we are protecting ourselves and the public from an enemy that is invisible, but in many respects, more deadly. A consequential, yet no less severe casualty of this pandemic is the devastation of the American economy, the worst since the Great Depression.

Fire Departments, large and small, career and volunteer have been affected by the pandemic in many ways. Tragically, as of this writing approximately twenty fire personnel have succumbed to the virus in the United States.

As news of the pandemic and its severity spread fire departments needed to make several changes to policies and practices to protect the workforce and in turn protect the public they serve. Similarly, IFBA member organizations who operate canteen and field support units realized that business as usual was no longer practical or safe!

The fire service by its very nature is an extremely difficult setting to practice social distancing, yet steps had to be taken to stop the spread of the virus.

In the Boston area a variety of practices were implemented. In Cambridge we took the following initial steps.

- Firehouses closed to the public including friends and family members.
- Suspension of inspections.
- Sanitizing of firehouses twice per 24-hour shift.
- Temperature checks at 0700 and 1900 hours.
- Modification of alarm response assignments.
- Personnel restricted to working only in their “own firehouse”, no working overtime, details or swaps in a firehouse other than the one to which you are assigned.
- Modification to sick leave policy, (citywide) to encourage personnel who may feel ill or having to care for a family member to actually stay home.

Throughout the Greater Boston area, in the Mutual Aid District known as MetroFire, all departments were notified that when covering on mutual aid in another community, please refrain from utilizing the living quarters, except for restrooms.
Some departments instituted a policy prohibiting the traditional communal meals in the firehouse, all in an effort to prevent the spread of the virus. Despite all these efforts as of May 3rd over 200 career firefighters in Massachusetts had tested positive for the virus.

The fire service role in Emergency Medical Services varies around the country. Some departments perform basic first responder role, some run ambulances, and some may partner with a private ambulance service providing basic or advanced life support measures.

The incidence of the virus has been especially high in densely populated urban settings. For example, the City of Chelsea has a population of 35,000 in 1.8 square miles. Over 2200 residents have tested positive. By comparison, Cambridge has approximately 122,000 people in 6.1 square miles. 824 residents have tested positive for the virus. Obviously, the more encounters with potentially sick residents increases the chances of public safety personnel contracting the virus.

Despite the fact that the pandemic has overtaken our daily lives and routines, the fire service continues to serve and protect the communities and residents. And in true fashion the various IFBA member clubs that operate canteens and field support units continue to serve as well. There have been plenty of pictures and stories on social media in the past two months of our dedicated members serving their area departments in many ways. Two weeks ago, the Boston Sparks Association canteen units assisted in delivering meals to all Boston firehouses and police stations. The generous donation was a collaborative effort between Wahlburgers Restaurant and Crescent Capital.

Members of the Boston Sparks Association and Boston Firefighters Local 718 discuss logistics in delivering meals on April 23, 2020. (BSA Photo/Dave Stewart)

The pandemic has obviously affected our daily routines in so many ways. Massachusetts has been under a “stay at home” order since March 24th, the Governor issued a directive that took effect on May 6th requiring the wearing of masks/facial coverings in public when unable to
effectively practice the social distancing of six feet. In many communities you are not allowed to enter a store or any place of business without a mask on. Automobile dealerships remain closed as do places like hair salons, barber shops, city and town halls and restaurants. (many restaurants are offering take-out/curbside delivery to keep employees on the payroll.) Governor Baker also closed all public and private schools on March 15th. On April 21 he announced they would remain closed for the academic year. Many are looking forward to May 18th when the Governor expects to announce the steps to be taken in re-opening the economy of the Commonwealth.

In March Cambridge took delivery of a Pierce 1250 GPM/500-Gal Enforcer Pumper for Engine 2. After some finishing touches by the department mechanics the pump was placed in service on April 4, 2020.

Not the traditional new pump in service photo! (CFD Photo by Jack Gelines)

As a result of this delivery the former Engine 2 pump, a 2013 Pierce Saber 1250 GPM/500-Gal pump was reassigned to Engine 1. The 2007 Pierce Saber 1250 GPM/500-Gal Rescue Pumper from Engine 1 has been sold to the Quincy, MA Fire Department.

This country hasn’t experienced anything like this since the Great Influenza epidemic of 1918. I would highly recommend for those interested an excellent book on that topic, The Great Influenza by John M. Barry, originally published in 2004 with updates added in 2018. The similarities are interesting. The virus spread like a wildfire, particularly in military cantonments as the nation was preparing to enter World War I. The overcrowded and unsanitary living conditions were like an added fuel in spreading the virus.

Here’s hoping that we all are soon able to return to a sense of normal, or close to normal as we knew it. There’s no doubt that much of what we knew and practiced every day is changed or possibly gone for an extended period of time, if not forever.

Stay safe!
Retention and Recruitment
Engaging our Future

May 3, 2020

In 2017 President Vickie Mokoros recognized a downward tick in the membership rolls of the IFBA and assigned Wally Banks and Joe Sullivan to establish a Retention and Recruitment Committee. Adding geographical and intellectual depth to the group, Ken Beliveau, Bob Bowers, Chris Oliphant and Dave Williams were brought on board.

It was recognized that the IFBA was getting “older” and the country was moving from an urban based population to a suburban one. We determine that there are many people who identify themselves as Fire Buffs who are in fact young and live some distance from the traditional urban core that constituted the bulk of IFBA members.

The Retention and Recruitment team therefore reached out to these folks through the internet, Facebook and other social media avenues. We were also able (thanks to Chris and Charlie Lewis) to “find” many organizations that provide “Rehab” type services to local fire departments, a function that traditionally was associated with Buff Clubs.

Contact was made with the Constitution and By-laws Committee to determine if we could re-write those documents to facilitate bringing new members on board. Through the hard work of the C/BI committee, changes were suggested and overwhelmingly approved in Montreal in 2019. These changes made the application process less burdensome. The changes also allowed us to (in some cases) provide a prospective member an application instantaneously.

With the assistance of Cody Daniels, Ian Duke and Steve Garnett a Retention and Recruitment brochure was produced and hit the streets in 2019. A second iteration of the brochure that will evolve from simply Retention and Recruitment is in the initial stages of updating, with the hope of having ready for the 2020 Convention in Nashville.

Chairman Paul Schaetzle has graciously allowed us to use and customize an “Invitation to Join” letter he penned some years ago. This is extraordinarily well written and concisely explains what the IFBA and its members are all about.
Food Service Safety

The DeKalb County Georgia Board of Health required all of us that work on ReHab-880 to complete the Serve Safe Food Handler Course for those of us operating on the canteen / rehab unit. Please pass this on to member clubs since many operated canteens and their rules may also require completion of this course. Check your local requirements and for available training resources. Previously <Currently> the course was <is> being offered for FREE until the end of the May at https://www.servsafe.com/ You will have to register and generate an account (Free).

It will take about two to two and a half hours to listen to all the modules and take the test but the certification is then good for three years. You do not have to do this all at one sitting as the course will remember where you left off.

Update edits <> by Turn Out staff

Dave Williams, CFPS
VP Region 11
EVENT UPDATES
Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Committee Meeting
Virtual Meeting
May 1, 2020

Call to Order
• The meeting was called to order on May 1, 2020, at 10:32 a.m. by Chief Greg Cade, Chair of the National Advisory Committee.

Dr. William Jenaway, President of the CFSI Board of Directors
• We are in a challenging time but please stay the course with us.

Chair’s Report
• Chief Greg Cade delivered the Chair’s report.
• Thanks for supporting me as NAC Chair.
• Legislative advocacy is a challenge in an election year and with COVID-19.

Vice-Chair’s Report
• Chief Ron Sianicki delivered the Vice-Chair’s report.
• It’s an interesting time for all of us.
• The fire service is being impacted by COVID-19 and the numbers are continuing to grow.
• Mentioned PSOB and eligibility during the COVID-19 pandemic.
• International Firefighters Day is May 4.

Executive Director’s Report
• Bill Webb, CFSI’s Executive Director, delivered a report.
• We had been working on our dinner and were well into finalizing everything when we had to cancel due to the pandemic.
• We developed a Task Force to make recommendations about how to move forward.
  • We are looking to develop a smaller event later in the year to help us recognize award recipients and thank supporters.
• Each organization must pay a fee of $3,750. That helps us continue our work. We’ll be sending reminders to organizations that haven’t submitted payments yet.
• We are continuing to educate Members of Congress on the needs of the fire service during this critical time.

Legislative Report
• Michaela Campbell, CFSI’s Director of Government Affairs, delivered a report.
• CFSI’s legislative work is ongoing in 2020:
  • CFSI held a briefing for congressional staff in March on AFG and SAFER.
  • CFSI has also had discussions with appropriations committee staff and fire caucus staff regarding FY2021 appropriations.
  • Congress has also been working on COVID-19 funding and passed several packages.
  • Congress and the agencies continue to work remotely and we have been in contact to advocate for CFSI’s priorities.
Development Report

- Steven Tramel, CFSI’s Development Manager, delivered a report.
- CFSI is looking at an event - not a dinner, likely a reception - in October in Washington, DC. We are also exploring a NAC meeting at that time. However, details are subject to change.
- Bill Webb noted that the event would likely be around the time of the NFFF Memorial Weekend.

Subcommittee Reports

- Ethics – No report
- Programmatic – Ron Siamicki
  - Thank you to the Programmatic Subcommittee.
  - The subcommittee worked with CFSI staff to get a great seminar program together, but unfortunately without the symposium, we’re looking at other options to offer this great programming.
  - We have an array of programs and presenters, we just don’t know for sure what’s going to happen.
- Resolutions – Denny Compton
  - The subcommittee spent a lot of time on these resolutions, all of which passed the subcommittee unanimously.
  - Three resolutions were considered by the National Advisory Committee:
    - A resolution in support of federal agency and congressional actions through increased funding and support for fire prevention
      - Offered by the National Association of State Fire Marshals
      - Motion: National Association of State Fire Marshals
      - Second: International Association of Fire Chiefs
      - Unanimously approved
    - A resolution recognizing the essential services that building and fire prevention departments provide and supporting investments that permit these departments to enforce building and life safety codes remotely
      - Offered by the International Code Council
      - Motion: International Code Council
      - Second: National Association of State Fire Marshals
      - Unanimously approved
    - A resolution recognizing that up-to-date national, consensus-based, building codes promote fire and life safety while supporting housing choice and affordability
      - Offered by the International Code Council and cosponsored by the National Fire Protection Association
      - Motion: International Code Council
      - Second: National Fire Protection Association
      - Unanimously approved
- Fundraising – Vickie Pritchett
  - We are ready to assist with contacting sponsors who were lined up for the dinner.
  - CFSI plays an important role and we ask everyone to be as supportive as possible.
  - Please consider joining the Associates Club if you are not already a member.
• **Membership** – Tony O’Neill
  o Bill Webb noted that there were no new applications. There was one pending application that required additional information sought by the Membership Subcommittee, but the organization has not submitted the information. Therefore, no additional action has been taken on the application.

**Election of Officers**
• Chair
  o Motion to nominate Ron Siarnicki made by Vickie Pritchett
  o Seconded by Denny Compton
  o Unanimously approved
• Vice-Chair
  o Motion to nominate Craig Hannan made by Ron Siarnicki
  o Seconded by Denny Compton
  o Unanimously approved

**Unfinished Business**
• No unfinished business was discussed

**New Business**
• No new business was discussed

**Presentation - Bill Bradley (Anheuser-Busch)**
• Last year, Anheuser-Busch committed 1 million cans of drinking water to firefighters. They delivered 1.6 million cans last year to more than 300 locations.
• Anheuser-Busch is also planning to expand its program this year to assist with recruitment of volunteers. Anheuser-Busch is partnering with Spartan Race to encourage their participants to consider joining the volunteer fire service.
• Question from Bill Webb - are competitions on hold?
  o Answer: To the best of my knowledge, everything is on hold at the moment.

**Presentation – Mike Worrell & Chief Richard Carrizzo (FirstNet)**
• Over the last quarterly report (end of March) there were 1,200 public safety agencies on FirstNet. This was a jump from the previous quarter.
• AT&T is ahead of schedule and has about 75% of Band 14 built out (mostly in metro areas, but now they’re branching out to smaller areas).
• Push to talk is now out (FirstNet Push to Talk).
• Contact Information:
  o Chief Rich Carrizzo
    Fire Chief South Platte Fire District
    FirstNet Authority Board Member
    Richard.carrizzo@firstnet.gov
    816 935-0761
  o Mike Worrell
    Director of Field Operations
    FirstNet Authority
Adjournment

- Upon motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

ATTENDANCE:

CFSI Board of Directors:
- Bill Jenaway, President
- Jim Estepp, Vice President
- Chris Neal, Secretary/Treasurer
- Steve Austin
- Peggy Echols
- Shane Ray

CFSI Staff
- Bill Webb, Executive Director
- Steven Tramel, Development Manager
- Michaela Campbell, Director of Government Affairs

NAC Leadership
- Greg Cade, Chair
- Ron Siannicki, Vice Chair

Members
- Wallace Banks
- Preet Bassi
- Paul Brooks
- Denny Compton
- Mike Cox
- Toby Cummings
- John Denhardt
- David Durstine
- Vina Drennan
- Dianne Eggeman
- Karl Fippinger
- Eriks Gabliks
- Bob Guthrie
- John Granby
- Craig Hannan
- Steve Kerber
- Roger Krupp
- Dave Lang
- Ken LaSala
International Fire Buff Associates
Center for Public Safety Excellence
Institution of Fire Engineers - USA Branch
International Fire Service Training Association
North American Fire Training Directors
International Municipal Signal Association
American Fire Sprinkler Association
Fire Apparatus Manufacturers’ Association
Common Voices
Center for Campus Fire Safety
International Code Council
North American Fire Training Directors
National Volunteer Fire Council
Fire and Emergency Manufacturers and Services Association
International Fire Service Training Association
Underwriters Laboratories
International Association of Arson Investigators
International Association of Fire Fighters
International Association of Fire Chiefs
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL AGENCY AND CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS THROUGH INCREASED FUNDING AND SUPPORT FOR FIRE PREVENTION

Offered by:
National Association of State Fire Marshals

Whereas recent trends have shown that fire prevention remains a serious national problem;
Whereas data from the U.S. Fire Administration shows nationally there are fewer fires and injuries per year, the data also shows fires are becoming more severe with significant statistical increases in both deaths and property damage per fire;
Whereas the economic impact of every fire, especially with an increased trend in monetary loss, jeopardizes not just the economic vitality of our communities, but hampers our national goal of increased community resiliency;
Whereas fire prevention efforts proactively avert incidents from occurring, and the deaths, injuries, and damage to property and the economy that ensues; and help protect responding firefighters who would otherwise respond to these catastrophic events, risking death or injury;
Whereas at a time when federal, state and local resources and funding are limited, the most cost-effective way to save lives and reduce injuries from fire is to allocate additional funding for fire prevention;
Whereas Congress spends about 95 cents of every dollar appropriated to the fire services for operational efforts to extinguish fires and about 5 cents on fire prevention.
Whereas Congress has found fire prevention and control is, and should remain, a State and local responsibility, the Federal Government must help if a significant reduction in fire losses is to be achieved.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Congressional Fire Services Institute encourages federal authorities to:

1) Increase the level of federal funding dedicated for fire prevention by Congress and agencies such as USFA, to reverse the national trend of increased fire deaths and economic property loss per fire without jeopardizing existing federal fire operational funding.

2) Increase federal support for fire prevention efforts through adoption and enforcement of current codes, research, engineering, economic incentivization, and enhanced public education, which aid emergency response and economic development.

3) Support, fund and evaluate fire prevention efforts at the state and local levels that are based on data driven decision-making to identify and protect high risk and vulnerable populations from the deadly effects of fire.

**A resolution recognizing the essential services that building and fire prevention departments provide and supporting investments that permit these departments to enforce building and life safety codes remotely**

Offered by:
International Code Council

WHEREAS, code officials ensure that healthcare infrastructure, including temporary structures and occupancies, is built and maintained to ensure occupant safety;

WHEREAS, code officials enforce regulations that require disinfection of ventilation systems in hospitals, adequate facilities to ensure handwashing, safe and sanitary plumbing systems that mitigate the spread of contagions, fire sprinklers and other fire and life safety systems, and maintenance of these systems in a safe and sanitary condition within their original design parameters;

WHEREAS, code officials protect the health and welfare of building occupants when dangerous or unsafe sanitary, air quality, structural, or electrical hazards arise;

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2020, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency released an updated list of “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers,” which expressly recognizes code officials who administer building inspection, plan review, and permitting work;

WHEREAS, as of April 1, 2020, more than half of states have expressly recognized code official functions as essential while no state has determined code officials to not be essential;
WHEREAS, according to roughly 1200 building and fire prevention department respondents from all 50 states who participated in a survey conducted by the International Code Council between March 22 and April 1, 2020:

- Two-thirds of plan reviewers and inspectors are working remotely;
- One-quarter of employees do not have access to needed hard copy code books;
- Four in ten departments do not have the capability to do electronic/remote plan reviews;
- Three in ten departments do not have the capability to do any aspect of electronic/remote permitting; and
- Six in ten departments do not have the capability for electronic/remote inspections;

WHEREAS, many departments are under resourced and many state and local governments are facing severe revenue downturns resulting from the coronavirus pandemic;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Congressional Fire Services Institute supports legislation, funding, and policies that:
1. Recognize building and fire prevention departments as providing essential services; and
2. Assist building and fire prevention departments in developing the capability to utilize code resources and conduct plan review, permitting, and inspections, remotely.

A resolution recognizing that up-to-date national, consensus-based, building codes promote fire and life safety while supporting housing choice and affordability

Offered by:
International Code Council
National Fire Protection Association

WHEREAS, increases in housing costs have the greatest implications for low- and moderate-income (LMI) families;

WHEREAS, LMI families are more likely to live in homes built in hazard-prone areas or homes with lower quality construction and are therefore at greater risk of damage to or destruction of their homes;

WHEREAS, less than 4 in 10 Americans can cover an unanticipated $1,000 expense with savings;

WHEREAS, some have contended that building codes are regulatory barriers to affordable housing and that building codes can present inherent barriers to fair housing choice;
WHEREAS, contemporary research continues to find that modern national, consensus-based, building codes have no appreciable implications for housing affordability—in fact, no peer-reviewed research has found otherwise;

WHEREAS a recent study by the Congressionally-established National Institute of Building Science found that using the latest codes and standards provides a benefit of $11 for every $1 invested through earthquake, flood, and wind mitigation benefits, with a $4 to $1 wildfire mitigation benefit, representing avoided casualties, property damage, business interruptions, urban search and rescue costs, loss of service from damaged fire stations and other public buildings, and insurance costs;

WHEREAS, modern codes require smoke alarms and fire sprinklers, which can reduce insurance premiums and injuries and loss of life;

WHEREAS the insurance savings from meeting current codes’ flood mitigation requirements can reduce homeowners’ net monthly mortgage and flood insurance costs by at least 5 percent;

WHEREAS, Congress and the Administration, including the Mitigation Framework Leadership Group, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Department of Housing and Urban Development, support the adoption and enforcement of current national, consensus-based, building codes through grants, incentives, and technical support;

WHEREAS, zoning codes, which have been used to establish material and occupancy preferences, have been inappropriately conflated with building codes, which are material neutral, and which do not address occupancy preferences;

WHEREAS, a more unified code landscape would help minimize construction cost (and therein promote fair housing choice and affordable housing) through clearer and more consistent design and construction requirements and quality standards—allowing greater efficiencies for builders, materials manufacturers, and designers; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Congressional Fire Services Institute:

1. Supports federal legislation, funding, and policies that recognize and support up-to-date national, consensus-based, building codes as promoting fair housing choice and affordable housing, and does not support actions to the contrary.
Fire Rescue International Update (7/7/20)

Since our Fire-Rescue International (FRI) status event announcement on June 16 about going virtual, we have been working hard to determine the best course of action for FRI 2020. In order to provide the best virtual experience that will offer unparalleled programming, interactivity, and robust virtual exhibits, we are pleased to announce that FRI will be a two-part series of events.

- As originally scheduled, #VirtualFRI will kick off on August 19 with the IAFC Board of Directors meeting and continue throughout the week with the focus being the annual business of the IAFC; division, section, and committee meetings; and concluding with the installation of our new IAFC officers.

- A ReIGNITE Virtual Conference will be held on October 19–22, 2020. This new virtual offering will focus on cutting edge training, education, and best practices, as well as new technologies, apparatus, and equipment. This also will include the IAFC EMS Section’s signature educational event - Fire-Rescue Med (FRM), which will be held on October 19.

#VirtualFRI Highlights

As originally scheduled, #VirtualFRI will kick off on August 19 with the IAFC Board of Directors meeting and continue throughout the week with the focus being the annual business of the IAFC; division, section, and committee meetings; and concluding with the installation of our new IAFC officers.

- Board of Directors Meeting
- Annual Business Meeting
- Installation of Officers
- Division Meetings
- Section Meetings
- Committee Meetings
Moving Forward with Scheduled October Dates

INTERSCHUTZ USA 2020 is Moving Forward with Scheduled October Dates

Philadelphia Fire Department and Pennsylvania Convention and Visitors Bureau Are Prepared to Host

CHICAGO – Hannover Fairs USA, the U.S. subsidiary of Deutsche Messe, AG, organizer of the world’s largest firefighter event, INTERSCHUTZ, in Hannover, Germany, clarified any questions the industry had declaring it is moving forward with its launch of INTERSCHUTZ USA, Oct. 14-17 2020, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. It is doing so with the full support of the Philadelphia Fire Department, Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau (PHLCVB) and the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority (PCCA). INTERSCHUTZ USA, in its inaugural year, will be the first major trade show held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in 2020.

“We are committed to the safety of all participants involved,” said Rachel Lesczynski, INTERSCHUTZ USA Show Manager. “Our audience is a community of firefighters, paramedics, EMTs and first responders. This community thrives on sharing insights gained from global events. We are prepared and willing to implement all safety precautions required to safely conduct INTERSCHUTZ USA in October.”

INTERSCHUTZ USA is a new type of event, bringing the world’s fire service together. Addressing current international travel challenges, the show team is developing plans to allow international speakers and participants to participate in this unique event virtually.

“It certainly has been an eventful week,” said Ed Nichols, Vice President with Hannover Fairs USA. “The Mayor’s announcement related to canceling public events through February caused some confusion. This does not apply to private events like INTERSCHUTZ USA. We also had an announcement from the Governor limiting the number of people that can gather indoors at this time (July). That has not been extended to October, so we want everyone to know that we’re moving forward with this event and are working with state and local officials to develop plans to bring our audience together safely. No decisions have been made regarding October suggesting we cannot.”

“We are excited to host INTERSCHUTZ USA in Philadelphia,” said Fire Commissioner Adam Thiel, Deputy Managing Director and OEM Director, City of Philadelphia. “One of the greatest attributes of the City of Philadelphia is its resiliency, and we are excited to demonstrate that in welcoming
INTERSCHUTZ USA in October. The fire-rescue and EMS communities need training and collaboration like this more than ever before, as training opportunities have been limited, but the expectations of our public justifiably have not changed. We are proud to be able to provide this opportunity to these global communities.”

INTERSCHUTZ USA will take place Oct. 14-17, 2020 in Philadelphia. Classroom-style workshops and live training for firefighters will be held throughout the area on Oct. 14. The Pennsylvania Convention Center will hold all exhibit and classroom events Oct. 15-17.

For more information visit www.interschutzusa.com or contact Ed Nichols at (773) 796-4250 or enichols@interschutzusa.com.

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All,

The NFFF has postponed the annual Fallen Firefighter memorial weekend as per NFFF Chair Troy Markel. While disappointing, it is important to know that the nation’s fallen Firefighters will not be forgotten. On October 4, the NFFF will broadcast a National Tribute with details to follow on that as well as the 2021 plans.
International Fire Buff Associates, Inc.
3413 Briarcliff Court South
Irving, Texas 75062-3289

Wally Banks
Executive Vice President

NECROLOGY REPORT 2019/2020

Frank "Bud" Bertog, Member
5-11 Club, Chicago, IL

Jay Bressler, Member
Box 15 Club, Los Angeles, CA

William Celentano, Past President
Box 22 Associates, New Haven, CT
IFBA Past President,
Past IFBA Regional Vice President at
large

Stu Gootnick, Member
5-11 Club, Chicago, IL

Daniel Hottel, Member
Old Dominion Fire Historical Society,

Jack Lerch, Member
Fire Bell Club of New York

Michael Milbrath, Past President
Milwaukee Fire Bell Club, Milwaukee, WI

David Mollison, Life Member
Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Assoc.
Member
Ontario Fire Buff Association, Canada

Jim Henderson, Member
Box 15 Club, Columbus, OH

William D. "Darrell" Scott, founding member
Box 4 Assn., Dallas, TX
Past President Box 4

Marcelino Rivera Jr., Member
5-11 Club, Chicago, IL

Jay Thompson, Member
Metropolitan Fire Associates, Atlanta, GA

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

175
Go to BLAZES on the NEW 1917 AHRENS-FOX

6 cylinder, 997 cu. in. 340 hitz. side drive, dual ignition, chain drive triple combination pump, 800 gallons per minute, 135 HP at 500 RPM. Price: $1,000.