

TURN OUT

Winter Spring 2023



TURN OUT

The Official Newsletter of the IFBA

Published Twice Yearly
Winter/Spring and
Summer/Fall

turnout@ifba.org

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



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Publication News

Our dedicated, dependable contributors continue to submit their club news with articles and photographs.

The editors reached out to clubs that haven't appeared in a while with a request to submit just a photo with a caption. Great response - Welcome back to Turn Out.

For those that struggle with writing and deadlines – try it – just a photo and caption.

Since Turn Out went free and digital, there have been recent concerns about the text clarity (blurring) on screen. When viewing Turn Out on the website (ifba.org), the clarity in 'page flip' view depends on the size of the viewer's screen and magnification setting. Some settings view distorted. Downloads from 'page flip' may distort also. The good news – downloads from the 'Magazine' list at the bottom of the webpage are clear. Try it.

Cover

Front - Dr Harry M Archer (I) – 1869-1954. A life-long buff, volunteer medical officer, Honorary Deputy Chief, innovator and benefactor to the FDNY, no history of the department has ever been written without mention of him. Dr Archer is treating 'Smokey Joe' Martin during the Holy Trinity Church fire of April 16, 1925. Photo Lowell M Limpus 1940

Back - 1953 Safety message by Box 15 Club of Los Angeles

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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 downloading from the website should make arrangements through their local club organization or Regional Vice-President.

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.

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

PDF files are acceptable if the authors wish to preserve the original layout and format. PDF files and errors cannot be edited. Small fonts and colored text will tend to blur.

Photos in .jpg format are preferred. Please identify the author and photographer.

The most important issue is to submit material. The editors will fix format and spelling if necessary. Consider texting to turnout@ifba.org if that makes participating easier. Just a photo with caption will do.

Submitted articles and photos become the property of IFBA.

Submission Deadline

2023 Summer issue – deadline May 31, 2023. Note date – target publication date July 1, 2023, six weeks before August Convention.



Winter Spring

2023

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2022/2023

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IFBA

Executive Office

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As we move in to 2023, I hope this finds all of you healthy and enjoying time with family and friends. The Convention Committee for Milwaukee is hard at work, and it looks like a great convention is instore for us.

We are slowly getting back to normal meetings; some still being postponed or being a virtual meeting with upticks in certain areas.

I have been in contact with our Turnout Editor, Iggy, and he and the Turnout group are again producing a very nice issue, just take a look thru it.

Executive VP Steve Garnett and I are in constant contact and continue to work together as the two new people to keep the IFBA on course.

I would like to see all clubs get more information to your Regional VP, so they can forward the information from your club and region out to all of us. If someone is traveling thru your area, they will be aware of a fire related event.

Please contact me or your Regional VP if you have any questions or ideas.

Do you have any old photos? Take a look at the Old School Fire Photographers page to see what was able to be saved from the trash.

Are you interested in hosting an IFBA meeting, convention or just a weekend gathering? We are interested in anything. Put your thinking caps on, bring any questions to us at the Convention in Milwaukee or contact us.

I am looking froward to seeing all of you at the 2023 Convention in Milwaukee.

FUN

FELLOWSHIP

FIRE BUFFING

Kenneth F. Beliveau

Kenneth F. Beliveau

IFBA Chairman of the Board



INTERNATIONAL FIRE BUFF ASSOCIATES
OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
STEVE GARNETT

2023/01/01

Good day and a very happy new year to each one of you!

I am thrilled to be serving the I.F.B.A as Executive Vice President and thank you for trusting me to fill the role. If there is anything that I can do to support any clubs or members, please do not hesitate to ask. I am always reachable by phone, email, and social media accounts.

The next few months will get busier as preparations are in full swing for the April springboard meeting and the August convention in Milwaukee. I am looking forward to the meeting and seeing you all in attendance. The I.F.B.A conventions are a time for us to get together, laugh, share stories, and have a great time doing what we love...fire buffing!

Now is the time to start thinking about nominations for the Fire Buff of the Year (FBOY) award. It would be to see nominations from each of the clubs for this prestigious award. You undoubtedly must have at least one member within your club that is deserving of this honour. Names must be submitted to the Executive Vice President with the person's resume and stating the reason for the person's nomination. Such nominations shall be sent to the EVP no later than ninety (90) days prior to the opening of the upcoming convention. If you have already nominated a member of your club that was passed over, a simple request for reconsideration is all that is needed for the committee to take another look at your candidate.

There is also the Newsletter/Web site award...these days most clubs have some sort of social media page. Send in your nominations and get recognized for your hard work!

Please keep me informed of any of your members who have passed away as they will be added to the necrology report. I would hate to not honor one of your members.

Please notify the executive board if you have changed emails addresses so we can update our records.

Open communication and transparency is an important part of a great team. The I.F.B.A executive board communicates on a regular basis to exchange ideas and share pertinent information. Should you have anything that you would like us to share with the I.F.B.A, please do not hesitate to share it with us and we will be more than happy to send it along.

Once again, I look forward to seeing you at the 2023 Milwaukee convention in August. If you're lucky, I'll take you out for a beer!

Cheers,

Steve Garnett
Executive V.P.
I.F.B.A.



IFBA

Committee

Reports



Milwaukee Fire Bell Club, Inc.



IFBA SPRING BOARD MEETING

Charter Member

IFBA Executive Board Members and Committee Members,

Happy New Year to all of you. As mentioned a number of times since last April, the Spring Board Meeting will be held in Milwaukee, WI on April 22, 2023. We have available to us, at no charge, a conference room for both April 21st and April 22nd. I mentioned to Chairman Ken that if there are enough people in town on the 21st, individual committees could meet that afternoon or evening. (As we all know, face to face meetings usually accomplish more than internet ones.)

Your breakfast, mid-morning break, lunch, and afternoon snacks will all be covered by the MFBC on Saturday April 22nd. (Dinner plans are still being worked on.). The **Boston Red Sox** will be in town playing the **Milwaukee Brewers** that weekend. I NEED TO KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GOING TO ONE OF THE GAMES. I WILL TRY THEN TO GET TICKETS FOR THE SATURDAY NIGHT ONE (6:10 pm)! PLEASE EMAIL ME NO LATER THAN MARCH 15TH IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND A GAME! vmokros@wi.rr.com.

The link for the hotel, DoubleTree by Hilton is below and also in the email from Ken. It will take you directly to the registration for that weekend. The rates are \$119 per night. There is a parking fee of \$23 per day with no extra charge for 'ins' and 'outs'. If you are attending and think you'll be out buffing, the valets will park your car in a 'quick' access area.

RECAP: April 22nd, 2023- IFBA Spring Board Meeting.

DoubleTree by Hilton, 611 W Wisconsin Ave Milwaukee, WI

Conference room available for our usage April 21st for committee meetings

Milwaukee Brewers vs Boston Red Sox that weekend. (email if interested)

Unfortunately, the hotel doesn't have an airport shuttle. Please email me if a ride is needed and I'll see what I can work out. Otherwise, there are many taxies, uber, etc, right outside the airport to get to the hotel.

THE HOTEL LINK IS: [www.my-event.hilton.com/mkeccdt-ifb-92653f56-cbdc-4c5f-b278-
eed380b33cf3/](http://www.my-event.hilton.com/mkeccdt-ifb-92653f56-cbdc-4c5f-b278-eed380b33cf3/) PLEASE COPY AND PASTE THE LINK AND OPEN IN YOUR BROWSER.)

The 2023 IFBA Convention Planning Team looks forward to seeing many of you in April! And if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at vmokros@wi.rr.com or vmokros@gmail.com

Vickie Mokros

Convention Planning Team Chairperson

History Committee

The History Committee continues to digitize IFBA history as we scan Turn Outs, convention books, buffing guides, newsletters and reports. The awareness and dedication of preserving fire service history among the clubs and individual members is impressive. Historical preservation efforts by the buff community are often more detailed and complete than local fire departments and libraries have been able to accomplish.

Please take a moment during your Spring-cleaning activities to peek into those boxes in the attic, basement, garage and closets and check for any long forgotten collections. We have been very fortunate to find most Turn Outs back to 1970 and a handful even earlier. If there is any chance that you might have some late 1950's or 1960's issues, let's get them preserved electronically before they are lost.

Many thanks to all who have shared their archives so far.

Turn Out

Turn Out remains on a twice a year schedule. The deadline for the next issue always appears at the end of Page 3. The objective is to publish an issue before and after the annual convention. Because the convention date can vary greatly, it is sometimes necessary to alter the deadline to allow sufficient time for convention information and registration.

Special Convention issues are an optional 3rd issue for clubs that wish to commemorate their convention.

Since Turn Out became a free and digital member publication, there have been recent concerns about the text clarity (blurring) on screen. When viewing Turn Out on the website (ifba.org), the clarity in 'page flip' view depends on the size of the viewer's screen, magnification setting and eyeglass prescription. Some settings view may be distorted. Downloads from 'page flip' may distort also. The good news – downloads from the 'Magazine' list at the bottom of the webpage are clear.

Thanks to all of our dedicated contributors. Your articles are outstanding and make editing and layouts less challenging. New contributors are always welcome. The easiest way to start is with a photo and a caption – just one will do. You will submit more once you see how easy it can be. We also welcome Feature articles. There are some great writers among the members and there are plenty of stories to share.



International Fire Buff Associates, Inc.

106 BOYD AVE.
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07304-1448

January 29, 2023

Dear Captain Elder

Fire buffs are a relatively small group of individuals, some in organized clubs, that are dedicated to support firefighters. We in the International Fire Buff Associates, Inc. salute your commitment and dedication. We would like to invite you to consider joining with other buff organizations that share your passion in support the fire service.

The International Fire Buff Associates, Inc. is an association of some sixty-one fire buff and rehab groups which was founded in 1953. The IFBA serves as a common ground, fostering interaction among its members. Member groups are passionate about preserving fire department history while promoting the general welfare and support of the fire service.

You may have heard of the IFBA, especially from our major activities. Annually, one or more IFBA member clubs host a convention in various cities throughout the U. S. and Canada. Also, semi-annually the IFBA publishes an online newsletter, TURN OUT. Stories of large incidents including numerous photos as well as articles on our member groups and items of interest are regular features of this publication. Check out TURN OUT on the IFBA web site at www.ifba.org.

Our member groups take an active role in many facets of today's fire service. Many IFBA member clubs operate rehab or canteen trucks to provide vital rehabilitation services during a major fire or emergency. Other IFBA clubs own and painstakingly restore antique fire apparatus preserving the rich and noble history of the fire service. Fire Buffs also volunteer many hours assisting in operating fire service museums in many communities. IFBA members can be found at emergency scene taking photographs and videos for both historical and educational purposes.

On a national front, the IFBA is actively involved with the Congressional Fire Service Institute and the National Fire Heritage Center. The IFBA provides a voice for the fire buff at the highest levels of today's fire service!

Check out our website, www.ifba.org, or our Face Book page to learn what fire buffs are doing today across the country and Canada. Be sure to check the links to the web sites of our member groups. There is truly something for every fire buff in the IFBA!

I invite you to consider membership in our organization. Members of the Kanas City Fire Historical Society dedicated to supporting the fire service in the Kansas City. Your service will surely be enhanced by joining with others who share that same passion! Our membership application process is relatively simple and our annual dues are a bargain at \$75.00 per year!

For more information, please contact me at the address above or by e-mail, chairman@ifba.org. You may also contact our Executive Vice President, Steve Garnett at executiveoffice@ifba.org, Dennis Ahrens the Regional Vice President at dennis.ahrens@ifba.or or our Recruitment Chairperson, Joe Sullivan at atlargevp@ifba.org.

Thanks for your consideration and best wishes for continued success. We hope you will consider joining the IFBA so we can add your organization to our membership roster in the near future!

Sincerely,

Paul Schaetzle
Chairman of the Board



Fire Buff of the Year



Henry N. Wilwers Fire Buff of the Year Award

The IFBA presents the Henry N. Wilwers Fire Buff of the Year Award, the most prestigious honor a fire buff can receive, at our Annual Convention. The Award recognizes service to the IFBA, to a local fire buff club, to a local fire department, or to the fire service in general.

The “Fire Buff of the Year” Award, as it was originally known, was established in 1967 in St. Louis to honor a person who best exemplifies the qualities that distinguish a fire buff. In 1976 the Award was re-named to honor its first recipient, Henry N, “Hank” Wilwers, a Chicago fire dispatcher and well-known fire buff.

Our Fire Buff of the Year Committee encourages your nominations and solicits all regional vice presidents and member groups to submit recommended awardees. Nominations must be sent to the Executive Vice President who will forward them to the Committee. The Committee protects the confidentiality of the nominees, and the identity of the honoree is not revealed until the banquet at the Annual Convention.

To help those who wish to make a nomination, we have developed a list of items that will be considered. They are not listed in order of importance and are not mandatory; they are meant to be illustrative of the types of information that will be considered.

1. Description of service to the IFBA
2. Description of service to local fire buff club
3. Description of service to local fire department(s)
4. Any biographical information of interest about the nominee (e.g. any family connections to fire buffing or the fire service)
5. Any relevant awards previously received
6. Letters of support from local buff club
7. Letters of support from fire officials (e.g. chief officers, union officials, etc.)
8. Letters of support from other interested persons

There are many IFBA members who are qualified to join the previous honorees who have been recognized for their achievements. We need you to step up and submit qualified applicants.

Stuart M. Nathan, Chairman
Tom Pelaia
Ed McMichael



2023 Milwaukee Convention Info



MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

AUGUST 14-17, 2023

WHAT TO DO? WHAT TO DO? WHAT TO DO?

If you have ever planned a convention, you know that the main goal is to make plans that will attract and appeal to members of your organization. That is no different when planning a convention for the IFBA. The planning team for the 2023 IFBA Convention, to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has been hard at work making sure that we reach that goal.

We are committed to providing a wide range of activities that not only promote the local fire departments, but also showcase venues in the greater Milwaukee area. We also realize that attendees like to have 'down time' to kick back and relax, to buff with others, or to go out and explore the many activities the city has to offer, so we are building free time into the schedule. Even though we have plans 'locked in stone', we still are deciding 'what to do?' so that the schedule appeals to everyone.

To help you plan your trip to Milwaukee next August, we have two sites you can go to that will be regularly updated. The sites are:

<https://ifba2023convention.com>

ifba 2023 milwaukee convention (facebook)

The sites listed above will include all information about the hotel, including the registration code which will be available in September, rates (\$149 per night including three days prior and three days after convention), lists of activities occurring in Milwaukee and the surrounding areas, daily schedules for the convention, online registration forms, ad book forms, and any other pertinent information.

MILWAUKEE, THE PLACE TO BE IN 2023

I.F.B.A. MILWAUKEE AUGUST 14-17 2023



INTERNATIONAL **FIRE BUFF**

ASSOCIATES INC.
Convention

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON
611 W WISCONSIN AVE
MILWAUKEE, WI 53203

August 14-17, 2023

Hosted by

**The Milwaukee Fire Bell Club
300 S 84th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53214**



Founding of the IFBA

The Milwaukee Fire Bell Club has played host to the IFBA Conventions every ten years since its founding here in Milwaukee back in 1953.

A group of civic minded individuals gathered around their regular table at Mada's Restaurant and sensed the need for like minded groups from around the country to join forces for the common benefit & improvement of buffing groups in general.

That was the foundation for what would become the International Fire Buff Associates. The group sought the input from clubs around the United States and Canada and went on to hold their first convention in Toronto in the fall of 1953.

Harley Davidson Museum

Located a few short blocks from the convention hotel on 6th street, the museum holds a captivating array of motorcycles from the beginning of the Harley Davidson Company. Many, many examples of the Harley Davidson bikes are creatively displayed on the floors of the museum.

Fire Bell Farm

Also known as The Venerable Fire Collection it is located in rural Washington County Wisconsin a few miles North of Milwaukee on the homestead of founder, Keith Franz. Since his passing, the museum is now curated by his wife Mary Franz and Son Warren Franz. Many pristine examples of unique fire apparatus from around the United States and locally are on display. Many other memorabilia items are also proudly displayed.

I.A.F.F. LOCAL 215 PICNIC

The Milwaukee Professional FF union, Local 215, annually hosts a gathering or picnic for all retired members of the Milwaukee Fire Department. Most years there are several hundred retired and active members of the department present. The MFD usually showcases all of their newer rigs and many of the special team's apparatus. They have graciously invited the IFBA membership attending the convention to partake in this event.

PLANNED CONVENTION FEATURES to date:

Milwaukee River Cruise
Get a unique perspective
not often seen by
other visitors

**We will cruise out to
the inner harbor to be
greeted by the Milwaukee
FireBoat and a display of
it's capabilities**

Convention Seminars
Trinity Church Fire
presented by the on scene
commander (at that time)
Deputy Chief Aaron Lipski

Fire Service Writing
Presented by several
prolific authors with tips
& techniques for creating
captivating or historical
documents and books

Fire Buffing
Guided tours of action in
Milwaukee and surround-
ing communities
Possible ride-a-longs

The Milwaukee Fire Bell Club, your hosts for the 2023 IFBA Convention, was founded back in 1947 and is celebrating its 75th Anniversary. They have hosted 6 previous IFBA conventions, all held on the 10th year anniversary of the founding of the IFBA.



Convention Information

Hotel

DoubleTree by Hilton
611 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53203
Rate code available after 09/01/2022

Information will be updated regularly
on the convention Facebook page:

IFBA 2023 MILWAUKEE CONVENTION

And also our web page:

www.milwaukeefirebellclub.com

The convention schedule will be
available as well as registration
forms.

Ad book forms will also be available

AD rates will be the same as they
were in 2013. At those rates, You
can't NOT place an ad in the 2023
booklet.

DEADLINE for all ads in the book
June 15, 2023



**Hosted By:
Milwaukee Fire Bell
Club**

THE PLACE TO BE IN 2023

Come Early & Stay Later

The DoubleTree Hotel has extended
our special rates both 3 days before
our convention and three days after
our convention.

Lots to see and do, including:

The River walk.

The Lake Front

Summerfest Grounds

The "Bronze Fonz"

The Milwaukee Art Museum

The Milwaukee Brewers at
American Family Field





2023 IFBA CONVENTION MILWAUKEE WISCONSIN

CONVENTION AD BOOK FORM

The 2023 convention ad book will be 8" X 5 1/2" with a color cover

Inside Back cover \$100.00

Full page \$ 75.00

Half page \$ 50.00

Quarter Page \$ 25.00

Business card \$ 10.00

* The back cover is reserved for the 2024 convention committee.

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL AD COPY IN PRINT READY ELECTRONIC FORM (PDF PREFERRED)

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL AD COPY IS JUNE 15TH, 2023

ALL MATERIAL WITH PAYMENT IN U. S. FUNDS ONLY SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

2023 CONVENTION AD BOOK
300 South 84th Street
Milwaukee WI 53214

Check should be made out to "The Milwaukee Fire Bell Club"
with "2023 ad book" on the memo line

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____ Phone _____



REGION 1

Boston Sparks Assn. - 1938

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

Box 52 Assn. - 1912 (inc 1918)

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

Box 61, Inc. - 1966

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

Connecticut Fire Photographers Assn - 1975

PO Box 1181
Hartford CT 06143-1181
stretchinandlovinit@gmail.com

Essex County Fire Wardens - 1938

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

The Leather Helmet Society - 1992

31 Lavista Street
Manchester NH 03103
wayne@wdperkins.com
srq5102@yahoo.com

Old School Fire Photographers

c/o Ken Beliveau
1 Lansing Ave
South Hadley, MA 01075
kfbct58@aol.com

Providence Citywide Fire Network - 1994

54 Coral Rd.
N. Attleboro MA 02760
Pcfn51@comcast.net

Southern Maine Fire Notification Assn.

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

Special Signal Fire Assn. - 1968

PO Box 25009
Providence RI 02905
pfdcanteen@yahoo.com



Connecticut Fire Photographers Association

As 2023 arrives, we continue to grow, our club events are back in full swing and we gained a few new members, as member retire and move our coverage area expands into more states. Along with gaining a few from other states. We are still dealing with some covid related issues as all origination. But we are still strong, with over 100 members.

This summer, we helped with a combined effort the Silver City Firefest. Members attended a large amount of fire apparatus shows and parades, Things we all missed the last few years. Its good to see the older trucks out in the sun light after a long hibernation. Local fire stations have re-opened the doors to the public for visits and are showing off the apparatus, our members that love to shoot apparatus have been filling their cards or some burning through film to bring us some great shots. You will see a few below.



**Yantic Ct, Yantic Fire Engine Company's 175th Anniversary
Station 1908, Silsby Steam engine 1891, Fully restored.**

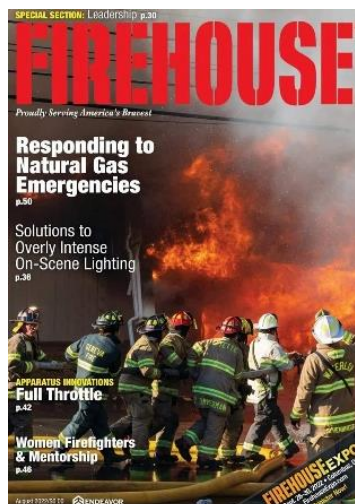
The fire gods have been active, and members have been able to take a large number of events in, Myself, I have been busy this summer in my area with 24 good fires' while missing about the same.



**Norwich Ct, #51, 14th Street. OMD 3rd alarms +, Aug 7th 2022.
Photo by Robert Ladd**

The local and international publications, have recognized our members, with publishing our media for people to see our work in highlighting our fire departments across the county. Our media, is used for news, training and fire prevention every day. Without, our members going out in all conditions, these sometimes tragic or heroic events would never be known, outside the fire stations and families affected.

Threw-out the country our members photos, are hung with pride in thousands of fire stations, this helps ground new firefighters and bring back memories for older ones. We have to remember the past, to improve the future.



**CFPA Social Media Director Jon Tenca(Puck Stopper Photography).
His photo made the August cover of Firehouse Magazine.**

CFPA Vice President, IFBA Region 1 VP and diehard *Emergency!* fan Mike Quinn attended the 50th Anniversary celebration of the 1972 premiere of this beloved television show in Bellflower and Cerritos, CA. Actors Randolph Mantooth ("John Gage") and Kevin Tighe ("Roy DeSoto") were on hand to sign autographs and participate in a talk-show style Q&A session. This presentation lasted well over two hours and included many stories from their time on the show. Mike also did several days of apparatus photography, stopping at stations in Brea, West Covina, Placentia, Ontario, Kern County FD, Los Angeles County FD, Ontario Airport, Burbank-Bob Hope Airport, Fox Field, La Verne and Montclair, photographing over 80 fire engines, ambulances and helicopters during his stay.



Actors Randolph Mantooth ("John Gage") and Kevin Tighe ("Roy DeSoto")





CFPA Vice President and diehard *Emergency!* fan Mike Quinn.



United States Air Force - Joint Base Charleston Fire & Emergency Services (Charleston, South Carolina)
Rescue 6, 2008 Ford F550/Pierce. Photo by Daniel Gonska



Lucy Celentano Photography

**Wellfleet, Massachusetts, 1946 Chevrolet 1/2 ton
Photo By Lucy Celentano**



**8/16/22 Life Flight landing zone this afternoon.
Multnomah County, Oregon
Photo By Greg Muhr**



Boston, Ma August 13, 2022
Boston Fire Alarm struck a box for a porch fire on Dorchester Avenue
Photo By Sean Fesko



A beautiful day for a parade!
I covered the 61st (VJ day) Victory over Japan Day Parade in Moosup, Ct.
Photo by Thomas Nanos



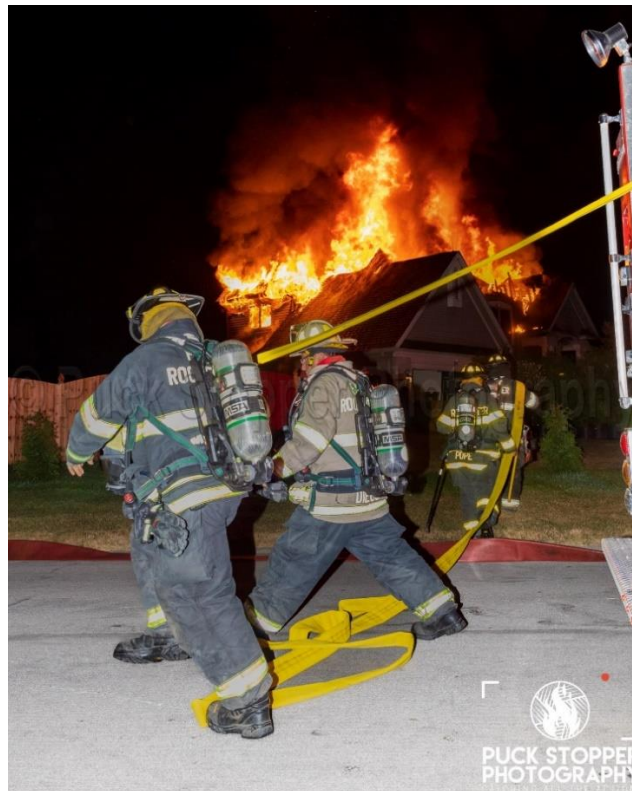
**Biddeford ME firefighters utilized their 6x6 vehicle
to remove an EMS patient from Basket Island
Photo by Pat Tavers**



**8/06/22 3 Alarm Commercial Fire at the Roseway Theatre in Portland, Oregon.
Photo by Greg Muhr**



The Rochester Fire Department battling a three alarm fire in a vacant fire station at the corner of Lyell Ave and Dewey Ave
Photo by Matt Leo



Fairport firefighters with numerous mutual aid worked a well involved house fire on Olde Prestwick Way.
Photo by Jon Tenca



Skippack Village Independence Day Parade
Photo by Ted Hodgins



Yantic Ct, Commercial Building fire
Taftville firefighter protect a exposure of a garbage truck at a card board recycling building.
Photo by Joe Shefer



**A few Members of the Connecticut Fire Photographers on a recent outing.
Photo from Olivia Drake**



**Shirley N.Y. – On Thursday May 12, 2022
Photo by John Walters**



**Lawrence MA, firefighters rescue an elderly female from a building fire on White St,
Photo by Kevin White.**



**South Windham Ct., 667 Windham Rd. 2nd Alarm
Photo by Robert Ladd**



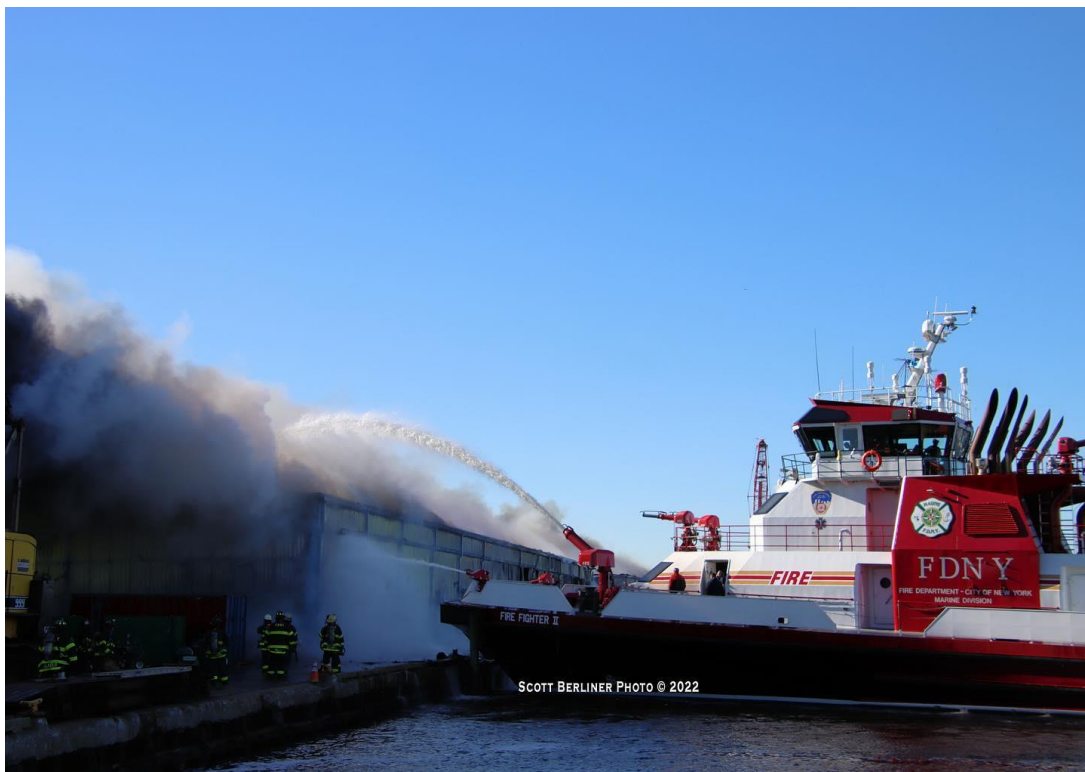
North Stonington VFC (New London County) Engine #3 Tanker
Photo by Tom Rinelli



Detroit, 1937 Seagrave Safety Sedan Pumper
Photo by David Bryce



**Former FDNY Fireboat Governor Alfred E. Smith
currently at the Mystic Seaport in Mystic, Ct
Photo by Joseph Ciscione**



**Marine Companies 1, 6, 6Alpha, 9, Marine Battalion and Marine Tactical
all operated at 3rd alarm box 3810.
Photo of Firefighter II by Scott Berliner**



Stonington Ct, Mystic BF Hoxie Marine 1
In operation at a 4th alarm fire at one of the marinas in town.
Photo By Robert Ladd



New Haven 2nd alarm 221-23 Howard Ave.
12/21/22 New Haven, CT
Photo by CFPA President Glenn Duda

Box 52 Association

Recent Commemoration



The Nation's Oldest
Fire Buff Club
Celebrating our 110th
Year
1912 to 2022



*150th Anniversary of the Great Boston Fire.
November 9, 1872*



1872



**Banquet:
November 18, 2022**

**Florian Hall
55 Hallet Street
Dorchester, Ma. 02124
6:00 pm - Social Hour
7:00 pm-Dinner**



2022



**AN EVENING WITH COMMISSIONER
PAUL CHRISTIAN RTD.
"LOOKING BACK 150 YEARS-
THE GREAT BOSTON FIRE"**

Tickets are \$65.00
Not available at the door.
Contact Treasurer Wilderman to purchase:
bwilderman@feinewengland.com



Old School Fire Photographers

Established 4/28/2021



Fall trip – A day in New York City – Trains, Times Square, Rockefeller Plaza, FDNY Museum, and Katz's Deli.



9713 - 3rd alarm Holyoke 561 South Bridge St Apartment Building 25 homeless July 1, 2022



9954 - 2nd alarm Hartford 97 Ashley Street Sigourney Market July 4, 2022



3094 - W/F Holyoke 361 South Grand St General Cleaners November 25, 2022
Photos Jim Peruta, Ken Beliveau



1939 Holyoke Platoon A



1939 Holyoke Platoon B

Old School Fire Photographers not only document today's history by going to fires, we also want to keep history of the past. These photos were in a batch of photos being thrown away. They were able to be saved and scanned to remember the history of the fire service.

Central CT Area Fire Action

Pat Dooley photos



Vernon, Ct on 12/12/22. Mill fire on Brooklyn St



Vernon, Ct on 12/12/22. Mill fire on Brooklyn St



Windsor, CT 01/01/23 – Grimshaws – West St



Manchester, Ct 2nd alarm on Cedar St. 12/29/22



REGION 3

Anne Arundel Alarmers Assn. - 5/8/1958
115 Glenmont Ave., Ferndale
Glen Burnie MD 21061
alarmers11@verizon.net
alarmers8@verizon.net

Box 234 Assn., Inc. - 1956
22 Walker Ave.
Baltimore MD 21208
kjakobson@verizon.net
col56@bcvfa.org
pvfc3251@verizon.net

Box 414 Assn., Inc. - 1949
414 North Baltimore MD 21202
Rkatzenberg1014@msn.com
Labelguy414@gmail.com
sfreund@yahoo.com

Metro Richmond Flying Squad, Inc. - 2017
Att: Steven Korb
2901 Bainbridge Ave
Richmond VA 23225
Stevekorb804@gmail.com

S.H.C. Assn. - 1949
c/o Guy Cephas
203 N. Carey St., 1st Fl.
Baltimore MD 21223

Friendship Fire Assn. - 1940
Engine 3, D.C.F.D.
439 New Jersey Ave. NW
Washington DC 20001
mdewalt50@aol.com

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

Old Dominion Historical Fire Society - 1984
PO Box 4196
Chester VA 23831
gdhoerman@gmail.com
tom-herman@att.net
odhfswebchief@gmail.com



Friendship Fire Association
Washington DC
Joseph P. Sullivan, President

Friendship Fire Association Canteen Response.
October 25, 2022
By Mike DeWalt

The October business meeting of Friendship Fire Association was interrupted before it could even really begin by notification that a working fire was in progress at the Blue's Alley Jazz Club in the 1000 block of Wisconsin Avenue, NW. Due to the reported heavy labor intensive nature of the fire the COFO decided to self-dispatch the Canteen on this incident. Even though the canteen is routinely dispatched on 2nd alarms or when special called. The decision was made to self-dispatch our canteen, which operated on the scene for several hours.

Canteen operations on the fireground



Photos by FFA COFO Chris Oliphant

Fire Ground Operations



Photos by DC Fire & EMS.



Elliot Goodman photos

BOX 414 Association, Inc.

FIRE – POLICE

MEMBER OF IFBA

QUARTERS
414 NORTH GAY STREET
BALTIMORE, MD 21202
410-727-2414



By Stuart M. Nathan



Box 414 President Shaun Freund and member Rusty Brown stop on Stricker St. for a moment of remembrance on the one year anniversary of the tragedy that took the lives of our three heroes, Lt. Paul Butrim, Lt. Kelsey Sadler and Firefighter Paramedic Kenneth Lacayo.

50th Anniversary Celebration of The Fire Museum of Maryland Huge Success

On Saturday evening, September 24, 2022, in Lutherville (just north of Baltimore City), a crowd of some 125 people were on hand to help the Museum celebrate its 50th Anniversary. A well-organized affair, attendees got to mingle and chat while moving all throughout one of the largest fire museums in the world showcasing over 250 years of firefighting. Steve and Melissa Heaver along with Museum staff, docents and volunteers hosted a large turnout of special guests, community leaders, and key supporters. Attractive displays, insightful exhibits, interactive dioramas and short videos helped tell the story of community-based fire protection in cities and towns of all sizes. Popular hors d'oeuvres along with a formal speaking program highlighted the thanking all who had helped oversee the 5 decades of success to include announcements regarding new initiatives in the works. A large array of superb photos as taken by professional photographer Susan Hornyk can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/FireMuseumMD/photos/pcb.10159890744588766/10159890740108766>.



Steve Heaver, Museum Director, proudly acknowledges receipt of a Check from the State of Maryland to help offset the installation of a fire sprinkler system to properly protect all the irreplaceable artifacts contained in one of the largest fire museums in America. Looking on from the left is Baltimore County Executive John 'Johnny O' Olszewski, Jr. and key supporters of the Museum from over the years. Article by Wayne Powell



REGION 5

Box 4 Fire Buff Assn., Inc. - 11/111963
PO Box 181914
Dallas TX 75218
Ksd573@aol.com

Firefighting Historical Society, Inc. - 1974
c/o Chris Mickal
143 40th St.
New Orleans LA 70124
firelinephotos@aol.com

Fort Worth Red Helmets, Inc. - 1971
PO Box 17484
Fort Worth TX 76102

Greater Houston Fire Battalion - 1992
P. O. Box 697
Bellaire TX 77402
tmcfire@aol.com

Signal 51 Group - 1968
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



Eagle St



Toledano St



**10/15/2022 1627 Franklin Ave. 3- Alarms
1 Commercial washer & dryer repair shop,
Total. Spread to 2 occupied dwellings on each side.**



First St



Dallas Box 4



Units operating at air show crash November 12, 2022 – screen shot from Youtube



REGION 6

5-11 Club, Inc. - 1953
PO Box 8511
Chicago IL 60680
webmaster@5-11clubchicago.org

Box 15 Club, Inc. - 1947
Att: Brett Barber
PO Box 23
Columbus OH 43216
board@box15.org

Box 42 Associates - 1942
PO Box 1810
Royal Oak MI 48068-1810
Box42det@gmail.com

Box 8 Club of St. Louis - 1941
Att: Larry Quick
3222 St. Joachim
St. Ann, MO 63074
lrquick@charter.net

Extra Alarm Assn. of the Twin Cities - 1974
4340 17th Ave. South
Minneapolis MN 55407
jtdegenhardt@comcast.net

Indianapolis Fire Buffs - 1962
2205 E. 58th St.
Indianapolis IN 46220
president@indianapolisfirebuffs.org

Metro Emergency Support Services - 1994
Att : Ms. Debra Francisco
1234 S. Route 12 #4
Fox Lake IL 60020

Metropolitan Fire Associates, Inc. - 1969
P.O. Box 725
South Bend IN 46624-0725
mrzepnic@southbendin.gov

Milwaukee Fire Bell Club, Inc - 1947.
300 S. 84th St.
Milwaukee WI 53214
Bob342892@msn.com

Milwaukee Fire Historical Society - 1981
1615 W. Oklahoma Ave.
Milwaukee WI 53215-4539
rleach4@wi.rr.com
milwfiremuseum@gmail.com

Moline Second Alarmers - 1952
1630 8th Ave.
Moline IL 61265
d.coopman@mchsi.com

Racine Fire Bells, Inc. - 1948
PO Box 081042
Racine WI 53408
racinefirebellclub@gmail.com

West Licking Firefighters Assn. - 2020
PO Box 1120
428 Jefferson St.
Pataskala OH 43062

Western Reserve Fire Museum (WRFBA) 1972
310 Carnegie
Cleveland OH 44115
nelsonp@wrfmc.com



By Mike Penchar

As 2022 comes to a close, fire activity remains slow. 5-11 Club canteens have responded to 39 requests for service that includes 16 fires and 4 special duty requests from the CFD, 11 CPD requests, and 8 responses to suburban department's requests for service. Next year, our canteens will be sporting a new look. Per a CFD request, our rigs will be converted from the traditional red over black color scheme to a white over red look as funds allow. We also will change any warning lights from red to amber.

2023 will also see a new slate of officers running the 5-11 Club:

President: Steve White

Vice President: Harold Klein

Recording Secretary: Susanne Peters

Corresponding Secretary: Cindy Shlaustas

The CFD has received new four 100-foot aerial ladders completing the order from Emergency One. The new aerials have been assigned to Trucks 15, 36, 41 and 51. Four new ambulances from Wheeled Coach have been delivered and put into service. The Ford 450s have been assigned to Ambulances 10, 35, 39 and 57.

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 when you shop at Amazon, to 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.



Tower 39 operating at a box alarm at 47th and Western (Photo by Steve Redick)



The Western Reserve **FIRE MUSEUM** and Education Center



An informal lunch gathering that we had at a local Firehouse Subs Shop in Strongsville, Ohio on Saturday, May 14th, 2022.



Visitation to Cleveland Fire Station 21 and the Anthony J Celebrezze fireboat, which is being replaced this year. The date was October 1, 2022



Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America

SPAAMFAA/IFBA Convention

For Turnout

by

Ted Elder, President of SPAAMFAA

An amazing event occurred from June 22 to 25, 2022. For the first time ever, the Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America and the International Fire Buffs Association held a joint convention in Woburn, Massachusetts. Because of differing schedules and formats, some had said this would never be possible. Fortunately, the two conventions were seamlessly melded together by IFBA personnel and the members of SPAAMFAA's local chapter, the Massachusetts Antique Fire Apparatus Association.

The four day event was filled with Board meetings and various related business meetings for both organizations. There were seminars on fire buffing, fire service history, and fire apparatus. There were bus tours to a variety of fire museums and fire stations. Every evening, the hospitality room overflowed into the hallways of the Crowne Plaza in Woburn. Saturday's highlight was a tremendous fire engine parade and muster with over 100 fire engines. There was a fire flea market and even an old fashioned handtub muster. The final activity of the week was a marvelous banquet.

There were over 300 participants in the week's activities. The success of the event proves that the two organizations can certainly combine events on a national and international level. It also provides incentive for SPAAMFAA chapters and IFBA affiliates to come together at local events. Indeed, co-operation is a huge benefit to both of our organizations.







REGION 7

Box 15 Club of Los Angeles – 1949 (1968 IFBA)
c/o Charles Steele
2424 Earl St.
Los Angeles CA 90039
Box15_la@hotmail.com

Fire Assoc. of Santa Clara Valley - 1969
PO Box 494
Campbell CA 95009-0494
president@fascv.org

Hall of Flame Volunteer Organization - 2018
6101 E. Van Buren St.
Phoenix AZ 85008
Jay.iacone.az@gmail.com
Bowersbsall17@gmail.com

Phoenix Society of San Francisco – 1932
PO Box 31847
San Francisco CA 94131
phoenixsocietyssf@gmail.com

Seattle Fire Buff Society - 1964
105 5th Ave. South
Suite 400
Seattle WA 98104
skfick1@aol.com

Tacoma/Pierce County Fire Buff Battalion 1987
PO Box 64912
Tacoma WA 98464
Tacomafirebuffs@outlook.com



This was part of a display set up on Fire Service Day in May of 2010.



These are of a Fatality structure fire (single family dwelling), that was fought by the LAFD. Bill Raddatz photos.



REGION 9

Bayonne Fire Canteen, Inc. - 1994
c/o Will Chwalyk
289 Ave. A
Bayonne NJ 07002
wchwalykjr@gmail.com

Bell & Siren Club, Inc. - 1949
P. O. Box 269
Caldwell NJ 07006-0269
mrihcohen@aol.com

Box 54 Club - 1952
PO Box 54
Teaneck NJ 07666
Box5474a@aol.com

Fire Bell Club of New York, Inc. - 1939
204 E 23rd St.
New York NY 10010
Ten75aje@msn.com

Gong Club, Inc. - 12/10/1950
PO Box 213
Jersey City NJ 07303-0213
gongclub@comcast.net

NYCFire.net - 2007
c/o John Bendick
22 Homcrest Ave
Yonkers, NY 10703-1410
jbendick@nycfire.net

Second Alarmers Assoc., Inc. - 1921
2900 Roberts Ave.
Philadelphia PA 19129
chiefmasi@gmail.com

SPAAMFAA - 1967
Att: Stan Socha
66 Woodhollow
Brunswick OH 44212-1217

The Bell and Siren Club, Inc.

Organized 1949

Charter Member International Fire Buff Associates

REPLY TO:
Post Office Box 269
Caldwell, New Jersey 07006
973-395-0095



EMERGENCY CALL:
Newark Fire
Headquarters
973-733-7400

Submitted by Ira Cohen

The Bell & Siren Club is proud to present our officers for 2023. They are:

President- Tom Pelaia	Chairman Executive Comm.- Frank Sapienza
Vice Pres.- Alfie Renzulli	Member Exec. Comm. 2022-23-Spencer Palmer
Treasurer- Nancy Renzulli	Member Exec. Comm. 2022-23-Joe Bray
Secretary- Ira Cohen	Member Exec. Comm. 2023-24- Leon White
	Member Exec. Comm. 2023-24- Sheldon Reynolds

Our new officers were inducted at our annual Holiday Party, which this year was held on December 13, 2022 at the Highlawn in West Orange. This was a new venue for us, as for many years we have been going to Iberia, one of the many Spanish and Portuguese restaurants in the Down Neck section of Newark.

The Highlawn is a beautiful upscale restaurant located in Eagle Rock Reservation, right on the edge of the mountain. The views looking east toward the Manhattan skyline are spectacular and the meal was delicious. Besides Club members Sheldon and Nora Reynolds, Alfie and Nancy Renzulli, Leon White, Spencer Palmer, Joe Bray and Ira Cohen, Gong Club Members Connie and Pat Spellman and Al Epstein from the Fire Bell Club of New York were present. Representatives from the Antique Fire Association of New Jersey were our invited guests, in the hope of fostering relationships between them and the IFBA Clubs. We look forward to their submitting an application to join. Sadly, COVID and other health issues prevented more Bell and Siren members from attending.

We always enjoy the company of many of the area fire chiefs and union representatives, and this year was no exception. Among those were Chiefs Rufus Jackson, Newark; Bruce Davis, East Orange; Antonio Gary and his wife Irvington; Retiring Chief Daniel Sullivan, South Orange; Louis Venezia, Bloomfield; Robert Echavarria, Millburn; and John Herrmann, Montclair.

We were also honored to have Rich Mikutsky, the New Jersey State Fire Marshall with us. Rich is a good friend of many Club members as well as the Chiefs and it is always a pleasure to spend time with him.

Newly appointed Public Safety Directors Fritz Frage of Newark and Maurice Boyd of East Orange were also introduced. Both come from a police background, so it was important that they got an idea of what the Bell and Siren Club does.

All agreed that the party was a success and we are making plans to return to the Highlawn for our 2023 festivities.

The big news for the Club is that we are going to have to relocate our quarters. Since the Club was formed in 1949, we were always housed in a Newark fire station. However, about 20 years, for reasons that were never explained to us, we were told by the then Newark Fire Director Stanley Kossup that there was no longer room for us in Newark, and we would have to find new quarters.

Fortunately, with the help of member and past Fire Buff of the Year, George Ottley, who was also serving as a fire commissioner, we were able to secure space in an annex to East Orange Fire Headquarters. This was a three bay garage, with a kitchen and we moved in to what developed into a great arrangement.

However, for some time the East Orange Fire Department has been planning to build a new headquarters. Like most things with government, plans moved slowly, but it now seems that the city is ready to proceed with the new building.

Plans call for using the current footprint, and tearing down the existing buildings and constructing a four bay, four story headquarters. Apparatus, including our Rig, will be on the first floor, kitchen and dormitories on the second, meeting room on the third, and fire dispatch and administrative offices on the fourth floor. Realistically we are probably looking at 3-4 years before work is completed.

During the interim period a “temporary” three bay structure will be built across the street from EO Engine 5, at Clinton and Elmwood Ave., and we have been promised a spot there. For sure, there will be growing pains, but we are confident that any issues can be satisfactorily resolved.

During the early hours of September 3, our Rig, Headquarters #17, responded to a Three Alarm fire at 2997 Clifton Ave. in Newark. The main fire building was vacant, but flames extended to occupied structures on either side. Fortunately, there were no serious injuries, but 12 adults had to be relocated.

Two weeks later, at 3:00 PM on September 19, Headquarters #17 responded to another Three Alarm, this one at 64 Union St. in Irvington. Smoke detectors were activated for a fire on the fourth floor of an occupied apartment building. The fast moving blaze spread to the fifth floor forcing some residents to be rescued from fire escapes. Irvington Chief Antonio Gary commented that it was fortunate that the smoke alarms were working properly; otherwise, the results could have been tragic.

The start of October was a busy time for the East Orange Fire Department, as well as the Club. In the space of a little over a week, they had three multiples: a Second Alarm at 486 Prospect St.; another Second at 41 Wilcox Ave.; and a Third at 131 Amherst St. Our Rig responded to all of these jobs.

As is often the case, the Amherst St, fire started in a vacant house around 4:00 AM and quickly spread to several nearby buildings. It took 80 firefighters from East Orange as well as mutual aid units from Newark,

Bloomfield, Orange and Montclair to bring the fire under control. The Essex County Mutual Aid System provided backfill for the East Orange houses with companies from Millburn, Belleville and South Essex providing coverage. Reports were that Red Cross relocated 12 residents.

Careful readers of the above paragraph will note reference to the “South Essex Fire Department.” On July 1, 2022, a formal merger of the South Orange and Maplewood Fire Departments went into effect with the formation of the South Essex Fire Department. Both are contiguous suburban towns with small career departments that for years have worked well together.

However, for largely political reasons the governing bodies of both towns felt that it was in their best interest to merge and create a new fire department. Maplewood has two stations and runs a tower ladder, engine and squad/engine, and South Orange operates an engine and ladder from its headquarters. All units, 3 engines and 2 ladders, will respond on reports of a structure fire and South Essex will continue participating in the Essex County Mutual Aid System. However, there are still many bugs to work out.

Former South Orange Chief Daniel Sullivan retired and Maplewood Chief Joseph Alvarez assumed command of the new department. Since its inception in 1949 the Bell and Siren Club has always served South Orange on an automatic basis, but not Maplewood. Our role in responding to South Essex is one of the issues that needs to be addressed.

While there are several IFBA Canteen Clubs that regularly respond to police incidents, this has never been the case with the Bell and Siren. While we have assisted the police when called, this does not happen very often.

However, on November 2, at Chancellor Ave. and Van Velsor Place, the Newark Police Department responded to the apartment complex to check out a tip from a caller about a suspect in a previous shooting. They encountered the individual and he immediately started shooting at the two rookie officers, wounding both.

The shooter ran off and a major manhunt ensued, and after about 20 hours, the shooter was found hiding in the apartment building. He was arrested without further incident and fortunately the two officers who were shot sustained non-life threatening injuries.

When it became apparent that this was going to be a long operation, Newark Fire Chief Rufus Jackson called and asked if Headquarters #17 could respond. We said we should be able to get a crew, and for 5 hours Joe Bray and Leon White served 390 cups of coffee, 150 cups of Gatorade, 150 cups of hot chocolate, and numerous cookies and Nutri-grain bars.

Our last run of 2022, number #45, was to a 3 Alarm job at 218 Main St, in Orange. This multi-alarm fire with extensive mutual aid was in one of Orange’s oldest and most historic buildings. The cornerstone for this Masonic Lodge was laid on June 24, 1886, and featured pressed brick and terra cotta trimmings. Over the years, it housed many businesses, but sadly, it fell into disrepair and was largely vacant. It was a total loss.



GONG CLUB, INC.

JERSEY CITY, NJ

By Ron Jeffers and Paul Schaetzle

TWO MAJOR FIRES IN NORTH HUDSON ON HISTORIC DAY

December 1st to 2nd, 2001, is known as “Night of Fire,” in the North Hudson Regional Fire & Rescue's tenth anniversary book. Numerous fires struck in Hudson County that night and into the early morning hours, putting a stress on mutual aid. Fire companies from the FDNY crossed the Hudson River and went to work at several fires in Union City. On December 1, 2022, firefighters, dispatchers and mutual aid would be once again put to the test.

At 16:47 North Hudson Fire Control dispatched a full assignment to 5412 Madison St., West New York, for a reported basement fire. This was followed by dispatcher's radio information that they were receiving numerous calls and reports of people trapped on the upper floors. The assignment called for Squad 10, Engine 5, Squad 1, Engine 9, Ladders 3 and 4, Rescue 1, Safety 1 Battalion 3, Deputy 1, and Squad 2 as the “RIC” team.



12/1/22 4-4 5412 Madison St., West New York

Smoke lifted momentarily but there was zero visibility throughout the night! (Ron Jeffers Photo)

Arriving units encountered heavy smoke from the basement of a large, corner four-story mixed occupancy building, with a bodega on the ground floor. Firefighters worked with civilians helping people off of the fire escape, and other members lined in to the basement and began a primary search.

An interior radio report stated that there was water on the fire in the basement, but flames were already extending up the walls and an old shaft. Heavy smoke was pushing from first-floor apartment windows and inside the bodega. It was discovered that the fire was "gas-fed." Public Service Electric & Gas was notified to respond to the scene.

The working fire assignment, at 16:52, brought Squad 7 and Battalion 2 to the scene. Fire raced up walls and smoke could be seen at the top-floor level. A 2nd Alarm was sounded at 16:57 for Engines 4, 13 and Ladder 5. The 3rd Alarm was transmitted at 17:09 for Engines 1, 3 and Ladder 1. The 4th Alarm

at 17:25 brought Jersey City Engines 11, 14, Ladder 3 and Battalion 3 to the scene.

Thick smoke covered the building and the neighborhood, eliminating visibility except for warning lights on apparatus. A mayday call was transmitted for a member that reportedly was disoriented in the blinding smoke. He was quickly located. Then, a second mayday as the 1st floor hallway floor collapsed, sending a firefighter through the floor. They were quickly grabbed and taken out of a side hallway door by fellow members.

At one point, the low banking and blinding smoke caused the chauffeur of Engine 9, Firefighter John Prezioso operating at the corner, to don a SCBA to work at his rig. A total of 13 firefighters were injured, according to Chief of Department David Donnarumma. Eight were hospitalized but released by morning. They suffered cuts, shoulder strains, smoke inhalation and exhaustion.



12/1/22 5-5 908 Kennedy Blvd. Union City
5th Alarm companies; all Secaucus units, report in! (Ron Jeffers Photo)

Flames extended to all floors and the cockloft. The exterior operations included a ladder pipe and tower ladder operation. Engine 9 opened up their deck gun as flames broke through the roof.

Meanwhile an assignment was sent to Avenue Port Imperial on the waterfront for an automatic fire alarm, quickly followed by a reported explosion and fire on the 900 block of Kennedy Blvd., Union City, at 18:44. As remaining North Hudson and mutual aid companies were responding, Jersey City OEM 3, the rehab rig en route to the 4th Alarm in West New York, radioed on the Jersey City frequency that he was at 908 Kennedy Blvd., Union City; has a 1 story building with an explosion and heavy fire. The location was directly opposite the Coach House Diner, a popular stop for local and visiting buffs!

The initial alarm for this fire was North Hudson Engine 16, 13, Ladder 2, Battalion 5, Deputy 2; along with Hoboken Engine 1, Bayonne Engine 6 and Jersey City Engine 22 plus Jersey City Battalion 1. North Hudson Battalion 5 reported smoke in the area, while responding in. Upon arrival, companies found that an explosion and fire had blown out the front display windows of the Salvation Army thrift store, with extremely heavy fire through the roof in the rear of the one-story truss roof structure.

The working fire assignment at 18:50 sent Kearny Engine 1 and Hoboken Ladder 1 to the fire. Some companies were sent to the rear of the fire on the Summit Avenue, where flames were threatening mixed occupancy buildings along Union City's southern commercial strip. Ascending a ladder on Summit Avenue, Kearny Captain Matt Mitchel, of Engine Co. 1, found heavy fire impinging on the Summit Ave. buildings. A severe ember condition was developing and he called for more help. The Summit Ave. exposures included a furniture store and a pharmacy; three-story structures with residential apartments above. Hoboken Ladder 1 backed into a large driveway on 10th St., between the fire and the Summit Avenue structures. The company set up a ladder pipe that was later supplied by Harrison Engine 2.

Simultaneously, Jersey City Deputy Chief Joseph Menendez, hearing the report from OEM 3, responded, soon followed by Jersey City Chief of Department Steven McGill. Deputy Chief Menendez ordered Jersey City Fire Dispatch to "Send me 2 & 1 directly to the fire; closest companies we got"! FDJC Eng. Co. 7 – 18 Lad. Co. 9 responded.

North Hudson transmitted a 2nd Alarm at 18:58; companies reported to the 900 block of Summit Avenue. The rear of the Salvation Army building was soon reduced into a pile of bricks. The radiant heat from the fire blistered the sidings of the Summit Avenue buildings. On Kennedy Blvd., Exposure "B" received some fire at the upper level. The dwelling was evacuated and hose lines were stretched to protect this building from additional damage. That building also suffered smoke and water damage and its occupants were displaced. Firefighters also used this structure to operate hand lines on the fire building.

The Jersey City units ordered by Deputy Chief Menendez were designated as the 3rd Alarm. A 4th Alarm was transmitted at 19:21 followed by a 5th Alarm at 19:56.

On Kennedy Blvd., ladder pipes were used by North Hudson Ladder 2, Bayonne Ladder 3 and Jersey City Ladder 9. On Summit Avenue, Jersey City Ladders 7 and 12 raised their aerial ladders to the roofs of those buildings. Firefighters operated hand lines onto the rear of the Salvation Army structure from that vantage point.

Both fires raged for several hours before they could be declared under control. The Union City fire was placed under control at 22:48, but the West New York fire was not declared under control until early on the morning of December 2nd. After midnight, in West New York, a giant roar was heard while firefighters were operating in a defensive mode. The floors had pancake collapsed within the building!

Chief Donnarumma said 100 people were displaced by the West New York fire. They were assisted by town officials and the Red Cross. Car 26,

the Gong Club canteen, operated for nearly 9 ½ hours at 54th St. & Bergenline Ave. A crew of 4 served 6 gallons of coffee, 9 gallons of hot chocolate, 3 gallons of beef stew and 100 hamburgers / cheeseburgers.

The IFBA Region 9 Mutual Aid pact was activated to bring the Bayonne Fire Canteen for the Union City 5th Alarm. Their rigs served Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Pizza and Snacks along with 128 bottles of water and Gatorade. Some items were provided by the Coach House as well as from a Salvation Army official.



**12/1/22 4-4 5412 Madison St., West New York
Hot Chocolate and cheeseburgers were in high demand at Car 26.
Member Jimmy Fay manning the window (Adolph Paasburg Photo)**

Rundown of the night's activity:

5412 Madison St., West New York

16:47 Alarm Sqd. 10-Eng. 9 Sqd. 1-Eng. 9-Sqd. 2 (RIT)
Lad. Co. 3-4 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 3
Safety 1
16:52 WF Sqd. 7 Batt. 2
16:57 2-2 Eng. Co. 4-13 Lad. Co. 5
17:09 3-3 Eng. Co. 1-3 Lad. Co. 1 Car 26
17:25 4-4 FDJC Eng. Co. 11-14 Lad. Co. 3 Batt. 3

908 Kennedy Blvd., Union City

18:44 Alarm Eng. Co. 16-13-Hoboken 1-Bayonne 5-
FDJC 22 Lad. Co. 2 Div. 2 Batt. 5
18:50 WF Eng. Co. Kearny 1 Lad. Co. Hoboken 1
18:58 2-2 Eng. Co. FDJC 10-Harrison 2
Lad. Co. FDJC 12
19:20 3-3 Eng. Co. FDJC 7-18 Lad. Co. FDJC 9
Bayonne Fire Canteen
19:21 4-4 Eng. Co. 15-Bayonne 7 Lad. Co. FDJC 7-
Kearny 2 Batt. 4
19:56 5-5 Eng. Co. 2-4 Lad. Co. 1 Car 1 & Batt. 1
(all Secaucus units)

Ironically, a look back 21 years ago at the archives shows that on December 1-2, 2001, Hudson County and area firefighters were busy from evening to sunrise. The night started with a 4th Alarm at 3106 Tonnelle Ave., North Bergen at 22:25 hours followed by a 3rd Alarm at Box 650, 340 Communipaw Ave., Jersey City at 03:35 hours, December 2, 2001. While that fire was in progress, North Hudson units responded to a working fire, with people trapped, at 1016 Summit Avenue, Union City, just up the street from the 2022 fire scene. The fire extended to 2 attached mixed occupancy buildings and 4 alarms were struck.

While operating on the roof of the Summit Avenue fire, a member of Ladder 1 reported fire in the area of 10th and West St. Another multiple alarm ensued. A fire company going to 10th Street was flagged down for a fire on the 400-block of 13th St.

Mutual aid from the immediate area was, of course, stretched to the limits. FDNY was called and Engine 5, 34, Tower Ladder 21 and the Chief of the 7th Battalion operated on 13th St. FDNY Ladder 3, followed by Engine 5, Battalion 7 and the 3rd Division Chief operated on Summit Ave. During these incidents, the fire on Tonnelle Avenue, North Bergen, had flared up requiring a one-alarm assignment. This included units from Bayonne, Ridgefield and Fort Lee.

Mutual aid units that covered North Hudson houses during the latest “Night of Fire”, with some moving up to fires, responded from Jersey City, Belleville, Bloomfield and Montclair. Those companies covered at Sqd, Co. 2, Lad., Co. 1 in Union City. Bayonne, Hoboken, Union Township, Linden and Elizabeth relocated to Lad. Co. 3 on 49th Street, West New York. Cliffside Park, Fairview, Edgewater, Harrison and Kearny filled in at Lad. Co. 4 on Tyler Pl., West New York.

Investigators from numerous agencies were called in to determine the cause of the fires. Both remain under investigation. Firefighters, dispatchers, EMS, OEM, Red Cross and Salvation Army personnel, plus the crews from the Gong Club and Bayonne Canteen worked together to assist

each other and help displaced residents. Another “Night of Fire” had repeated itself in North Hudson!

JERSEY CITY: FROM ONE EXTREME TO ANOTHER!

The last two 3rd Alarms of the year in Jersey City were fought in the worst possible conditions; the extreme heat of summer and the deep freeze of winter!

By Labor Day weekend, the “dog days” of summer should be moderating, but not the case in 2022. On Sunday, September 4, 2022, Jersey City firefighters battled steamy conditions during the wee hours, fighting a 2nd Alarm at Box 787, 574 Bergen Ave. Group C relieved Group B at 0800 but there was no relief from the heat. At mid-day, the temperature and the humidity were in the high 80’s; not the kind of day to do anything, much less fight a fire!

As the Noon hour melted into the afternoon, a neighbor ran into the quarters of Eng. Co. 9 at 697 Bergen Ave. and reported a fire down the street. Capt. George Conroy looked south on Bergen Ave., saw a column of heavy smoke and transmitted the box and the Working Fire before turning out of quarters. Simultaneously, another resident flagged down Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Michael Nickerson and pointed at smoke billowing from 662 Berge Ave. Batt. Chief Nickerson also radioed for the box and the Working Fire. Box 512 and the Working Fire were transmitted at 12:43 hours. Fire was rapidly engulfing two attached frame structures just north of the YMCA building. Both buildings had stores on the ground floor with apartments above. Asphalt (gasoline!) shingles covered the north wall of #662, and became a roaring inferno with a towering column of smoke rising into the mid-day sun. Batt. Chief Nickerson transmitted a 2nd Alarm 4 minutes later.

#664 is at the southeast corner of Bergen & Fairview Avenues, giving good access for the trucks. Ladder Companies 9, 12 and 11 converged on the corner and threw their sticks to the roofs. The heavy fire involving the exterior shingles was knocked

down quickly, but these were old frame buildings with plenty of voids. Truckies would have their hands full today!

Deputy Chief Anthony Della Rosa took command upon arrival. Smoke was banking down into the neighborhood due to the humidity. Several calls reporting smoke at various locations were received and companies were dispatched to several nearby boxes to investigate. Deputy Chief Della Rosa special called 2 additional engine companies as Chief of Department Steven McGill arrived. As Car 26 arrived on scene, Chief McGill ordered the chauffeur to set up your misting fan right away!

The extreme heat was rapidly taking a toll. Members were spread out across the intersection after exiting the buildings. Bottled water and cold towels were handed out as fast as Gong Club members could move. Chief Della Rosa requested the balance of the 3rd Alarm at 13:23.

Despite the extreme heat, the fire did not extend beyond the 2 buildings involved on arrival. A total of 7 firefighters were transported to the Jersey City Medical Center with non-life-threatening injuries. A crew of 4 staffing Car 26 dispensed some 10 gallons of Gatorade, 384 bottles of water and 75 cold towels.



**12/24/22 3-3 413 541-3 Tonnele Ave., Jersey City
Companies gaining the upper hand on both buildings. (Jack Cole Photo)**

The next 3rd Alarm would be at the opposite end of the spectrum and occurred on Christmas Eve no less! On Friday, December 23, 2022, the temperature dropped 50° in less than 12 hours! At Noon, last minute shoppers were enjoying balmy 57° with light rain. By afternoon, some brief snow squalls occurred and when companies battled a 2nd

Alarm at Box 272 in a supermarket at 105 River Dr. South at 20:45, Jersey City thermometers registered a bone-chilling 7°!

The extreme cold showed no moderation for Christmas Eve. Companies were kept busy with weather related runs all day. As the dinner hour

approached the frenetic activity continued with Box 413 transmitted, along with other boxes at 17:56. Fire was reported at 541 Tonnele Ave., which is actually U. S. Route 1-9, a busy 4-lane highway. The structure at that address is a 2-story frame mixed occupancy. Another 2-story frame structure with a rear extension occupied by a general contractor abutted to the north.

Batt. 3, Batt. Chief Richard Gorman, arrived first. He reported, "We have a working fire. Transmit a 2nd Alarm. The roof is fully involved. There is an exposure problem; right next to a gas station. Have the police shut down Tonnele Ave. The companies can use the parking lot of Heavenly Chicken for access." Not a very heavenly report for a single digit Christmas Eve night! B. C. Gorman followed that up with a request for EMS to respond for 1 victim then added, "The fire building appears to be a 2- story frame, combination auto store next to a 2-story frame and it is going good!"

Incoming companies were bogged down in gridlock conditions on the highway. B. C. Gorman ordered the 2nd arriving engine to secure a water supply and the 3rd due engine to stretch a second line as quickly as you can. Units pushed through the traffic and went to work. B. C. Gorman reported that a 2 ½" line was in operation; the roof was being opened and a primary search was in progress.

Batt. 1, Batt. Chief Patrick Nestor, the Working Fire Chief, reported he was in the rear with companies and the fire was going good in the backyard. Batt. 3 acknowledged and reported that Eng. 18 was making progress with a 2 ½" from the front and not to open up any opposing lines. Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Kenneth Simone, transmitted an urgent message, recommending that a tower ladder be special called for the rear to knock down the heavy fire. Batt. 3 ordered Fire Dispatch to comply. Ladder Tower 6 was assigned at 18:08.

Deputy Chief Paul Drennan arrived at 18:13 and assumed command. He assigned Batt. 3 to the interior; Batt. 4 to the rear and Batt. 1 as safety officer. Batt. 1 reported the fire in the rear was darkened down but needed another line in the rear

corner. D. C. Drennan assigned Engines 14 and 8 to that task. Batt. 4 reported he was in the 2nd floor of the exposure; had heavy smoke but no fire and needed the roof opened. Eng. Co. 6 was assigned to the 2nd floor of the exposure.

At 18:24 D. C. Drennan reported that there were 2 2 ½" lines and 3 1 ¾" lines in operation. The bulk of the fire had been knocked down. The fire in the exposure had been knocked down; companies were opening up but extensive overhauling was needed. Batt. 4 reported that fire was running the walls in the exposure, coming from the fire building and we need to open up. "We need more guys here; the guys up here are spent". Eng. 14 and Lad. 6 were directed to that location.

D. C. Drennan next reported at 18:40 that most of the fire was darkened down but still have pockets of fire that we're working and extinguishing at this time. With all hands working to capacity in frigid weather, Deputy Chief Drennan struck a 3rd Alarm at 18:47. Companies reported into the command post and were assigned to relieve companies who had been working for nearly 1 hour. The fire was placed under control but the entire assignment for another 90 minutes. Engine companies were rotated through the night to maintain a watch line.

Fire takes no holiday; neither does Car 26! Christmas cheer was spread in the form of 4 gallons of coffee, 6 gallons of hot chocolate and 2 gallons of soup. An electric heating unit and 30 pairs of hand warmers helped bring warmth to frozen firefighters.

As this fire wound down, a 2nd Alarm was transmitted for a fire in a dwelling at 414 6th St., Union City; about a mile to the north. Car 26 responded to that location also to provide some warmth to North Hudson companies, which would be the 40th and final run of 2022.

Response:

17:56 Box 413 Eng. Co. 11-18-7-14 Lad. Co. 3-7
Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 3
18:01 WF 413 Sqd. Co. 4-1 Batt. 1

18:01 2-2 413 Eng. Co. 5-6-8 Lad. Co. 2 Batt. 4 Car 26
18:08 S/C 413 Lad. Co. 6
18:47 3-3 413 Eng. Co. 22-13 Lad. Co. 9 Car 4



12/24/22 3-3 413 541-3 Tonnele Ave., Jersey City
Not the same ambiance as a Yule Log, but Car 26's electric heater will do! (Jack Cole Photo)

ART IMITATES LIFE!

Since relocating to the former quarters of Eng. Co. 7 (now the Jersey City Firemen's Federal Credit Union) on March 11, 2022, Gong Club members and several firefighters have been hard at work. The place is looking more and more like home. In fact, it was home! The original Gong Club Canteen was quartered here with Eng. Co. 7 from 1952 until the move to the former Fire Headquarters at 244

Bay St. in 1959. A photo from the archives depicts the rigs and crew lined up in front of quarters.

Firefighter Eli Ramos, a talented artist, offered to replicate the photo with a mural on the wall of our new kitchen. The result was a remarkable piece of art! Our thanks to Firefighter Ramos for his wonderful addition to our new home. Stop by and have a look for yourself!



**Mural by Firefighter Eli Ramos now adorns the Gong Club kitchen
(Patrick Spellman Photo)**



**Chief of Dept. Steven McGill joined members at the first Christmas Party in the new quarters on 12/10/22.
Two members (Michael Lovero and Paul Schaetzle) received 50 Year Plaques that night (Ben Stevens Photo)**



Where has the 2nd half of 2022 gone? The past six months has flown by rapidly possibly establishing an excessive speed record. Where has the months, weeks and days gone?

When a new rig is acquired by a department, members always have ideas where to place the equipment. Changes are made later on as new additional equipment is purchased. So, after months of planning the NYCFire.net website was expanded based on suggestions provided by site members, in addition to the planning team. Like the new fire rig, we are hoping that you will be able to find without difficulty the various topics that maintains your interest. Some of the threads have pull down boxes providing additional selections.

Thanks for sharing your interests on the site, making it informative, professional, and a fraternal location for sharing information, experiences, history, and friendship among the fire service family.

Activity on the website has increased with the average of 14 new threads appearing daily which helped generate 47 new messages a day. At times there are over 600 visitors in addition to twenty or more registered members viewing the site. There is no given time in a day that the website is empty including the 2 am to 4 am period, because someone somewhere else around the world is visiting the site. 2022 has been one of the sites most successful years with visits from active and retired firefighters, EMS and medical providers, law enforcement members, buffs, sparks, veterans, beside family members and friends of the fire service.

While free membership is offered to all, on the average the organization is gaining some 40 new members monthly. Membership permits a person to start a new thread or comment on an existing thread.

So now its time to provide you with a detailed tour, compartment by compartment, of our up-dated rig. The first and most important thread on the website is known as **NYCFire.net**. This is where you can obtain information concerning the site for members and possibly those interested in joining. The first sub-division is Site News and Info; followed by FAQ's and Citywide.

The threads that draw the most interest are located in the **History Section**. There are over 581,750 messages attached to some 2400 plus threads in that one section alone. There are three subsections which are FDNY; Other; and History – Legacy Forum.

Besides *History*, the **Incident Alert Section** is broken down into a section for each of the five boroughs of NYC, which are five of the 61 counties that make up New York State. There are also sections that cover Metro NYC (which includes nearby CONN, NY, NJ, & some PA counties), National, & an International section. Plans are being developed to expand the National section into regions maybe to match the IFBA region plan.

A section was created to provide information and to honor our fallen brothers and sisters. The **Line of Duty Deaths, Members Passing & Memorials** section is broken down into seven sub-divisions. They are FDNY: 5-5-5-5; FDNY: 5-5-5-5 WTC; FDNY Retirees; Fire Service Deaths – out of area; EMS – LODD; NYPD; Law Enforcement – LODD; and NIOSH LODD Reports.

The next major section is a new one that is known as **NEW YORK CITY**. These subdivisions contain information on Houses / Stations; Special Operations Command; Other FD's in NYC; Fire Operations; EMS Operations; Apparatus; Dispatching and Communications Technology; and Equipment / Tools.

A **General Category** section has also been added which contains a very significant section known as Safety and Operational Tips. The other subdivisions are Our Military; IFBA; General Discussion; News and Events; Questions and Answers; Training & Seminars; Collectibles; and Public Safety Job Opportunities & Exams.

Currently the 7th category is known as **Multimedia**. In this area will be found sub-sections for Photography; Videography; Audio Clips; and Artwork, Logos, Patches.

The planning staff will review members suggestions as we look to continuously update and improve NYCFire.net with more robust topics of interest to our members, and more inclusive of fire incidents and departments beyond NYC.

Some of the members have been holding area 'pizza' gatherings where members from near-by states will enjoy several slices of their favorite pizza and re-tell their war stories before heading home. The small gatherings only strengthen the organizations communications path while spreading goodwill among the members.

An experiment has been underway with using the Zoom platform to conduct a monthly forum for a limited number of attendees. NYCFire.net will be expanding the forum to all those interested persons who are members of the website.

NYCFire.net was one of the first organizations to recognize the existing problems facing first responders concerning the Lithium-Ion Battery fires. This past Feb., NYCFire.net presented a review of the problem that was facing FDNY daily. The presentation afterwards generated interest by different IBFA clubs and other groups who requested that our presenter share the information with their membership. In addition, a modified up-dated presentation was presented for the Command and Control Center staff at Coast Guard Sector New York. As the battery problem started to spread to other communities and became increasingly common, this program was updated and shown two additional times during the year.

Members were also provided with a sneak preview of the FDNY's new Super Pumper and how this type of unit could be useful. Another informative period provided an inside look at FDNY's Emergency Medical Service and some of their specialized equipment.

Come September we provided a look at the outstanding world-wide monuments that honor those who perished on 9-11. Something that we should never forget. During this period on two different occasions members were treated to two separate looks into fire communications. One was to show how alarms that went above a 5th alarm was handled, and another evening we dug into the operations of the dispatch system.

As the leaves were falling from the trees during the fall season, an expert from a West Coast fire department provided information on how they deal with severe weather situations and an inside look into the fundamentals of ICS.

Following our monthly evening educational period members gather at the 'Kitchen Table' to share their experiences and fellowship. There are no strangers around the table, only friends we haven't met yet.

You are welcome to visit anytime. The door is always open at *NYCFIRE.net*



REGION 10

Appel-99 Quebec - 1989

Att: Richard Gauvin
140 Rue St._Jean #307
Quebec City, Quebec
CANADA G1R 1N7
info@clubappel99.ca

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

Box 43 Association – 1950 (1968 IFBA)
PO Box 30102
Upper James PO
Hamilton, Ontario
CANADA L9B 0E4
Box43chief@gmail.com

Box 690 Fire Dept. Canteen Assn. - 1995
c/o Gary Dinkel
15 Muskoka Ct.
Kitchener, Ontario
CANADA N2B 3M2
corhealth@rogers.com

Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Assn. - 1975
3442 Nadine Crescent
Mississauga, Ontario
CANADA L5A 3L3
gtmaal1975@gmail.com

The Ontario Fire Buff Assoc., Inc. - 1972
PO Box 56, Don Mills
Don Mills, Ontario
CANADA M3C 2R6
firebuffs@ofba.ca

Pompiers Auxiliaires de Montreal – 9/10/1944
5100 Boul. St. Laurent
Montreal, Quebec
CANADA H2T 1R8
museedespompiers@videotron.ca

UCMU Monteregie - 2001
82 de l'Amandier
St. Constant, Quebec
CANADA J5A 2P6
Danis.seguin@ucmu.com



**Ontario Fire Buff Associates
Box 56, Don Mills PO, Don Mills, ON
M3C 2R6**

Season's Greetings from all 101 members of the Ontario Fire Buff Associates. We hope that all our fellow buffs have had a pleasant summer, a Happy Thanksgiving and a festive December season. Since the last issue of Turnout our membership has had the opportunity to attend the IFBA / SPAAMFAA convention in Woburn and participate in photo tours of 3 fire services in the province of Ontario; the City of Vaughan in July, a 2 day tour of the City of Hamilton in August and a visit to 2 fire services in Lambton County in September. We also had our Annual General Business meeting and Fire Services Collectibles Show and Sale on November 5 at the Toronto Fire Academy thanks to the generosity of Toronto Fire Services.

Eight members of the OFBA attended the joint IFBA/SPAAMFAA convention in Woburn at the end of June and all present had a great time thanks to our hosts from New England. Congratulations to Associate member Steve Garnett from Montreal who was elected as the Executive Vice President of the IFBA. We know he will do as great a job for the IFBA as he has done as President of the Pompiers Auxiliares de Montreal.

10 OFBA members turned out on a bright, sunny and very warm July 23 for our photo tour of the Vaughan Fire and Rescue Service. From our first stop at Station 7-1 on Clark Ave West to our last at Station 7-7 on Eagleview Drive the on duty crews welcomed us with open arms and offered their full cooperation in spotting the trucks for photos.

The Vaughan Fire and Rescue Service is a career department with 10 Stations and one of 8 Fire Services in the Region of York, north of Toronto. All fire departments in York Region follow a 3-digit numbering system for their apparatus. The first digit represents the municipality, the second digit is the station number, and the third digit identifies the type of apparatus. Municipalities / Departments within York Region are: 1 - Town of Georgina & Georgina Island; 2 - Town of East Gwillimbury; 3 - King Township; 4. Central York (Towns of Newmarket and Aurora); 5 - Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville; 6. Aurora (now part of Central York); 7 - City of Vaughan; 8 - Town of Richmond Hill; 9 - City of Markham.

Apparatus is numbered by type: Pumpers / Engines (1&2), Sqrts or mini Quints (3), Tankers (4&5), Aerials (6), Platforms (7), Hazmats (8) and Rescues (9). Each digit is pronounced individually. For example; Markham's Aerial 836 is pronounced eight-three-six, not eight-thirty-six and Vaughan's Rescue 759 is pronounced seven-five-nine, not seven-fifty-nine. Some apparatus have 4 digits and are identified the same as the 3-digits, Vaughan's Engine 710-1 is pronounced seven-ten-one.



City of Vaughan Field Support Unit - 2005 Freightliner MT 55 / Morgan Olson / FD-built



Vaughan Aerial 796 - 2011 Spartan Gladiator Classic EMFD / Smeal 55' 1500/500/20B S#117111 SO#4034



Vaughan Engine 771 - 2018 Spartan Metro Star EMFD / Smeal 1500/500/40F S#916140 SO#4895



Vaughan [Platform 767](#) - 2019 Spartan Gladiator Classic EMFD / Smeal 100' 1500/330/15F S#025230 SO#4858



Vaughan [Rescue 759](#) - 2019 Spartan Metro Star EMFD / Smeal 1750/500/40F S#918030 SO#4893



Vaughan Tanker 774 - 2004 Peterbilt 330 / [Danko](#) 250/1580

11 members attended the Saturday portion of the Hamilton tour on August 13-14 and 10 people turned out for the Sunday portion. Both days saw plenty of sunshine for excellent photo opportunities. The Hamilton, Ontario Fire Department is a composite department with 468 Career and 270 Volunteer (part time) Firefighters manning 26 stations across the city. Stations 1 through 12, 20 and 23 are full-time. Stations 17, 21 and 24 are composite while the remaining stations (14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 26, 27, 28) are part-time/paid-on-call. In each of the composite stations, full-time staff are assigned to operate the Engine while volunteers use the other trucks. Career firefighters operate Engines (Rescue pumpers) 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 17, 21, 23 & 24, Pumpers 1, 6 & 9, Ladders (103' RM) 1, 5, 9, 10, 12, 20 & 4 (81' MM Platform) & Air Supply 6. Day staff (Monday – Friday) operate Pump 17 and Ladder 24 (100' RM). L24 is operated by part timers in the off hours. All other apparatus is manned by the part timers. The Rehab Unit is manned by the volunteers of Box 43 who have been serving the department since 1953.



Hamilton's Box 43 Rehab Unit - 2012 Ford Utilimaster / 2016 Venture Food Trucks



Hamilton Engine 21 - 2008 KME 1050/500/30F GSO7246



Hamilton Ladder 1 - 2017 KME 103' 1050/500 GSO10399



Hamilton Pump 6 2019 KME 1050/500/40F GSO10838



Hamilton Air 6 - 2001 Ford F550 / SVI 250/200 S#4012



Hamilton Rescue 21 - 2004 GMC / 1992 Almonte Heavy Rescue



Hamilton Tanker 16 - 2017 KME 840/1600 GSO10477



Point Edward [Pump 1](#) - 2002 [E-One Cyclone II](#) / [Superior](#) 1500/500/50F S#125595 / SE 2821



Point Edward Command 4 - 2016 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4



Point Edward Ladder 2 - 2006 [Pierce Enforcer](#) 75' 1250/400 J#17445



Point Edward Rescue 3 - 2020 E-One Typhoon 16' walk around Heavy Rescue S#142824



Point Edward Antique - 1939 Ford 2 Ton / Bickle 350/200



Sarnia Antique – 1921 American LaFrance Type 75 Pump / Chemical 800 / 40 Reg. #3441



Sarnia Engine 5 - 2013 E-One Typhoon eMAX 1250/625/25F SO#137527



Sarnia Tower 2 - 2021 E-One [Cyclone](#) HP 95' 1767/250 SO#143332 / S#H26644



Sarnia Rescue 1 - 2018 Spartan Metro Star LFD / [Dependable](#) Heavy Rescue J#D50590

Five members and 2 guests travelled to Lambton County on September 17 to visit the Sarnia and Point Edward fire services where we were warmly greeted by members of both organizations. Members of the Point Edward Fire and Rescue Service took their apparatus to a waterfront park where the rigs were photographed with the Blue Water Bridge to the USA in the background while crews from the Sarnia Fire Rescue Service brought all their apparatus to Station 1 for photos.

The Point Edward Fire and Rescue Service is staffed by a career Chief and Deputy Chief. The rest of the personnel are volunteer (part time) firefighters manning one station. They serve and protect the community of Point Edward and the Canadian side and approaches to the Blue Water Bridge.

The Sarnia Fire and Rescue Service is a full time department protecting the City of Sarnia from 5 fire stations.

On November 5th we held our Annual General Business meeting at the Toronto Fire Academy in person for the first time since 2019 with 16 members present. The meeting was followed by our 31st Annual Fire Services Collectibles Show and Sale. Until next time, stay safe.

Note: All photos in this article are by the author and apparatus water capacities are listed in Imperial gallons.

Bob Rupert. President, OFBA.



Well, it was a hot summer and our presence was requested by the Montreal Fire service almost every day during July and August. As requested, our members were on standby at the station ready to respond on the first alarm, normally only responding to second alarms calls. The summer was busy with sixteen second alarms, three third alarms, two fourth alarms (at the same time) and one fifth alarm.



The SIM Honor Guard held a car wash to raise funds for the Sick Kids Hospital. We helped by providing everyone with water/energy drinks and brought out the 1946 Seagrave tillerman. The tillerman was used to do the initial wet down before the cars were washed ! What a fantastic day in the hot sun for a great cause and a huge 9 thousand dollar donation was given to the hospital for sick kids !



The Canadian Fire fit championship was in town on July 2nd and we were invited to attend and help with different tasks throughout the weekend. We brought a few antique trucks to the site and setup our gorgeous museum tent to promote the fire museum. It was very interesting to see the firefighters compete on such a tough obstacle course !



Last year marked 130th anniversary of fire station 16, however, due to covid restrictions, celebrations were postponed to this year. Firefighters opened the station doors to the public and invited them in to visit the trucks. Also present were the preventionists with the smoke house. We brought our museum tent, the steam engine and the 1946 Seagrave tillerman for display. We even had a big, delicious station 16 birthday cake !





This year marked the 40th anniversary of the "Pincourt firefighter's day", a city located just off the west end of the island of Montreal. After a two-year break, it was great to return. A long parade of over 60 emergency vehicles rolled through the streets of Pincourt. Citizens armed with garden

hoses, water guns and balloons were there to cheer us on and get us wet, and luckily the sun was out to dry us off. It was and always is a fun filled event !



September 1st marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Blue Bird (Wagon

Wheel) tragedy where thirty-seven civilians died in a nightclub arson fire. The city of Montreal organized a solemn ceremony at the memorial site in Phillips Square. Speeches were given by the mayor, fire chief, police chief and some of the survivors of the tragic event. Family members of the deceased were given a unique challenge coin in commemoration of the event.



With the holiday season upon us, it was time to attend the Santa Claus parade ! It was also time to collect and wrap gifts and collect donations for the annual Christmas baskets. This year the Montreal fire fighter's union along with its many partners delivered 550 Christmas baskets to families in need of help. Once again, the Montreal Auxiliary were on hand to help in any way we could including standing on the street corner collecting a total of \$6102.00 for the cause. Congrats to all !!



We hope that the spirit of the season filled your home with love and laughter and that warmth will come your way this festive season. On behalf of the Montreal Auxiliary, I wish you and yours a Merry Christmas, happy Hanukkah, and a very happy New Year!

Photos: Emanuel Lapointe, Elliot Albert, Steve Garnett



REGION 11

Box 55 Assn. - 1952
Att: Rick Short
P. O. Box 202
Madison TN 37116
Rick.short@box55.org
Thomas.bilbrey@box55.org

Metropolitan Fire Assn. of Atlanta, GA - 1970
PO Box 80607
Atlanta GA 30366-0607
info@metrofire.org

Wilson Co. Emergency Rehab Assn. - 2013
P. O. Box 23
Gladeville TN 37071
Wema603@gmail.com



SPECIAL FEATURE



Dr Harry M. Archer
Honorary FDNY Battalion Chief/2nd Deputy Commissioner
60 years service to FDNY members

Dr. Archer was born to a prominent New York family. He attended Columbia University and received an M.D. degree from Bellevue Medical College in 1894. Since his childhood he loved the FDNY, not unlike many youngsters in the City. But after becoming a physician, Dr. Archer dedicated himself to New York's Bravest. Perhaps to the disappointment of his family, rather than becoming a private physician to New York's high society, he accepted a salaried position with Aetna Life Affiliated Companies with the proviso that he could, and would, leave his office to attend greater alarm fires. On March 7, 1907, Dr. Archer was appointed to the Department with the rank of honorary Battalion Chief and was designated a Medical Officer. Though never receiving compensation for his medical services to the FDNY, there is no doubt that this was his full-time job.

Whether by horse, bicycle, his Locomobile outfitted with bell and Maltese cross, or by "bus" - the 1914 FDNY Ambulance he designed - Dr. Archer's appearance at second and greater alarms was a matter of routine. But once at the scene, he was not satisfied with merely tending to the wounds, major or minor, of the firefighters. On multiple occasions, Dr. Archer entered burning or collapsed buildings to treat firefighters and civilians alike. At the Equitable Building fire in 1912, he made his way into the basement vaults of the building to administer aid to trapped firemen. For this action, he received his first medal of valor. He was cited a total of four times during his career including the Department's highest award, the James Gordon Bennett Medal, for his participation in the rescue of two workmen trapped in a building collapse at 39 to 41 Eldridge Street in Manhattan. Dr. Archer himself became trapped briefly when a second collapse shook the building as he was making his exit. Twenty-four years later, at the age of 78, Dr. Archer was still at it, this time crawling through the rubble and debris to spend over ten hours on a freezing New Year's Eve to try to keep two firefighters, Battalion Chief William Hogan and Fireman Winfield Walsh, alive. They were trapped in the collapse of a loft building at 749 Broadway. Dr. Archer administered plasma to them, perhaps the first time this was done outside of a hospital in other than a combat setting, as well as broth through feeding tubes. Unfortunately, both men succumbed to their injuries but not until several days after their ordeal.

In 1939, Mayor LaGuardia asked him to serve as Second Deputy Commissioner which he did until 1940. To do so, he had to resign his honorary position and rank.

Dr. Archer's activities earned him the respect of his professional colleagues as well as the firefighters he treated. Perhaps the first Fire Surgeon to truly embody that title, he became nationally known for his expertise in treating toxic gas poisoning, having developed ground-breaking treatment modalities. Some times his methods were "low-tech." He was known to stock woolen Navy watch caps in his ambulance that he would make injured men wear on cold, wet nights. Though the firefighters who benefited from Dr. Archer's intense concern and caring are of a generation long since passed, his memory lives on. In 1947, a medal was endowed in his name. It is awarded every third year to one of the three previous Bennett Medal recipients. In 1956, Commissioner Cavanaugh unveiled a plaque in Headquarters honoring Dr. Archer's sixty years of devotion and service to the members of the Department. In 1958, a fireboat was commissioned in his name. It was retired in 1994.

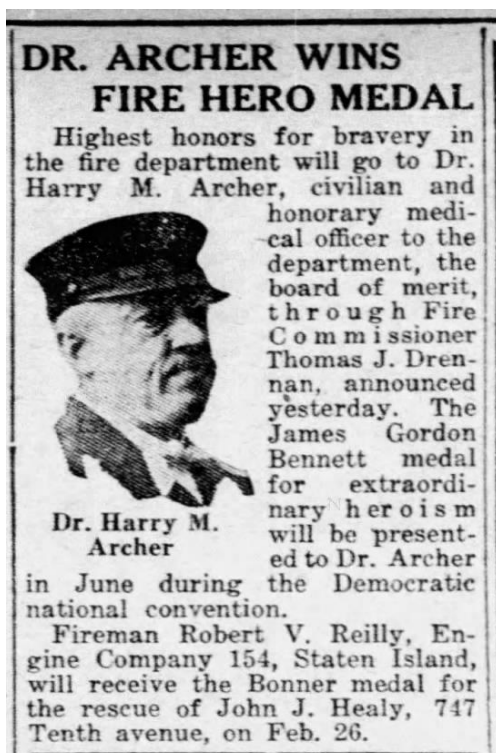
Dr. Archer was given a full Departmental funeral at St. Patrick's Cathedral. He is buried in the family crypt at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in Tarrytown, New York.

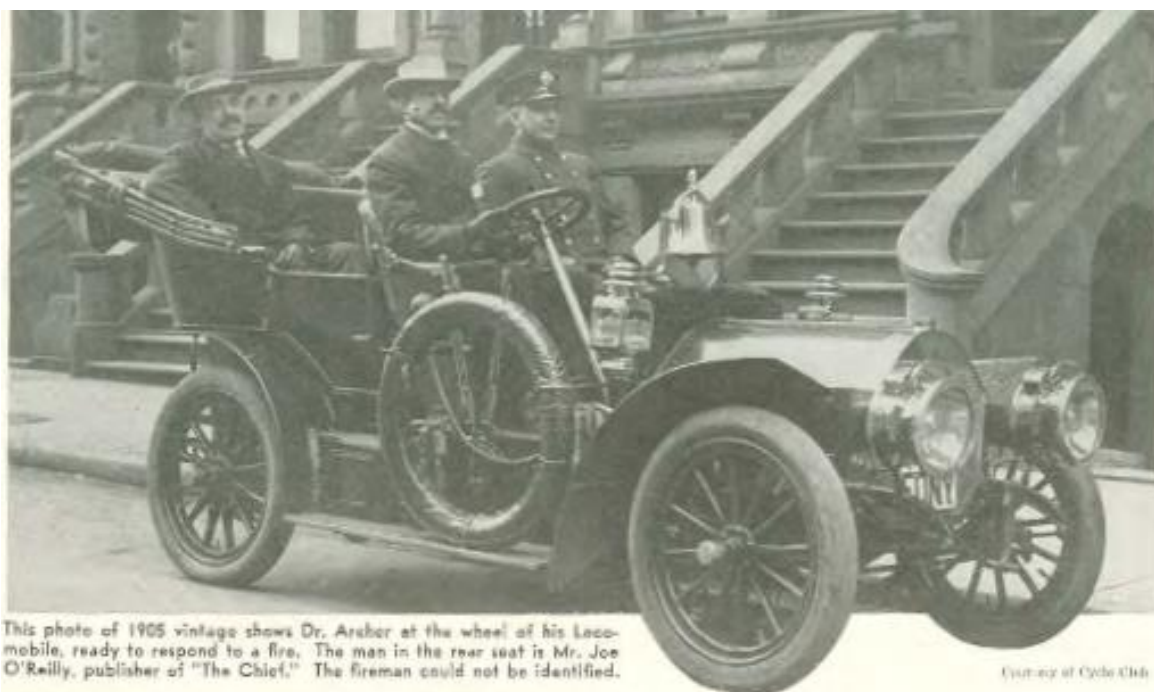
- 1924 awarded James Gordon Bennett Medal - only civilian to ever be awarded this medal

- Harry M Archer medal for heroism awarded in his honor

- Fireboat "Harry M. Archer", Engine 78/Marine 6, named in his honor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JVUULu96Ao>





This photo of 1905 vintage shows Dr. Archer at the wheel of his Locomobile, ready to respond to a fire. The man in the rear seat is Mr. Joe O'Reilly, publisher of "The Chief." The fireman could not be identified.

Courtesy of Cycle Club

DOCTOR ARCHER

One of the most colorful men in the history of our Department—always at the call of injured and dying firemen—has answered his last alarm.

WITHOUT waiting to don fire clothing over his tuxedo, the 78-year-old doctor, with his medical bag, nimbly scrambled up an ice-ated ladder to the second floor, and worked his way through debris and precariously hanging timbers to the spot where a searching party had located Fireman Winfield A. Walsh, of Ladder Co. 9. Although fatally injured, Walsh was conscious and in intense pain. The doctor administered hypodermics and personally supervised the trication and removal of Walsh. The scene was the loft building fire and collapse at 749 Broadway, near 8th Street, Manhattan, on New Year's eve, 1947. The doctor was our own Harry M. Archer.

Heroic Work

A little later on that New Year's eve, firemen located Battalion Chief William P. Hogan and four other members of the Department, trapped at the base of the north wall of the building. Doctor Archer crawled on his stomach through a small aperture in the debris, finally reached them and administered hypodermics. Meanwhile, falling timbers were falling and torrents of water were cascading down. For more than 10 hours, until the last firefighter had been removed from the building, Doctor Archer remained at the scene, constantly with the victims, administering medications, feed-

ing them hot broths and giving them blood plasma, possibly the first time outside of war areas that victims received plasma on the scene of a disaster. During a great part of the 10 hours, Doctor Archer worked in bitterly cold water up to his arm pits, facing the possibility of further collapse of the building. The incident was typical of the brave "Doc" who became a legend of New York.

Doctor Harry M. Archer seemed to boast that he was born in New York

City, had never lived anywhere else, and lived in only three houses here in all of his 86 years. He became interested in fires while attending Columbia Grammar School. Before he was 15, Harry Archer had friends in firehouses all over the city.

After his graduation from Columbia University and Bellevue Medical College, his friends expected Archer, son of a well-to-do, socially prominent New York family, to be a society doctor. Instead, he took a job with the



Courtesy of Cycle Club

Mrs. Archer's favorite photo of her late husband shows the Doctor reporting to a chief officer at a fire. Photo was probably taken in Manhattan sometime around the year 1910.

Aetna Life Affiliated Companies, with the understanding that he could take off whenever the alarm bells started hitting. In 1934, he retired as chief adjuster of Aetna's Accident and Health Department in New York but continued to maintain his office at Aetna's New York headquarters. Even after his retirement from Aetna, he was frequently called in to give expert advice in cases involving toxic gas poisoning, on which he was a nationally recognized authority.

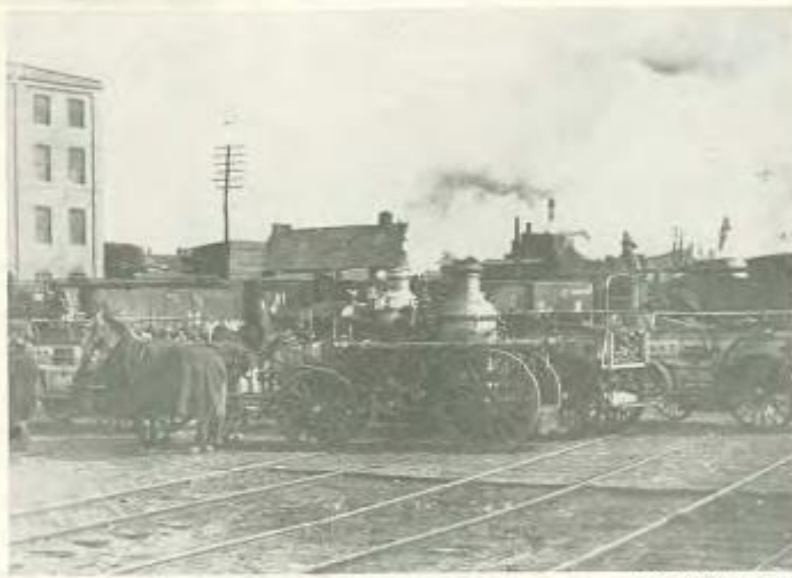
Several years ago, Doctor Archer told Paul B. Cullen, Supervisor of Aetna's News Bureau, that, as a young doctor, he had a strong conviction that many lives could be saved if a physician were present at every serious fire.

"Decided to go to them, myself," he said, in the clipped sentences that were his characteristic manner of speech, "and have been going ever since. The firemen soon got used to seeing me around. When a third alarm hit in, they'd call me automatically. At my office in the daytime; at home, in the night. After a while, they gave me an alarm telegraph system for my home."

Baltimore Blaze

One of these calls, for one of the worst and most notable fires in the United States, came early on the morning of February 8, 1904. At two o'clock that morning, Mayor George B. McClellan received an urgent request from Mayor Robert McLain of Baltimore to send fire apparatus and firemen to help combat the famous Baltimore fire.

After notifying nine engine com-



N.Y.F.D. Museum Photo

After a long ride to Baltimore, the pumpers were unloaded and hitched up. That's 7 Engine in front. Doc Archer arranged for meals for the hungry firemen.

panies and Truck 5 to report to the foot of Desbrosses Street, Acting Chief of Department Charles W. Kruger phoned Doctor Archer at home and asked him to accompany the firemen. Doctor Archer scraped together all the cash he had at home, \$106, and hurriedly left.

At Philadelphia, each man got a cup of coffee and a roll, not very satisfying to hearty appetites. At five o'clock in the afternoon, after the New York men had been battling the blaze for hours, Doctor Archer finally found a restaurateur who agreed, for \$100, to give each New York fireman one shot of whisky, a plate of soup, a

steak with two vegetables, apple pie and coffee. Doctor Archer plunked down \$100 of his \$106 and the men had their first full meal in 24 hours. As always, the Doctor came through for his men. Doctor Archer was designated as Honorary Battalion Chief in 1907 and promoted to Honorary Deputy Chief in 1910.

At All the Big Ones

Karl Detzer, in an article in *This Week* (Nov. 4, 1951), points out that a list of the great fires the "Doc" attended would make almost a complete history of the Department for more than half a century. He was at the Royal, Windsor and Park Avenue Hotels, Tarrant's Drug House, the Triangle Shirt Waist, the Equitable Building, the *Normandie* and the Staten Island Ferry Terminal fires.

At the great Equitable Building fire, in 1912, "Doc" Archer braved falling debris and blinding, choking clouds of smoke to administer morphine to a man trapped in the building when a water tank on the roof crashed through the upper floors and hurled tons of debris down into the basement. His job as a doctor done, he stayed to assist the firemen in their efforts to free the man. He also helped the firemen, that bitter cold day, in their futile attempt to rescue Chief William Walsh of the 2nd Battalion. For this work, Archer received his first two medals for heroism.

On Good Friday afternoon, March 23, 1923, after working 10 hours at a third alarm fire on 26th Street, he was summoned to Eldridge Street, where a tenement had collapsed. Seeking to



Courtesy of Cycle Club

In 1915, wooden street over subway excavation at 7th Ave. and 23rd St. collapsed under weight of trolley. Many were killed or injured. Doctor Archer handled the injured, as usual.



Al DeStefano Photo

Firemen listened anxiously for word from Doc as he crawled among the Eldridge St. ruins.

rescue two workmen who were pinned in the basement, the doctor found a hole in the first floor, just large enough for him to squeeze through. Stripping off most of his clothing to make himself even smaller, Archer held his medical kit in one hand and dropped into the cellar. Crawling among twisted beams and sagging floor boards, he made his way to the men and began to bring them to safety. On his way back, shifting beams caught his foot and wedged it so tightly that, in order to escape, he had to cut his shoe off. Additional help soon reached him and he and the two workmen were pulled to safety. For this he received the Department's highest award, the James Gordon Bennett Medal. The doctor treasured, possibly as much as the medal, the following letter:

"My dear Doctor Archer:

It seldom happens that I bestow praise on an official of the Fire Department, particularly a member of the uniformed force; something far beyond the ordinary must be accomplished in order to draw forth commendation from me. The reason for this reserve must be perfectly apparent. We expect deeds of valor, indeed, heroic actions are everyday

occurrences in the Fire Department, but your work at the collapse of the building on Eldridge Street carried you so far in advance of the extra-ordinary peril of duty that some modest testimonial in recognition thereof should be given you, hence this letter to express my admiration.

You can scarcely realize how I felt to see you struggling through that mass of twisted debris, with tottering walls and big timbers hanging over your head. The slightest slip or movement would have precipitated the whole mass and probably crushed the life out of you and the other men.

My sincere thanks and congratulations on your heroic action in carrying relief to those crushed and imprisoned men. People everywhere love and respect a brave man.

Very sincerely yours,
John Keelon
Chief of Department."

At some fires—notably those at the Staten Island Ferry Terminal, the Cunard Pier and Pier 57—Doctor Archer treated more than 300 casualties. The Furman Street fire that broke out on the Brooklyn waterfront

on an Easter Eve was the most difficult and wearing task of his career. At the 3 day fire, 300 firemen were injured and smoke and fumes killed another 300. Department officials persuaded the doctor, after 26 uninterrupted hours, to take some rest. He returned after 4 hours for another day and night.

"We attended 1046 'customers' at that fire," he later said.

Paul B. Cullen states that, as a man of action, Doctor Archer did not hesitate to plunge into blazing buildings to rescue a trapped victim. As a man of science, he fought to the last breath for a flickering life. But he believed that such efforts are limited, indeed, in the face of something else.

"Once worked 50 hours and 32 minutes to bring back one of our men," he once said. "Used Rescue Squad, artificial respiration, hypodermics, medication and hospital. Man is alive today. But don't give Doc Archer any credit. The BIG CHIEF up there did it." And Doctor Archer pointed to the sky.

Doctor Archer always retained a vivid recollection of Medal Day, 1940. "Was at the World's Fair, where we had our ambulance on exhibition, when I got this urgent summons to report immediately to the Mayor, who was on a public stand. Had no idea at all what the 'Little Flower' wanted."

When Doctor Archer appeared, LaGuardia, without preamble, told him to raise his right hand and swore him in as Second Deputy Commissioner. In addition to his official duties as Deputy Commissioner, and his voluntary chores as Honorary Chief Medical Officer, some six years ago the doctor was placed in charge of the Department's Accident Control Program. He was also one of the most energetic trustees of the Honor Emergency Fund from its inception. Besides these varied activities, the octogenarian at times responded to as many as 62 three alarm fires in a two month period. Incidentally, the Doctor never took a cent of pay for his medical services to firemen. Instead, over the years, he poured thousands of his own dollars into ambulances and equipment for the care of the men.

Doctor Archer liked dinner parties and the theatre. Often he pulled up at a fire wearing white tie and tails under his rubber coat. He attributed his longevity and sprightliness to no particular virtues.

"I eat, drink and smoke at any time of day or night," he said a few years ago. "Know the secret of all this?" he asked, and answered, "I picked the right parents. That's all there is to it. I was a good picker."

A few years ago someone asked the



The Ritz Tower explosion in 1932 took the lives of 8 firemen. Doc Archer (back to camera) shown giving first aid to one of the injured firemen who later died of his injuries.

doctor if he planned to retire. "Retire?" he repeated, as if it were a strange word in an unknown tongue. "Oh, yes, perhaps. When I get too old to work."

Actually, however, Doctor Archer responded to fires until he entered Doctor's Hospital on last April 15th. He observed his 86th birthday while confined there on April 23rd, and died, as dawn broke over the city he loved, on May 17th.

Perhaps it takes a buff to understand the heart of a buff. In any event, Fire Commissioner Edward F. Cavanaugh, Jr., who as a boy watched the Equitable Building fire, where Doctor Archer acted so courageously and who, in later years, buffed at many of the fires Doctor Archer rolled into in his big "bus," appropriately expressed the feelings of New York firemen at the "Doc's" passing. Said Commissioner Cavanaugh:

"Men will come who will have the professional attainments of Dr. Archer, his heroism, his composure, his dedication to duty and who will have a span of 86 years, more than 60 of them spent in comforting and aiding injured and dying firemen at extreme personal risk, above and beyond the call of duty. But no other will ever again embody all these attributes."

Some years ago, the doctor turned the upper two floors of his home over entirely to the New York Firemen's Cycle Club, an organization which he helped to establish in 1896. Incidentally, although cycling was quite a fad when the Club was organized, fire-

men's interest in it was also utilitarian. In those days of continuous duty and meal leaves, officers had to relieve fellow-officers in other companies for meal leaves at all hours of the day and night. Rapid transit and automobiles had not yet appeared on the scene, therefore, the old 2-wheeler came in handy.

For some 500 members of the Department, a custom originated by the Cycle Club will remain the closing scene of Doctor Archer's career. Some years ago, a Colonel Thurston, a very

active member of the Cycle Club, heard a military band play "Annie Laurie." He enjoyed the music so well that he said he would like to have it played at his funeral. When the Colonel died, friends remembered his request and complied with it. The custom was inaugurated of having this sung at meetings of the Cycle Club on the announcement of the death of a member of the Club. When the Club member is accorded a Departmental funeral, before the detail is dismissed, the Department Band plays the old melody.

"So Long, Doc."

It was thus that many of us said good-bye to the "Doc." After a solemn requiem Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, the cortege moved slowly down silent Fifth Avenue. At the intersection of Fifth Avenue and 43rd Street, Ambulance No. 1, Doctor Archer's "bus," was parked east of the Avenue, its muted bell tolling as the Department pumper, bearing the Doctor's remains, passed. The detail lined up at attention opposite the quarters of 65 Engine, whose pumper was at the curb, its bell softly tolling. As the pumper came abreast of 65 Engine, the Band played the last note of a dirge. There was a moment of silence and then—it may have seemed incongruous to the mid-town passers-by—the strains of "Annie Laurie" reverberated between the tall buildings on each side of the street. One could almost hear New York firemen saying, "So long, Doc, there'll never be another like you."



Photo by Helldorf-Defferan

Befitting his long years of service in the department, the Doctor's remains are borne to Saint Patrick's Cathedral on a fire engine as hundreds of firemen stand at attention.



Harry M. Archer Medal

The Fire Department of New York Special Order Number 180, dated October 4, 1920, reads as follows:

In 1920 a medal, to be known as the 'Harry M Archer Medal' to be awarded every third year to such member of the uniformed force of the Fire Department as may have, during the three years preceding such award, been the recipient of one or more medals which are now given or may hereafter be given, to the members of the uniformed force. Such award shall be made by selection from among said medal winners during the said three years preceding such award for the performance in the judgment of the Fire Commissioner and the Chief of Department of the most meritorious service or act of heroism or bravery.

Legends in the Fire Department of New York begin with members who win medals. Theirs are the stories of danger, fear, courage, honor, and the greatest degree of self-satisfaction. Firefighters are brave, dedicated, and loyal. Respect comes in many ways to those who fight fires. The highest honor that can be bestowed on a New York City Firefighter is to be awarded the Doctor Harry M. Archer Medal. It is reserved for the truly bravest of the brave.

Those who cannot remember the past
are destined to repeat it.

George Santayana (paraphrased)



2022 Rosenbauer 1500/500 Electric
Photo by Kent Cullom



BROOKLYN IS FIRST IN FIRE EQUIPMENT

No. 117 Has Only Complete Set
of Motor Apparatus in
the City.

PROVES VERY SUCCESSFUL.

Engine in Use Since April, Has
Answered 135 Alarms
Without a Hitch.

The first fire engine company in Brooklyn to be completely equipped with a motor service is No. 117, whose house is on DeKalb avenue, near Lewis.

The engine has been in use for some time, but the hose wagon, completing the equipment, has just been added. The engine was installed April 24, 1912. It is a splendid piece of apparatus. It weighs eight tons, is driven by electric motors, and can throw 1,000 gallons of water a minute. It is supplied with a double steam pump. The electricity for the motors is supplied by a storage battery which is charged in the engine house by the Edison system.

New Electric Equipment Responded
to 135 Alarms Without a Hitch.

During the time that No. 117 has been supplied with this electric equipment the company has responded to 135 alarms, and Captain Frank P. Moran said to an Eagle representative that there had not been a single hitch or break down. The captain declared that he had the highest opinion of the motor service for fire engines.

"Of course," he said, "accidents are liable to happen. But I don't think there are so many accidents to fear as in the use of horses. Horses are not infallible. They are apt, or at least liable, to fall and break a leg or otherwise injure themselves. Horses are sick sometimes; they are subject to attacks of colic. Electrical machinery is very nearly perfect at the present day. When there are no alarms of fire and the men have plenty of time, they become very familiar with the new equipment and learn to guard against every possible

mishap."

Asked if the men of his company were not loath to part with the horses, which they, like nearly all of the men of the fire force, had made pets of for so many years, Captain Moran said:

"The men certainly were fond of the horses. They showed their love by taking the very best care of them, and by petting them. But when the horses went, some very bad features went also. Then the men got rid of taking care of the animals. This involved cleaning the stables, currying the horses and feeding them. Of course all this is now done away with. The electric equipment is clean, it makes no noise, and I regard it as of the highest efficiency."

Each Front Wheel of Electric Fire
Engine Weighs Half a Ton.

"I forget to tell you," added Captain Moran, "that each front wheel of that electric engine weighs half a ton, and that inside each wheel is an electric motor which supplied the power. This fire engine was converted from a horse machine. A number of the fire engines of the city, which were formerly drawn by horses, are being converted in a similar manner. Our engine is the first and only one in Greater New York which is propelled by the storage battery system."

Lieutenant John Maher echoed the sentiments expressed by Captain Moran and added that the men were very proud of their apparatus. He referred to the school for electricians which was furnished by the department, where the most thorough training is imparted.

The hose wagon, which has just been added to the equipment, has what is known as a 50-horse gasoline motor and can travel at the rate of 45 miles an hour. It carries 1,500 feet of hose, is supplied with a turret pipe, can throw 1,500 gallons of water a minute, and has all other appliances for successful fire fighting. This hose wagon weighs six tons, fully equipped for service.

The entire crew of No. 117 consists of captain, lieutenant, two engineers and thirteen men, making seventeen in all. The engine house is the headquarters of the Rev. Thomas McGroenen, one of the chaplains of the Fire Department. Father McGroenen's little red automobile is always seen in the house when not in use.

Although the electric fire engine has only been in service since April 24 it has already made history. It had only been in service a few weeks when it responded to a second alarm which proved to be in a storage building. The electric covered a distance of a mile and a half in four minutes and two seconds and had a stream on the blaze almost as soon as engines which had responded to the first alarm.

In this machine Brooklyn has the honor of possessing the first electric steamer in the country. In the official test which was made very soon after the machine arrived in Brooklyn it ran six miles through streets, many of which were crowded and blocked with trolley cars, in twenty-three minutes. In some parts of this course, which was clear, a speed of twenty miles was attained. Hill climbing tests were made on Bedford hill



NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION

Phone: 301-447-1365 E-mail: FireHero@FireHero.org Web: www.FireHero.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 1, 2022

Contact: Donna Clark 240-723-0615

National remembrance of fallen firefighters moves to May starting in 2023

Memorial Weekend 2022 will be last one held in October

EMMITSBURG, MD – As we prepare for Memorial Weekend 2022 in October we're looking ahead to next year and the start of a new National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) tradition. Beginning in 2023 Memorial Weekend moves to May.

A combination of weather uncertainties and the frequent threat of an October federal government shutdown is behind the move of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend from its traditional October date. NFFF Board chairman Troy Markel said, "As with everything NFFF does, the priority is making sure we do right by the families of the firefighters we're honoring."

This move does not impact this year's ceremony. The 2022 Memorial Weekend is still scheduled for October 8 and 9.

The change means 2023 Memorial Weekend will be May 6 and 7. While the time of year for the Candlelight and Memorial Services changes, our other four decades long traditions will continue. Chairman Markel said, "Removing some of the uncertainties we've faced with the October date will help avoid distractions as we focus on honoring the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice."

As always, the public can help support these heroes, their families, and the Memorial Weekend events.

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About the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

Congress created the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to lead a nationwide effort to honor America's fallen firefighters. Since 1992, the non-profit Foundation has developed and expanded programs that fulfill that mandate. Our mission is to honor and remember America's fallen fire heroes, provide resources to assist their families in rebuilding their lives, and work within the fire service community to reduce firefighter deaths and injuries.

<https://www.firehero.org>.



LET'S SAVE
OUR CHILDREN!



PREVENT FIRES!



LET'S ALL CO-OPERATE with the International Association of Fire Chiefs in their worthy campaign to save our children from the ravages of fire.

LET'S GO, FAN CLUBS!

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