

TURN ↑↑ OUT

Summer Fall 2023



TURN OUT

The Official Newsletter of the IFBA

**Published Twice
Yearly
Winter Spring and
Summer Fall**

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



Contact Turn Out:

Email - Turnout@ifba.org

Turn Out Committee

Wally Banks

wally.banks@ifba.org

Editorial Staff

Mike DeWalt, Consulting Editor

mike.dewalt@ifba.org

Ignatius Kapalczynski, Editor & Committee Chair

ig.kapalczynski@ifba.org

Publication News

Once again, an issue highlighting the many talents, services and dedication of the IFBA membership brought to you by our faithful and dependable contributing writers and photographers..

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 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.

Dedication

Robert Bowers

Vice President Region 7

Turn Out Committee

Cover

Giant sparkler befitting the 4th of July created during fireground access operations courtesy of the New Haven CT Fire Department. Photo by Glenn Duda, CT Fire Photographers

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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. Please avoid and delete all headers and footers in Word documents. Questions? Contact the editors.

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

2024 Winter Spring issue – deadline December 31, 2023.



Summer Fall

2023

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BOARDS and COMMITTEES

2022/2023

CFSI / Publicity Chair

publicity@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Stuart Nathan, Chair	stuart.nathan@ifba.org
Wally Banks	wally.banks@ifba.org
Vito Maggiolo	maggiolv@gmail.com

Constitution & By-laws

bylaws@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Dennis Ahrens, Chair	dennis.ahrens@ifba.org
Mark Cohen	mc41853@live.com
Michael Quinn	M1968Q@aol.com

Convention/Education

convention@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Ken Beliveau	ken.beliveau@ifba.org
Dennis Ahrens	dennis.ahrens@ifba.org
Steve Garnett	steve.garnett@ifba.org
Steve Korb	rvaflyingsquad@gmail.com
Vickie Mokros	vickie.mokros@ifba.org
Frank Novak	fnovak53@yahoo.com
Joe Sullivan	joe.sullivan@ifba.org
David Vaughn	vaughn97@hotmail.com
Dave Williams	dave.williams@ifba.org

Fire & Life Safety

lifesafety@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Gerard Mahoney, Ch	gerard.mahoney@ifba.org
Don Schmidt	DLS@PreparednessLLC.com
Dave Williams	dave.williams@ifba.org

Executive Board

execboard@ifba.org

Position	Officer
President	Bob Ristic
Chairman of the Board	Ken Beliveau
First Vice President	Dennis Ahrens
Second Vice President	Vickie Mokros
Immediate Past President	Rick Short
Executive Vice President	Steve Garnett
Treasurer	Paul Schaetzle
Secretary	Gerry Mahoney
Vice President Region 1	Michael Quinn
Vice President Region 3	Steve Korb
Vice President Region 5	Tom McDonald
Vice President Region 6	Dennis Ahrens
Vice President Region 7	Dan Wolfe
Vice President Region 9	Connie Spellman
Vice President Region 10	Carolyn Wignall
Vice President Region 11	Dave Williams
Vice President at Large	Joe Sullivan
Director of Publicity	Stuart Nathan

Past Presidents

pastpresidents@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Rick Conway, Chair	richardaconway@comcast.net
Vickie Mokros	vickie.mokros@ifba.org
Wally Banks	wally.banks@ifba.org
Steve Garnett	steve.garnett@ifba.org
Gerard Mahoney	gerard.mahoney@ifba.org
Tom McDonald	tmcfire@aol.com
Stuart Nathan	stuart.nathan@ifba.org
Paul Schaetzle	paul.schaetzle@ifba.org

Finance

finance@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Stephen Fickenscher	stephen.fickenscher@ifba.org
Carolyn Wignall	ladyfirefly_911@hotmail.com
Dave Williams	dave.williams@ifba.org

Historical

historical@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Steve Garnett, CoChair	steve.garnett@ifba.org
Ignatius Kapalczynski	ig.kapalczynski@ifba.org
Chris Kelley	mweelin@comcast.net
Bill Mokros	bill.mokros@ifba.org

Insurance

insurance@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Paul Schaetzle, Chair	paul.schaetzle@ifba.org
Don Schmidt	DLS@PreparednessLLC.com
Dave Williams	dave.williams@ifba.org

Information Technology

it@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Ian Duke, Chair	ian.duke@ifba.org
Thomas Bilbrey	thomas.bilbrey@ifba.org
Cody Daniels	cody.daniels@ifba.org
Bill Mokros	bill.mokros@ifba.org
Conni Spellman	auntconni@hotmail.com

Membership and Organization Business –

executiveoffice@ifba.org

Fire Buff of the Year

fboy@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Stuart Nathan, Chair	stuart.nathan@ifba.org
Tom Pelaia	tbone1019@comcast.net

Recruitment & Retention

join@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Joe Sullivan, Chair	joe.sullivan@ifba.org
Wally Banks	wally.banks@ifba.org
Ken Beliveau	ken.beliveau@ifba.org
Chris Oliphant	chris.oliphant@ifba.org
Dave Williams	dave.williams@ifba.org

Resource Committee

resource@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Ira Cohen, Chair	ira.cohen@ifba.org
Karl Brummett	kbrummett@suddenlink.net & karl.brummett@ifba.org
Bill Mokros	bill.mokros@ifba.org
Stuart Nathan	stuart.nathan@ifba.org
Paul Schaetzle	paul.schaetzle@ifba.org
Don Schmidt	DLS@PreparednessLLC.com
Jerry Traub	indybuff1@gmail.com
David Vaughn	vaughn97@hotmail.com
Gary Wignall	thewignalls@sympatico.ca
Dave Williams	dave.williams@ifba.org

Turn Out Magazine

turnout@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Ignatius Kapalczynski	ig.kapalczynski@ifba.org
Wally Banks	wally.banks@ifba.org
Mike DeWalt	mike.dewalt@ifba.org



IFBA

Executive Office



**INTERNATIONAL FIRE BUFFS ASSOCIATES
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
KENNETH F. BELIVEAU
1 LANSING AVENUE SOUTH HADLEY, MA 01075
kfbct58@aol.com
ken.beliveau@ifba.org
860-614-9538**



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



IFBA

Committee

Reports

History Committee

A significant number of convention books, buffing guides, newsletters, and reports have been located. Some were intercepted just prior to oblivion for curbside pickup. If you have or know of anyone who might have kept some old IFBA or club publications, save them now before they are lost forever. Our goal is to digitally scan them for the IFBA archive effort. Yes, someone DOES want those old 'papers.' This is the time that you were saving them for.

AVOCATION - *A subordinate occupation pursued in addition to one's vocation especially for enjoyment: hobby.* (Merriam Webster) Fire buffing is a life-long avocation for most. Turn Out recently invited a number of buffs to share their thoughts about what fire buffing has meant in their lives. The response was tremendous. While asked for just a few sentences, most replied with pages of memories. Thanks to the enthusiastic replies, look for **REFLECTIONS** throughout this and future issues. If the stories inspire you to share your thoughts, we welcome and look forward to your story too. Sincere thanks to the initial group of writers.



Turn Out

Rebuilding the Turn Out archive progresses. Issues as early as 1965 have been located as well as re-print of issue #1. Only a few issues from the late 1950s and the early 1960s remain missing. We are closer than ever to restoring a complete set. Please keep looking.

The National Fire Fan Register preceded the formation of the IFBA and subsequently Turn Out. We are fortunate that many of those were saved and shared for digital scanning.

"TURN OUT"

Official Newsletter of the
INTERNATIONAL FIRE BUFFS, INC.

PRESIDENT
WILLIAM E. CONRAD
88 WAKEMAN AVE.
NEWARK 4, N. J.

SECRETARY
E. R. DAMASCHKE
815 W. MARSHALL AVE.
FERNDALE 20, MICH.

EDITOR
RAY WHEATLEY
1813 N. MONTFORD AVE.
BALTIMORE 13, MD.



VOL. 1 NO. 1

SUMMER 1956

BALTIMORE, MD.

Fellow Buffs,

Hoping not to appear too presumptuous by prefacing the minutes of the convention with remarks of my own, I would like to take this opportunity to explain the reason for this letter.

This reporter was asked at the convention to attempt to edit a newsletter for the International; an honor which I gladly accepted.

This newsletter is designed to bring the Buff Clubs all over this continent closer together and to trade ideas among the clubs that will help each of us in our avocation, to our friends in the fire service.

As it was explained by this reporter, at the convention, this newsletter may only live through the cooperation of all the clubs that receive it. By this we mean we must have ~~news~~ items and suggestions from each club and a good suggestion was made at the convention that I think merits passing on. Each club should withhold one item from their own fine newsletter and pass it on to this letter. These items along with the business and suggestions of the International, may very well make interesting reading. I'm willing to try, are you?

Now for some suggestions from this reporter:

I would like to suggest that each club designate one man as "International Correspondent", whose job it will be to get news items of your club to this reporter.

Address all mail to:

International Newsletter,
% Ray Wheatley,
1813 N. Montford Ave.,
Baltimore 13, Md.

Now to the business of the convention: the following articles are a consensus of the business of the International Fire Buffs Convention and a graphic description of the agenda of events planned and carried out so nobly by the host club, The Bell and Siren Club of Newark.



2023 Milwaukee Convention Info



MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

AUGUST 14-17, 2023

MILWAUKEE, THE PLACE TO BE IN 2023

INFORMATION PAGE

Registration fee (either before June 1st or after June 1st) includes entry into all listed convention events. It also includes all meals listed as provided by the venue.

Regarding your Banquet dinner selection:

The Filet selection is a 6oz Filet Mignon, Charbroiled, on a bed of sauteed baby spinach and Cremini Mushrooms topped with a Bourbon black pepper cream sauce. Served with mashed potatoes and the vegetable of the day.

The Salmon selection is an Atlantic Salmon Filet, pan-seared with a Basil Pesto Sauce and topped with a sweet Balsamic tomato relish. Served over a bed of sauteed spinach and accompanied by wild rice and the vegetable of the day.

The Vegetable Wellington is a colorful cornucopia of tasty tender vegetables encased in a buttery flaky puff pastry shell and served with a tomato sauce.

All selections include rolls with whipped butter and a choice of regular or decaf coffee, iced tea or milk.

Dessert will be a "Dessert buffet" with many selections offered.

Regarding the hotels "Dinner on your own" offer

The Hotel is offering to serve a dinner buffet for the IFBA attendees if enough of the attendees indicate they would partake in the buffet. All of the items on this buffet would be different each night and not contain any of the items being offered at the Banquet. Please mark your registration form accordingly.

The 2023 Convention team wishes to thank you for your participation in this year's IFBA annual convention. We hope you have a great time.

MFBC CONVENTION PLANNING TEAM MEMBERS:

Vickie Mokros, Chair	Tanya Ristic	Bob Ristic	Ashley Ristic
Charles Liedtke	Gary Fedder	Bob Warner	Tim Byers
Chris Callen	Bill Mokros	Kristian Moberg	Nick Padway
Ron Hornik	Dan Rode	Ed Naczek	

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Page 1

SUNDAY AUGUST 13, 2023

Noon - 10pm Registration open in hospitality room
Noon - 10pm Hospitality room open
Afternoon Executive Board Meeting

MONDAY AUGUST 14, 2023

Noon - 10pm Registration open in hospitality room
6am - 9am Breakfast buffet in Hotel Restaurant (don't forget to bring your ticket)
9:30am Opening Ceremony, posting of colors, 1st raffle at conclusion
10:00am Keynote speaker - Lt Brian Murphy - topic "Oak Creek Shooting"
11:00am Program - "PEACEFUL WARRIORS"
2nd Raffle of the day at end of program
NOON Lunch provided
1:00pm Board shuttle buses to Harley Davidson Museum
3:00pm Apparatus photo ops at the museum
4:00pm Shuttles back to hotel
5:00pm Dinner on your own (Hotel or Your choice)
6:00pm - 10pm Hospitality open, buffing, etc

TUESDAY AUGUST 15, 2023

As needed Registration open in hospitality room
6:00am - 8:00am Breakfast buffet in Hotel Restaurant (don't forget to bring your ticket)
8:30am promptly Buses leave for Venerable Fire Museum
12 Noon Board buses for lunch at the Richfield Fire Department
photo ops of area Fire Apparatus
1:30pm Board buses for Holy Hill Basilica & National Shrine of Mary
4:00pm Board buses for return to Hotel
5:00pm Relax & dinner on your own (hotel or your choice)
6:00pm - 10pm Hospitality open, buffing, etc

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Page 2

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 16TH, 2023

As needed Registration open in hospitality room
6:00am - 8:00am Breakfast buffet in Hotel Restaurant (don't forget to bring your ticket)
8:30AM Annual IFBA Business Meeting
10:00am Program - "Preserving the Past for the Future" - Authors
10:45am Program - "Preserving the Past for the Future" - Photographers
11:30am Board Shuttle busses to Local 215 lunch
1pm - 3pm Apparatus Photo ops
3pm - 4pm Board shuttles for return to Hotel
5:00pm Relax & dinner on your own (Hotel or Your choice)
6:00pm - 10pm Hospitality open, buffing, etc

THURSDAY AUGUST 17, 2023

6:00am - 8:00am Breakfast buffet in Hotel Restaurant (don't forget to bring your ticket)
9:00am Program - Underwriter Laboratories / Fire Safety
10:00am Program - MABAS & Shared Services
11:00am Program - "Deep Tunnels" Chief Neil Lipski
Noon Lunch provided at Hotel
1:00pm Board shuttles to Trinity for program on 5 alarm fire
 "Controlling the Disaster" Presented by Chief of Department Aaron Lipski
4:00pm Board shuttles back to Hotel
4:30pm - 5:00pm Relax before Closing Banquet
5:30pm Socializing, appetizers & cash bar
6:15pm Presentation by the next years convention planning team
6:30pm Closing Banquet, Awards, Raffles
10:00pm See you next year in Richmond Virginia

FRIDAY AUGUST 18, 2023

6:00am - 8:00am Breakfast buffet in Hotel Restaurant (don't forget to bring your ticket)
SAFE TRAVELS AS YOU MAKE YOUR WAY HOME



2023 IFBA Convention Registration Form

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
COUNTRY _____ YOUR E-Mail ADDRESS _____
CLUB AFFILIATION _____
IFBA OFFICER ☐ NO ☐ YES _____
TITLE _____
YOUR MOBILE PHONE # _____ ALTERNATE NUMBER _____
EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME & PHONE # _____

FULL CONVENTION REGISTRATION before June 1st, 2023 \$289.00 (US FUNDS ONLY)
(After June 1st full registration is \$350) Scan QR code to pay with PayPal
AMOUNT ENCLOSED:



FULL REGISTRATION AT \$289 EACH (\$350 after June 1st) \$ _____
BANQUET **ONLY** TICKETS AT \$70 EACH \$ _____
TUESDAY BUS TRIP **ONLY** AT \$75 (INCLUDES LUNCH) \$ _____
TOTAL US FUNDS ENCLOSED \$ _____

Banquet Dinner selection pick one Filet ☐ Salmon ☐ Vegetable ☐
(See page 2 for details about dinners) Wellington ☐

HOTEL INFORMATION

Make your HOTEL RESERVATIONS at the CONVENTION RATE OF \$149 PER NIGHT + TAX:

You must make your reservations on your own through the hotel website link provided below.

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/mkeccdt-fba-1f4d5631-fb13-4c93-aa79-4a4ea4e0717d/>

Would you be interested in an "On Your Own" \$15.99 +tax & tip dinner buffet offered at the hotel **Sunday evening through Wednesday evening?**

circle one yes no (see details on page 2)

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON DIRECT PHONE NUMBER TO HOTEL: +1 414-273-2950
611 W Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53203 Code for IFBA rate "CFBA"



Historic Trinity Church

Reflections

Stuart Nathan
Box 414 Association, Baltimore

Like so many of us, fire buffing began for me as a young boy when my father started taking me to the closest fire house to our home in Baltimore. I'm sure I was only 4 or 5 when we visited the neighborhood station to see the apparatus and the model trains at the Holiday train garden, a Baltimore City Fire Department tradition for seventy years.

Buffing was a family activity as, from an early age, I attended IFBA conventions with my parents (Henry & Gladys). Becoming a member of Box 414 and later an IFBA officer was a natural thing for me as I followed in my father's footsteps as he was President of Box 414, IFBA President, and ultimately was honored as Fire Buff of the Year.

In a very personal sense, being a fire buff, provided a special connection with my parents, and especially my father, that I continue to reflect on and cherish today.



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 a quick spring is on us, we have had a busy four months. Just this last week our coverage area was hit with a lot of fast-moving brush fires, in Several states. Some of these sized incidents we have not seen in over 70 years. Some into the several thousand acers. With apparatus relocating over 50 miles, For the East Coast that is a big deal. CFPA members did cover a couple of the incidents, but also during these brush fires our members covered a large amount of building fires also.



Photo by Thomas Nanos. Lebanon CT

Assistant Chief Alan Olenick working one edge of the first brush fire in town, with an Indian pump pack.

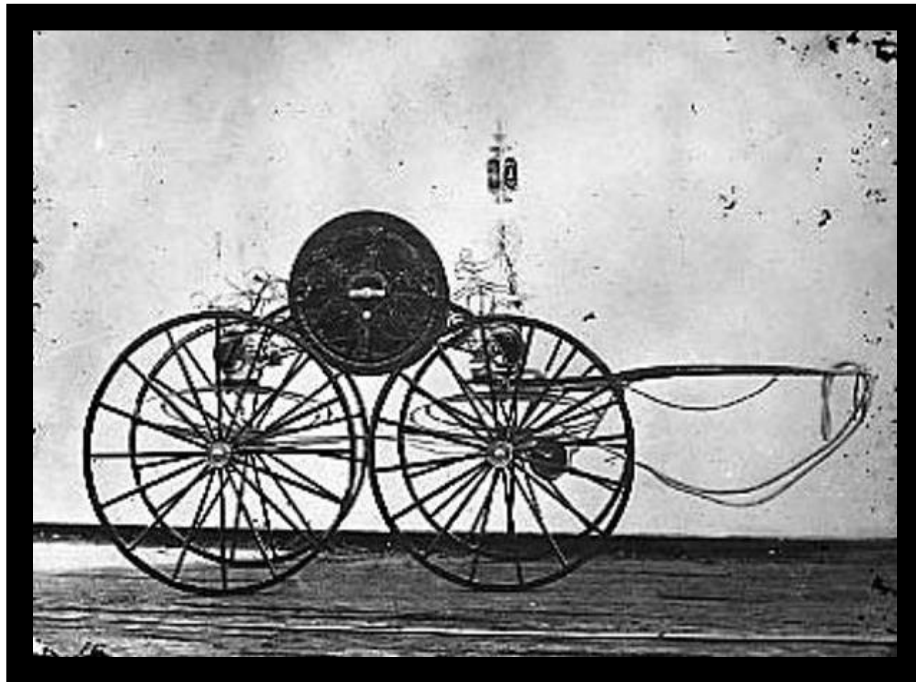
Cover Photo by Glenn Duda

New Haven 2nd alarm 52 Ann St. dwelling fire

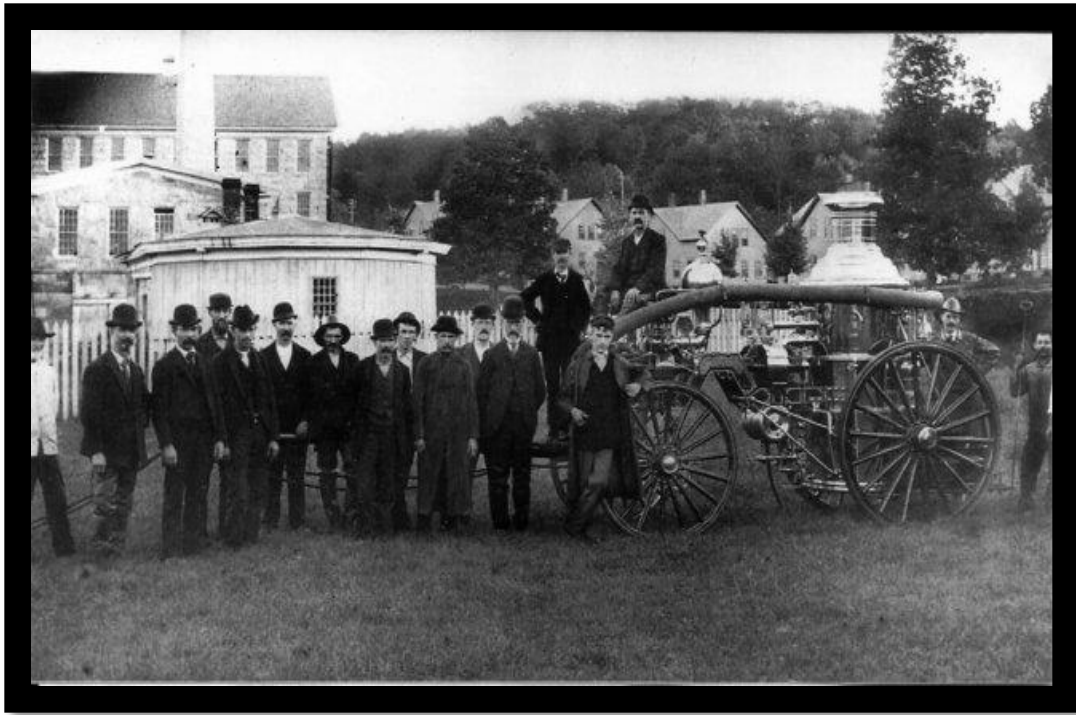
05/13/22 New Haven, CT - Firefighters from the Hill section was met with a heavy smoke condition emanating from a two and a half story, private dwelling. Lines were quickly stretched, but were met with heavy heat and clutter to reach the seat of the fire. The fire soon vented the basement windows and started auto exposing to an auto and the first floor. Companies were briefly backed out so the fire could be darkened down from the outside. Additional lines were stretched to all floors as the fire now began to extend due to the construction of the dwelling. A second alarm was transmitted as a result. Firefighters were able to transition back to the interior and open up to stop any further spread. The fire took about an hour to bring under control. No one was injured in the fire. The cause is being investigated.

Historical images

Fire photography in Connecticut goes back to the early days of cameras our members collections have some great examples from all over the state, whether it be the larger Cities or smaller towns early fire buffs found a way to make it to the incidents, A lot of the fires are aftermath photos in the early days, or just what we call today as apparatus or posed firefighter shots. But they made the most of the incident they found. It was difficult to know about the incident or even to travel to one, never mind carrying all the heavy equipment and getting the image safely to the developing room, but they managed. Today without our members (Fire Buffs), museums and historical societies these images never would survive. So please take care of your images or video, plan for your collections continued survival. Make sure it has a home once you're finished with it. To many fire-based collections or just local family collections are found at yard sales or just tossed away. Today with digital images it will be even easier to lose them. Make sure you have at least two copies (hard Drives) and sure the right person will protect them.



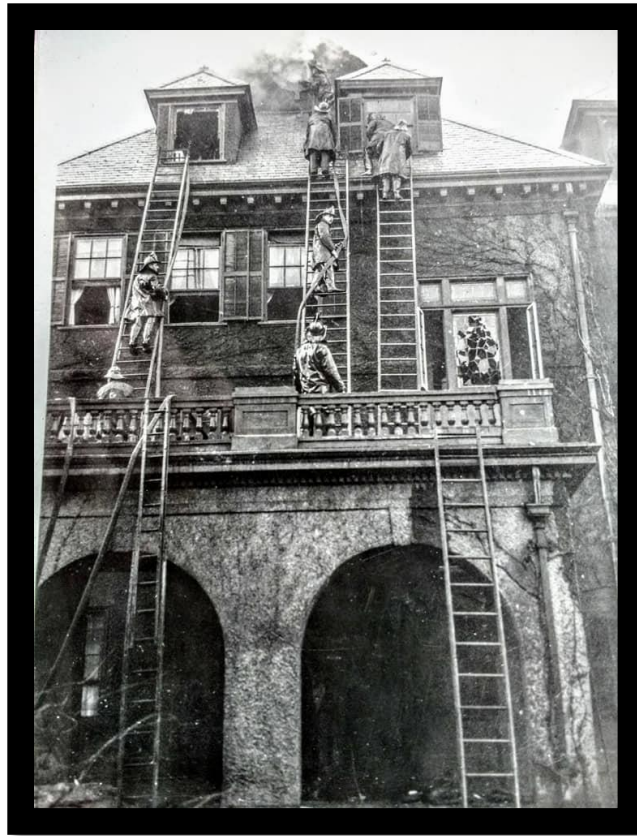
Fire Hose Wagon, Norwich, Connecticut, mid 1800s "found on Ebay".



Yantic CT, 1891 Silsby Steamer, Yantic Fire Engine Company collection.



Central Wharf, Norwich CT Aug 1912



Photos by William C Peck, in care at The CT Firemen's Historical Society, A CFPA member
Admiral Bollard Academy, Pequod Ave. New London, CT. April 5, 1937, General Alarm

The **CFPA** membership has been active with all types of events, we continue to support and submit to local news media and national publications. We do receive some compensation from these industries, this supports our habits in buying new camera gear. Our images also show the world on what the emergency service encounter from day to day, it provides the public and city leaders a view into the world of firefighters. It also encourages the next generation for fire buff and firefighter.

Silver City Firefest 13 Annual

Will be held on August 5th in Meriden CT.

-Check for updates-

Fire Apparatus, Emergency service models, and various fire related items for viewing and sale.



The CT Firemen's Historical Society

Connecticut Firemen's Historical Society Museum

The Fire Museum, located at 230 Pine Street in Manchester, CT has opened for the 2023 season. Housed in an original 1901 wooden firehouse, the collection of apparatus includes hand-pulled and operated wooden hand pumps, a hand-pulled Portland steamer, and parade hose reels. Gasoline powered apparatus include a 1912 Seagrave Chemical Engine, Hartford Tower 1 – the only water tower to serve in Connecticut, and a 1921 Ahrens Fox. Both the Seagrave and Ahrens Fox were purchased for and served out of our historic firehouse. Our three exhibit floors contain exhibits of helmets, speaking trumpets, badges, lanterns, photographs, and paintings; all artifacts of Connecticut's fire service history.

The Museum is open Friday and Saturday afternoons from 12:00 to 4:00 through the second Saturday of November. Admission is by donation. We can accommodate group tours by appointment and require three weeks advance reservations for groups over 10. Check out our website: www.thefiremuseum.org for more information or call 860-649-9436. Follow us on facebook for updates on what's going on in the Museum.

Lucy Crossman

203-268-0603

firefighterlucy@att.net

Fire Incidents & Apparatus



Gary Haszko, Elizabeth FD
Battalion Chief's Dalmatian "Pongo" in the cab of
Elizabeth (NJ) FD Ladder 1



Photo by Sayje Benjamin
Bridgeport, CT



Photo by Doc Johnson
“The money shot” Engine-4 pumping during the fire at
 Abate’s Pizzeria in New Haven on May 11 of 2023.



Photo By Bill Johnson
 Hughsonville Firefighters, along with the NYSP-Wappinger,
 operated at multiple vehicles on fire in the Hannaford Plaza the kPot Korean BBQ.



Photo by Greg Muhr

Portland OR and Fire & Rescue responded to a commercial fire at the former Elks Club April 6th



Photo by Steven Frischling

Montville CT Ladder 1 opening the nozzle on a stubborn dwelling fire in low teens



Photo by Robert Ladd
Worcester MA, 3rd Alarm May 14th



Photo by Josh Boyajian
Chicago Fire going to work in the rear of 821 E 90th Place



Photo by Paul Shea
Worcester MA, Engine 5 stretch on a car fire on Mill St.



Photo by Keven White
North Andover, MA Fire Department's fully restored 1901 Amoskeag Steamer



Photo by Joe Shefer
Bozrah CT, occupied dwelling fire



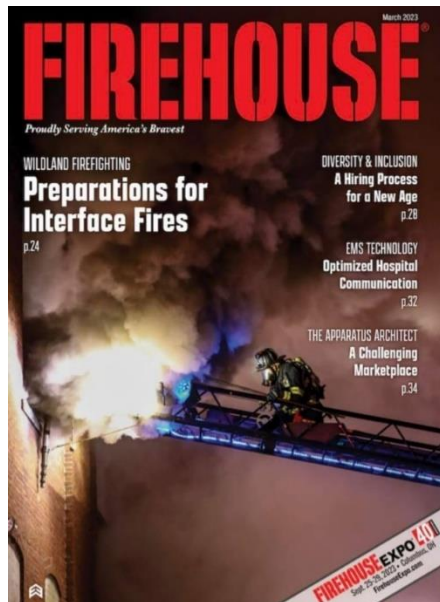
Photo by Jon Tenca
Rochester firefighters battled a fifth alarm warehouse fire on Otis St. March 13



Photo by Robert Reed Jr.
Greenville Fire/Rescue (Pitt County, NC) Truck 1
2020 Pierce Velocity Ascendant
107' Heavy-Duty Tiller Aerial Ladder



Photo by Don Schmidt
May 29, 1981 New York, NY Brooklyn Box 825
Central Av & Woodbine St, Tower ladder 124



CFPA Rhode Island member Ken LaBelle (@NRIFirePhotos).

March 2023 cover of Firehouse Magazine.

Remember to follow the CFPA on social media at

www.ctfirephoto.org

facebook - CTFirePhotographersAssociation

twitter - @ctfirephoto

Instagram – ctfirephotographers

Membership information - www.ctfirephoto.org





The 5A



Newsletter of the Leather Helmet Society Fire Buff Club of Manchester, N.H.

IFBA Region 1 Member

Late Spring 2023 Issue

The Leather Helmet Society Fire Buff Club had its last meeting on Tuesday April 18, 2023 at the new firehouse in Litchfield, N.H. hosted by Fire Chief Doug Nichols and Asst. Chief Ed Glancy. An excellent group of 29 members & guests were in attendance at this beautiful new facility.

Shown below are photos taken by LHS members at recent fire scenes, apparatus and at the meeting on April 18th in Litchfield.

The evenings entertainment was a slideshow presentation from Marlborough, Ma. FD Firefighter / fire buff photographer Dylan Conway on remarkable fires he buffed in 2021 & 2022 in New England.

The next LHS meeting, on June 21, 2023, will be held at...

NASHUA, N.H. Fire Dept. Engine 2/Ladder 2 Firehouse on Lake Street, more details to follow.

Fire Trucks, Food, Fun and Laughs! Enjoy this excellent club and attend a future meeting!















Photo Credits: Dylan Conway, Rick Conway, Dave Morin, Bob Fitz, Jr., Wayne Perkins, Jim Peruta, Christopher Pank, Charlie Tentas and unknown others. See you at the June 21st LHS Meeting at Nashua, N.H. Fire & Rescue Station 2 on Lake Street.

The Leather Helmet Society is strong currently with 34 Individuals in the Membership.



**4-10-23 2nd Alarm 70-72
Walnut St Manchester NH**



Lowell MA



**4-16-23 WF 11 Dan Hill RD
Londonderry NH**



**4-12-23 3rd Alarm 28 Juniper ST
Lawrence MA**

Jim Peruta
Member Old School Fire Photographers



3-2-23 WF 533 Merrimack ST Manchester NH



3-21-23 WF 12 Jennifer RD Lowell MA



3-30-23 3rd Alarm 17 Tumble RD Bedford NH



3-30-23 3rd Alarm 17 Tumble RD Bedford



4-15-23 WF 4 Carver ST Nashua NH



5-9-23 WF 1 Cape Dr Hudson NH



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 Gay St.
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
dewalt50@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

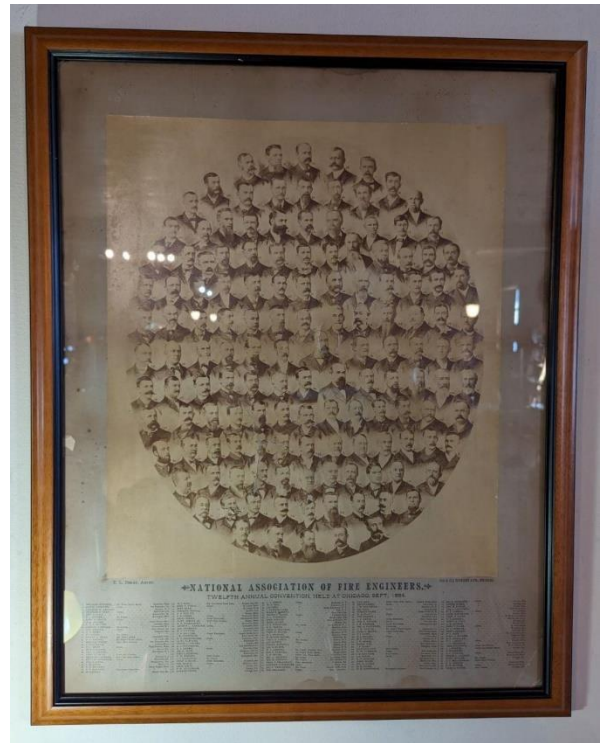
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS
PRESENTS HISTORICAL MEMORABILIA
to the
FRIENDSHIP FIRE ASSOCIATION MUSEUM
and the
FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) presented IAFC historical memorabilia to the Friendship Fire Association DC Fire Museum and the Fairfax County Fire Museum at a ceremony at the DC Fire Museum and Engine Company 3, 439 New Jersey Ave, NW on Capitol Hill on May 23, 2023. The significant historical items were presented for display during the IAFC's sesquicentennial anniversary year to these national capitol area fire and EMS museums.

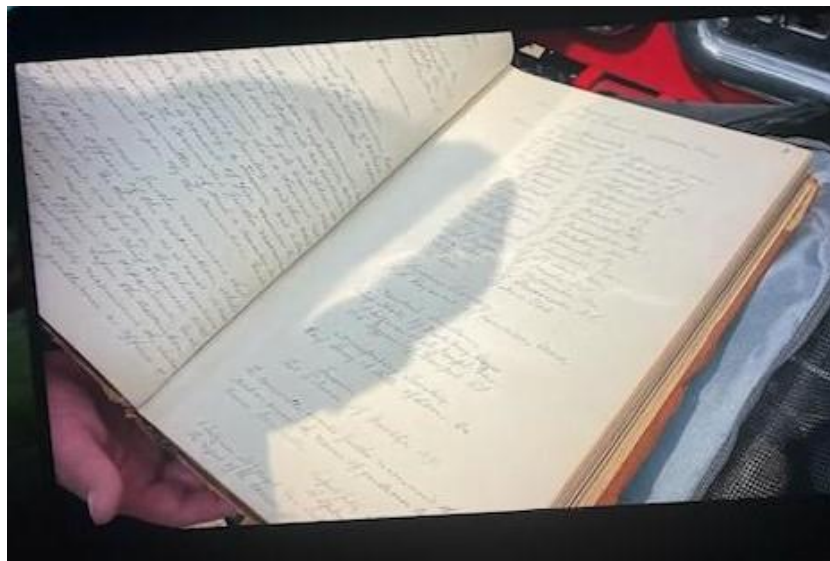


Elliot Goodman & Chris Oliphant photos

150th Anniversary Co-Chairs, IAFC President Chief Donna Black, Duck (NC) Fire Department, and IAFC 1st Vice President John Butler, Fairfax County (VA) Fire and Rescue Department presented to Joseph Sullivan, FFA President, a conference medal from the 1908 IAFC Conference in Columbus, OH and a portrait of 140 Members of the IAFC who attended the 12th annual IAFC conference in Chicago, IL in 1884.



The Fairfax County Fire Museum was presented the original handwritten ledger of the organizations proceedings in 1873, displaying the notes of the IAFC's first recording secretary – Cambridge (MA) Fire Chief P. H. Raymond, the first African American fire chief in the United States.



The IAFC was founded on October 20th, 1873 in New York City and is one of the oldest national fire service organizations in the United States with 11,000 members worldwide.

BOX 414 Association, Inc.

FIRE – POLICE

MEMBER OF IFBA

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



By Stuart M. Nathan

During 2022, the Box 414 Coffee Wagons responded on 59 multiple alarm and working fires, including 21 two alarm fires, 4 three alarm fires, and 2 four alarm fires. The Wagons also were dispatched on 10 hazmat incidents, nine special calls, five fatal fires, and one mutual aid run. The total of 27 multiple alarm fires during 2022 was just about average for the number of additional in the last several years. Back in the busy 60's and 70's, we often had about 100 additional during a year, now we run about 20-30 multiples per year.

Our vehicles also handled 178 details during the past year. Our details include serving at the Fire Academy graduations, parades, police incidents, funerals of active duty members of the Fire and Police Departments, Department blood drives, and the like. The many volunteers who serve on the wagon donated a total of about 3600 hours. The top volunteers were Charles Shultz with 601 hours, Zach McCue with 506 hours, Sam Lackey with 412 hours, Shaun Freund with 315.5 hours, and Jacob Nelson with 246 hours.

Under the fuel category, we used 245 gallons of diesel, 843 gallons of gasoline, and 156.5 gallons of propane. Car 414, our large wagon, travelled 1798 miles during 2022, and Car 415, our Chevy Suburban, traveled 9111 miles. Car 414 went on 106 runs and details, 415 on 204 runs and details, and Car 417 (the "potty wagon") on 37 runs.

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

Coffee	246 gallons
Water	549 gallons
Gatorade	614 gallons
Hot Chocolate	1171 cups
Soda	715 cans
Hot dogs	1368
Sandwiches	1222

SAVE LIVES - INSTALL SMOKE DETECTORS



SAVE LIVES - INSTALL SMOKE DETECTORS

After many fits and starts, we are hoping to soon begin renovation of our historic Club Quarters at Gay and Orleans Street in the Oldtown section of Baltimore. Our quarters, formerly housing Engine 6 and Battalion Chief 2, date back to the late 1700's and were renovated in the 1850's. The building is in some serious need of repairs, especially the clock tower, and we have been working with the City and State to obtain funding for the much needed repairs. Fortunately we were able to get a grant from the State to at least begin the design work and hopefully soon begin some of the repairs. Budgets being what they are, it is anticipated that this will be a multi-year process.

CLUB PRESIDENT

Shaun Freund will be continuing as Club President for the second year of his two year term. The Club has been fortunate to attract a number of new members under Shaun's leadership, as he has emphasized the need for recruitment and retention of members. He has also been aggressive in seeking new ways to provide additional funding to support Club activities.

ANNUAL FIREBOAT PICNIC

In what has become an annual tradition, the members of Box 414 visit the crews of Fireboat 1 and Fire Rescue Boat 1 for a picnic at their quarters adjoining historic Fort McHenry. Then, weather permitting, we are treated to a cruise on the boat. We are looking forward to our annual visit on Friday evening, June 9 th . Our thanks, as always, to the Captain and crew of Fireboat 1 and Fire Rescue Boat 1 for hosting this event.

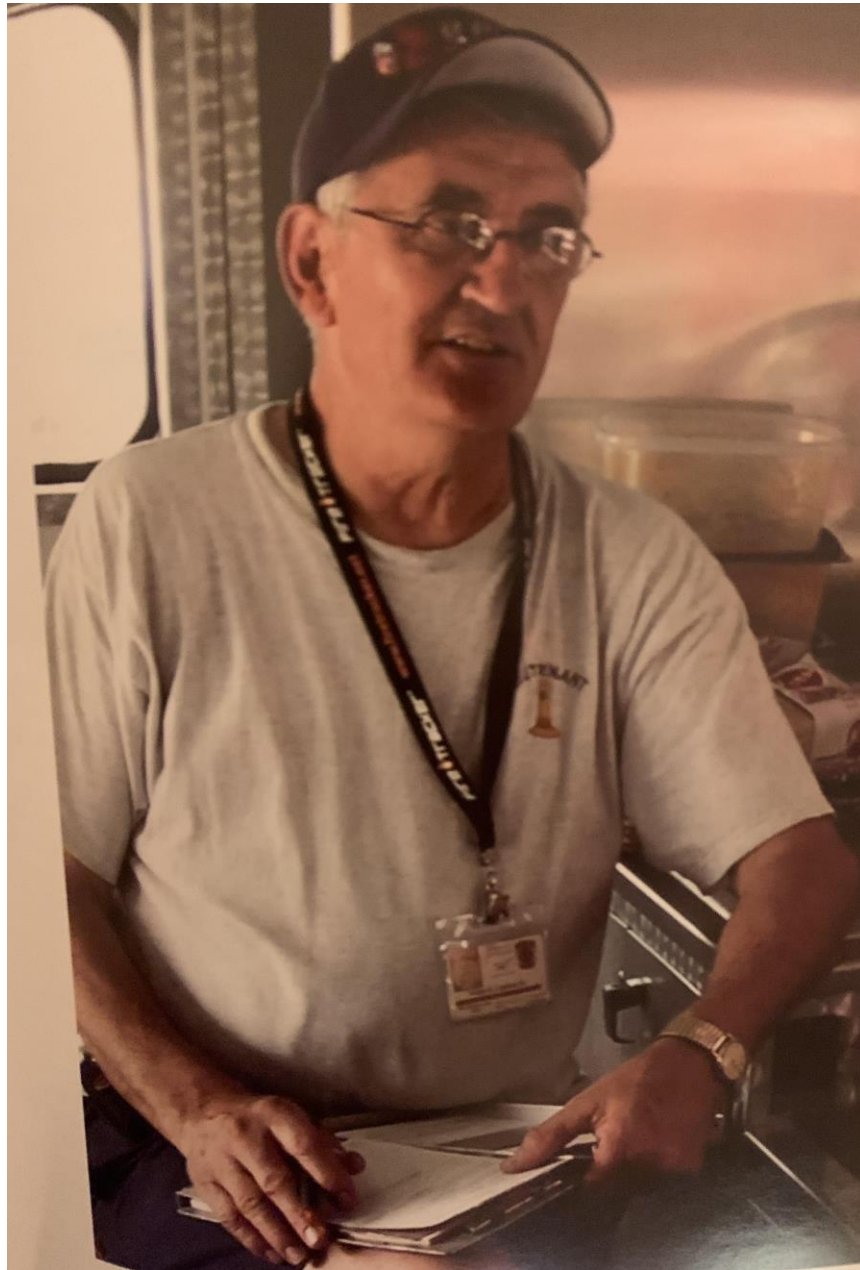
IFBA CONVENTION

We await, with great anticipation, this year's IFBA Convention in Milwaukee, where the IFBA began in 1953. Our thanks to the Milwaukee Fire Bell Club for hosting the convention. During the Spring Board meeting, we were lucky enough to see their Club quarters at the former quarters of Engine 25 and their newest vehicle. As an added highlight, the convention hotel is right around the corner from the quarters of Engine 2 and Truck 2 and Milwaukee Fire Headquarters. Please join us in Milwaukee from August 14-17 at the Doubletree by Hilton, Downtown Milwaukee.

SAVE LIVES - INSTALL SMOKE DETECTORS



SAVE LIVES - INSTALL SMOKE DETECTORS



IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of Walt Lemmon on February 24, 2023 who faithfully served the Baltimore City Fire Department and then Box 414 for many years. After serving 34 years in the BCFD and retiring as a lieutenant, Walt joined Box 414 and served as Chairman of the Coffee Service Committee. He and his wife Marie were the heart and soul of our canteen operation, and there was hardly a multiple alarm fire in Baltimore without Walt serving on the Coffee Wagon. His cooking skills were legendary, and his Egg McMcmmon gave McDonald's a run for its money. Not only did Walt and Marie work on the Wagon, they also were responsible for purchasing supplies and keeping the storeroom well-stocked at all times. Their financial support of 414 was critical to the continued operation of our rehab services. At the 2018 Medals Day Ceremony, Walt was honored with the Chief Herman Williams, Jr. Humanitarian Award. Our condolences to Marie, and sons Mark (Captain of Engine 51) and Walt Jr. and the entire Lemmon family.

COSMETIC PRESERVATION

1905 AMERICAN LAFRANCE 3RD CLASS METROPOLITAN 600 GPM HORSE DRAWN STEAM FIRE ENGINE

The Friendship Fire Association is raising funds to conduct a cosmetic preservation of the DC Fire and EMS Department's 1905 American LaFrance 3rd Class Metropolitan 600 GPM Horse Drawn Steam Fire Engine - Manufacturer Registration Number: 3076.

Originally assigned to Engine 18, this steamer was the last horse drawn apparatus in regular service and served as a front-line piece until 1921. It was used for the ceremonial Last Run of the Horses on June 15, 1925.

On June 15, 2025, the DC Fire and EMS Department and Friendship Fire Association intends to celebrate 100 years of the Last Run of the Horses with this preserved horse drawn

PRESERVATION



SERVICE



HISTORY



FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$50,000

To donate and help preserve the 1905 American LaFrance Horse Drawn Steam Fire Engine, please e-mail steamerpreservation@friendshipfireassoc.org or contact Daryl R. Levine, Vice-President at (202) 640-9992

ABOUT FRIENDSHIP FIRE ASSOCIATION

Friendship Fire Association is the all-volunteer support unit of the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department.

Friendship Fire Association
439 New Jersey Ave NW
Washington, DC 20001



<https://friendshipfireassoc.org>

*Friendship Fire Association is a 501 (c) (3)
non-profit organization

**Donations are tax deductible



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

|
CHRIS E. MICKAL
DISTRICT CHIEF
NEW ORLEANS FIRE DEPARTMENT
143 40th. ST.
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70124
(504)-884-4908
www.FIRELINEPHOTOS.com

4 ALARM FIRE
04/23/2023

3443 MAGNOLIA ST.
11:27PM

2- Occupied dwellings, fully involved upon arrival, and collapsed and spread across the vacant lot to a third dwelling. No injuries.

Incident #: 19634
Incident Type: BLDG-BUILDING
Alarm Level: 4
Fireground: FG6
Address: 3443 Magnolia St.

Time Call Received: 04-23-2023 11:27 PM
Dispatch Time: 04-23-2023 11:27 PM

Responding Companies: E38, E16, E01, E15 L08 R02 C506, C502
Arrival Time: E38 -04-23-2023 11:32 PM

Alarm 2: E25, E26 L07 S07, HM, REHAB, SS1, C500, C505
2nd Alarm Time: 11:38:00 pm

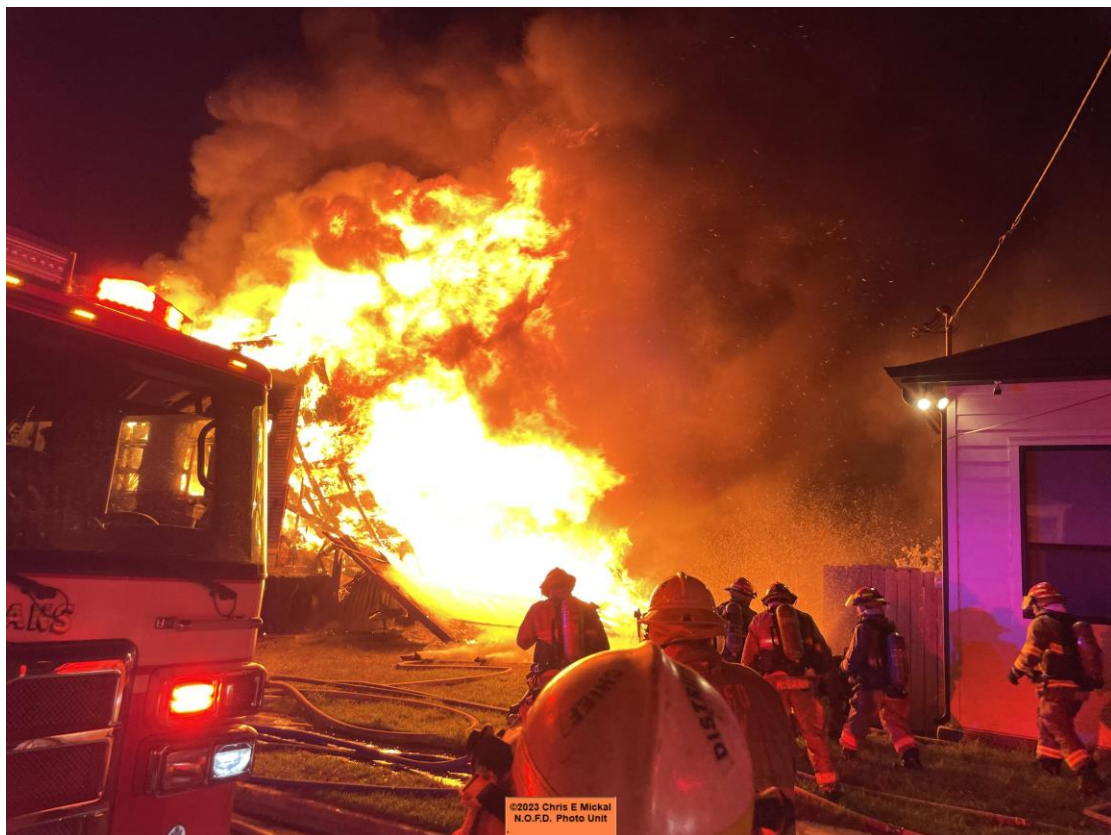
Alarm 3: E35, E27 L09 C503
3rd Alarm Time: 11:51:00 pm

Alarm 4: E09, E29
4th Alarm Time: 11:53:00 pm

Under Control Time: 04-24-2023 01:28 AM













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



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



Cleveland recently put in service 3 - 2022 Sutphen Monarch 1500/500 pumpers. They have been assigned to Engines 1, 13 and 36. This is the first Sutphen order for Cleveland since the 1980's



A new aluminum "FireStorm 40" fireboat with 6,000 gpm pump capacity, manufactured by MetalCraft Marine in Kingston, Ontario arrived in Cleveland on May 20th. Named "Marine 21," it will replace the Anthony J. Celebrezze, a 1961 Paasch Marine Service fireboat that was manufactured in Erie, PA. Also known as Engine 21, the Celebrezze was taken out of service last December due to mechanical issues.



Cleveland continues to purchase apparatus from a wide variety of manufacturers and currently has Engines on order from E-One (2) and Pierce (1), Ladders on order from Rosenbauer (3) and Pierce (1) and an Air Supply on order from SVI/Peterbilt.

Kenny Rybka



Ken Fisher, NYCFire.net

RI Antique Fire Apparatus Society presents the

SPAAAMFAA

Apparatus Muster



Saturday July 15th 2023

Opening Ceremonies at 10am

Crowne Plaza Hotel 801 Greenwich Ave Warwick, RI



The Rhode Island Antique Fire Apparatus Society is pleased to host the SPAAMFAA summer 2023 National Conference and Muster. We have a full schedule of tours, activities, and seminars planned that will interest everyone. In addition, you will sample delicious New England food and beverages all week and conclude on Saturday with a muster, swap meet, and banquet. So, get ready for 4 days of Friends, Fun, and Fire Trucks.



The Crowne Plaza Providence-Warwick (Airport) is our convention headquarters hotel and is located at 801 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, RI 02886. The hotel is only an 8-minute ride from Rhode Island TF Green International Airport (PVD) and offers a complimentary shuttle.

Room rates: are \$149.00 per night with **Continental breakfast** (coffee, tea, Danish, muffins, fruit) and includes (2) breakfast vouchers daily,

or \$139.00 per night **without Continental breakfast**.

If **calling directly**, (401) 732-6000 reference group code for your choice to include (or not include) continental breakfast: \$139 rate no breakfast (Group code SPA) or \$149.00 rate with breakfast (Group code SPB).

You may also **register online**, you may also use one of the following booking links to reserve:

[SPAAMFAA](#) -

[SPAAMFAA w/breakfast](#) -

When using the link, you only need to input the dates you are looking to stay as the **group code is automatically loaded** for you. For questions email: groupreservations@crownehotelwarwick.com or call Kelly O'Brien 401-681-4723

The hotel also features The Crossings Restaurant & Bar, a newly renovated 84-seat restaurant that serves breakfast, lunch and dinner with an American Cuisine menu. Complete with an oversize bar and several TVs throughout the restaurant. In addition, Alfred's Lounge features premium beer, wine, cocktail bar, appetizers and late-night dining options. There is also an indoor pool.

Hotel Courtesy Shuttle: After claiming your luggage, you can call the Crowne Plaza front desk at 401-732-6000 for the Hotel Courtesy Shuttle which will transport you from the airport to the hotel.

Air Transportation: Rhode Island TF Green International Airport (PVD) is located one mile from our host hotel.

Car Rental: After collecting your luggage, the "Interlink", an elevated glass-enclosed Skywalk, will bring you to the rental car facility.

Fire Apparatus: There is a \$20.00 fee to register your apparatus for the muster. Please pre-register so we can plan accordingly. Owners registering their apparatus by May 31st receive a complimentary convention challenge coin. SPAAMFAA safety rules will be in effect and proof of insurance is required. If you need storage for your tow vehicle or special accommodations, please contact us. Apparatus will be parked in a paved lot in front of the hotel. If needed, a truck washing station will be set up on site. Also, overnight security will be provided.

Merchandise: We are offering convention t-shirts for \$20. The 100% cotton t-shirts are blue and feature the SPAAMFAA logo on the left front and an assortment of RI Chapter rigs on the back. The challenge coins are 2" diameter custom limited edition in full color, and cost \$10 each.

Wednesday – Newport Mansion Tour - This will be a "trolley" bus trip to Newport that will feature a one hour driving tour of points of interest including Hammersmith Farm (the "Summer Whitehouse" for President John F. Kennedy), Fort Adams, and Bellevue Ave. After the driving tour, the trolley will stop at "The Breakers" Mansion for an indoor audio tour (app can be downloaded to your phone). After the mansion tour, the bus will bring you for lunch (included) at the Wyndham restaurant. After lunch, wine tasting at the Newport Vineyard. **This trip is limited to the first 35 attendees who sign up. If this trip sells out, we will start a waiting list for a second trolley bus.**

Thursday – West Bay Fire Museum/Station Tour will be a bus trip to the Greenwood Fire Museum in Warwick that houses a 1955 Maxim and 1945 Mack pumpers, the Cranston Volunteers Museum that houses a 1938 REO and 1976 Hahn, East Greenwich Museum that houses several Mack fire trucks from 1938 to 1963. Lunch is included and will be served next door in the East Greenwich Veterans Firemen's Hall. After Lunch, the day will conclude with a tour at the Rhode Island TF Green International Airport Fire Station.

Thursday Afternoon - "Newport Night Excursion" We will board buses at the hotel and head over to Jim Hildebrand's and Ron Chace's "Wires & Fires" Antique Fire Truck Museum on Aquidneck Island. You will be able to view Jim and Ron's collection of 20+ trucks and antique fire apparatus and enjoy an outdoor St. Louis Ribs and Chicken BBQ. The Newport Fire Department will also have some of their fire trucks on display. There will be "old time" music!

Friday - East Bay Fire Museum Tour & Waterfront Fireboat Demo - First stop will be the Central Volunteer Fire Museum in Seekonk, MA with complimentary coffee and donuts provided by the Museum. Next stop will be Seekonk Fire Headquarters, then Jim Viara's Restoration Shop and fire apparatus collection. Lunch is included and will be held at the Narragansett Beer Brewery. A buffet featuring assorted deli meats, salads, and a RI favorite known as "Stuffies" will be served with a cash bar. After lunch we will walk across the street to India Point Park and observe a demonstration by the Providence and East Providence Fireboats.

Friday Afternoon - "Providence Night Excursion" – We will board buses and head to the Providence Firefighter's Hall for an outdoor steak fry with a cash bar. You will be able to relax and enjoy your refreshments on the back deck. As a special added attraction, you will be enjoying the tunes of the "Heavy Rescue Band." This popular band, made up of all Providence firefighters, started off by jamming at the firehouse during their down time. Their music includes R&B, classic and contemporary rock, and dance and funk. They will be performing a mini outdoor concert.

Evening Seminars – We have an interesting variety of seminar topics for both nights.

On **Wednesday**, retired Deputy Asst. Chief Bill Giannini will be giving a presentation on the **1989 Riverside Mill Fire**. This was a five-alarm fire that raged through an old factory complex engulfing buildings in a seven-block area as firefighters struggled in bitter cold weather to contain the flames. The Providence Fire Department called in all off-duty firefighters and requested mutual aid from local departments across the state and as far away as Boston in an effort to keep the flames from spreading beyond the area.

On **Thursday**, retired and active members of the Providence FD will give a presentation on the **History of the Providence Special Hazards Unit**. This 1981 Mack R-Model was the first Heavy Rescue of its kind in the State of RI. The unit was donated by the City to the RI Chapter last year and is presently under restoration.

Muster and Flea Market – Static display only

Banquet – We wrap up the convention Saturday evening with a choice of Grilled NY Sirloin Steak, Chicken Francaise, or Baked New England Scrod.

Schedule

Wednesday, July 12, 2023 (Day 1)

7:30am Registration Opens

8:30am Trolley leaves for **Newport Mansion Tour**.

9:00am SPAAMFAA Committees Meeting

11:45am SPAAMFAA Board of Trustees Luncheon

1:00pm-5:00pm - SPAAMFAA Board of Trustees meeting

7:00pm Seminar #1 – Riverside Mill Fire – PFD Deputy Asst. Chief Bill Giannini

8:00pm – 11:00pm Opening Night Meet & Greet in Hospitality Room

Thursday, July 13, 2023 (Day 2)

7:30am Registration Opens

7:30am Bus leaves – **“West Bay Fire Museum/Station Tour”**

2:30pm Buses Return from museum day tour.

4:00pm Begin boarding buses for **“Newport Night Excursion”** to Wires & Fires
Newport Museum with outdoor BBQ.

7:30pm Bus departs Newport for return to Crowne Plaza

8:00pm Seminar #2 – History of Providence Special Hazards Unit

8:30pm – 11:00pm Hospitality Room

Friday, July 14, 2023 (Day 3)

7:30am Registration Opens

7:30am Bus leaves – **“East Bay Fire Museum Tour & Waterfront Fireboat Demo”**

2:30pm Buses return from day tour.

4:00pm Begin boarding buses for **“Providence Night Excursion”** Outdoor Steak Fry
at Prov. Firefighter's Hall.

7:45pm Bus begins boarding to depart Providence FF's and return to Crowne Plaza

8:30pm SPAAMFAA Membership meeting

9:30pm Chapter Presidents meeting

9:30pm - 11:00pm Hospitality Room

Saturday, July 15, 2023 (Day 4)

8:00 Registration Opens

9:00 Muster begins

10:00am Opening Ceremony

3:00pm Muster ends

6:00pm Cocktail Hour (cash bar)

7:00pm Banquet

**2023 SPAAMFAA NATIONAL CONVENTION & MUSTER JULY 11-15, 2023
CROWNE PLAZA PROVIDENCE-WARWICK (AIRPORT) CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM**

Checks should be Made out to RIAFAS with a memo: 2023 SPAAMFAA Summer Convention. No refunds after May 31, 2023. Hotel Can be booked by calling 401-681-4723 Please use Group Code SPA (no breakfast) or SPB (with breakfast) so that we meet our quota, and you get your low rate

Name: _____
Preferred name for conference badge: _____
Address: _____ Email: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone (____) _____
SPAAMFAA Chapter Affiliation: _____

Apparatus Registration: number of pieces registering _____ @20 each \$ _____

- Use additional pages if necessary.
- SPAAMFAA Safety guidelines in effect at the muster.
- Proof of insurance required.

Apparatus year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____

Specify: ☐ Pumper ☐ Aerial ☐ Rescue ☐ Support Vehicle ☐ Hand Pumper
☐ Steamer ☐ Other – Specify: _____
☐ Privately owned ☐ Department owned
☐ Original ☐ Restored
☐ Centrifugal pump ☐ Rotary Pump ☐ Piston Pump
☐ Hand drawn ☐ Horse drawn ☐ Motorized
☐ Driven to the convention _____ miles, OR
☐ Trailered to the convention _____ miles.

Convention Registration: _____ @ \$15 each \$ _____

Names of additional persons in your party: _____

Flea Market Vendor: spaces 20' x 20' _____ @ \$50 each \$ _____

Convention T-shirts:
____ Sm ____ Med ____ Lg ____ XL ____ 2XL ____ 3XL ____ 4XL @ \$20 each \$ _____

Convention Challenge Coins _____ @ \$10 each \$ _____

Trip to Newport Mansion– (Wednesday) _____ @ \$80 each \$ _____

West Bay Fire Museum Tour – (Thursday) _____ @ \$55 each \$ _____

BBQ @ Newport Museum (Thursday Afternoon) _____ @ \$65 each \$ _____

East Bay Fire Museum Tour (Friday) _____ @ \$55 each \$ _____

Steak Fry @ Providence FF's Hall (Friday Afternoon) _____ @ \$65 each \$ _____

Banquet (Saturday) ____ Steak ____ Chicken ____ Fish _____ @ \$50 each \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Mail this form and your check to:

William Willett, Convention Registration Chairman
RI Antique Fire Apparatus Society
30 Cooper Lane
East Greenwich, RI 02818
Questions: richaq1@verizon.net



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.iscona.az@gmail.com
Bowersbsall17@gmail.com

Phoenix Society of San Francisco – 1932
PO Box 31847
San Francisco CA 94131
phoenixsocietysf@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

THE TACOMA FIRE BUFF BATTALION

“Together, We Stand”

By: Michael J. Grubiak, Ed.D.

Who We Are

We are The Tacoma Fire Buff Battalion, a value-driven, community-focused organization of trained responders who take on-scene care of Tacoma firefighters, members of Local 31 of the IAFF. Our tag line reads, “After they take care of you, we take care of them.”

Together, we stand.

These simple three words describe our mission, our passion, and our commitment.

Our mission: Enhancing the health, welfare, and safety of members of the Tacoma Fire Department by providing emergency incident rehabilitation services.

Our passion: Doing what we love, for those who we love.

Our Commitment:

We promise to be there even when it is personally inconvenient or requires sacrifice. You go, we go.

Together, we stand.

The tragic events of September 11, 2001 revealed three great truths: Heroes are ordinary people who perform extraordinary tasks; what happens to one of us, happens to all of us; and we are placed on this earth to take care of each other. As Tacoma fire buffs, these principles are foremost in our minds and hearts whenever the call comes in. We witness. We serve. We are humbled. We are proud.

Together, we stand.

The Tacoma Fire Buff Battalion recently finished 35 years of service. Toryono Green, chief of the Tacoma Fire Department, in his keynote address at the Tacoma fire buff’s 35th anniversary celebration, told the fire buffs that their service was, “invaluable.” Continuing his remarks he said, “It’s one of the most refreshing things to look up when you are coming out of a building that has been on fire and see the fire buff support vehicle and know there are people waiting for you who got up that evening to take care of you.”

Kris Hampton, previous vice president of Local 31 of the International Association of Firefighters, followed Chief Green by thanking the fire buffs on behalf of all the Tacoma firefighters for taking care of them in all kinds of weather, keeping them warm, dry, and well hydrated and nourished. He emphasized that the fire buffs volunteer time out of their lives to provide this service out of the goodwill of their hearts.

Local 31 continued this sentiment on their social media by posting, “The love for the Tacoma Fire Department is real in this special group of volunteers. The buffs answer the call in the middle of the night and in the rain, cold, snow, and wind, out of their love for the fire service. We are incredibly grateful for their service and friendship.”

Together, we stand.

How We Started

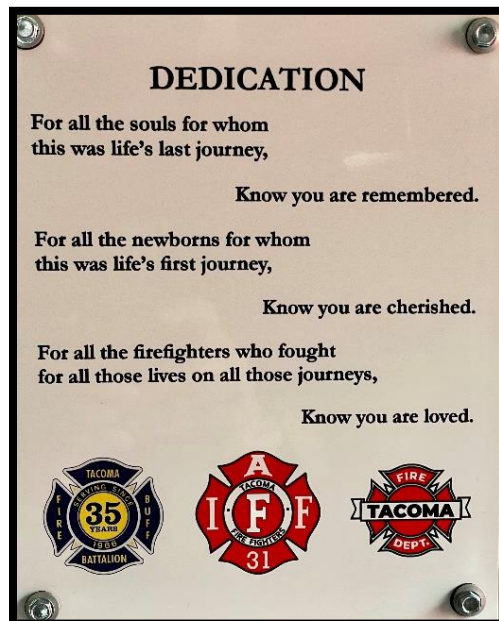
It was a dark and stormy night. Or it wasn't. The pizza had mushrooms, pepperoni, and sausage. Or it didn't. Beer was involved. And it was. It always was.

In 1984, four friends frequently met at Tacoma's famed Cloverleaf Tavern to discuss world events, local politics, baseball, and tales of firefighting. On the evening of November 23, 1986, these four friends, together with two more, became the charter members who served as midwives in the birth of the Tacoma Fire Buff Battalion. Today the organization has grown to nineteen members and a recruitment class of four.

From humble beginnings, working out of the trunks of our cars, we now respond in a converted 2011 GMC NorthStar paramedic rig, purchased from the Tacoma Fire Department. Our call sign is, "Support 1."



Upon taking possession of our new vehicle, we dedicated it to remembering its original lifesaving mission. A plaque on its wall reads:



Together, we stand.

None of this would be possible without our lifelong partnership with Local 31 and the Tacoma Fire Department. Local 31 supports the TFBB through contributions made via voluntary payroll deductions by Tacoma firefighters. The money is used for insurance and upkeep for the Support Unit, for equipment, and for food supplies. Some supplies and equipment are also subsidized by the Tacoma Fire Department through a service contract. Our Fire Buff Battalion has modernized with the help and support of its many partners, but its backbone has always been the sacrifice of its volunteer members who selflessly give of their time at all hours of the day and night and in all kinds of weather. Our members are ordinary people who continue to do extraordinary things.



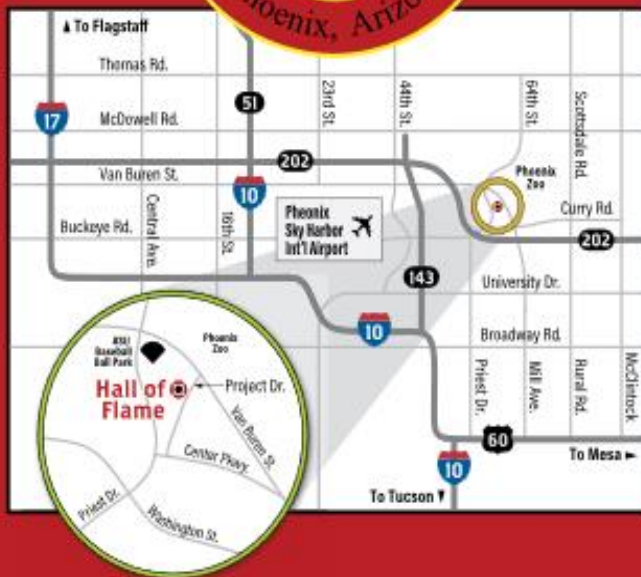
Michael J. Grubiak, Ed.D.
Support 2
Secretary/Treasurer
The Tacoma Fire Buff Battalion

WORLD'S LARGEST FIREFIGHTING MUSEUM



MUSEUM OF
FIREFIGHTING

602.275.3473



LOCATION: The Museum is located on Van Buren Street in the Phoenix Papago Park across from the Phoenix Zoo and next to the ASU Baseball Stadium.

ADMISSION: Check website.
Memberships also available.

MUSEUM HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 6pm
Open all year except holidays, check website.

GUIDED TOURS: Group tours of 10 or more can be arranged by calling the Museum's scheduler at 602.275.3473. Group rates are available. The Museum is available for special functions and events.

The National Historical Fire Foundation is a privately funded, nonprofit institution which supports the Hall of Flame. Your financial contributions support the Hall of Flame's operations and programs. Donations to the Foundation are fully tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

HallofFlame.org | 602.275.3473



MUSEUM OF
FIREFIGHTING

602.275.3473

The Museum of Firefighting is home to the National Firefighting Hall of Heroes and has almost an acre of fire exhibits, over 100 fully restored fire apparatus on display, a children's area, and museum gift shop. Visit us today and learn more about our exhibits, collections and programs.



HallofFlame.org | 602.275.3473



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



GONG CLUB, INC.

JERSEY CITY, NJ

By Ron Jeffers and Paul Schaetzle

ANOTHER NIGHT OF FIRE FOR NORTH HUDSON!

Eerily reminiscent of the simultaneous major fires of December 1, 2022, West New York and Union City gave firefighters from 4 counties all that they could handle on the morning of February 8, 2023! Action began in West New York, as it did on December 1st. North Hudson companies responded at 04:20 hours to 6113 Bergenline Ave., a street famed for its miles of retail occupancies and the site of many a major blaze in the past. Lad. Co. 4, commanded by Capt. Chris Jorquera, had a short 2 block run from their quarters and reported a working fire. A row of 1-story frame taxpayers would challenge firefighters from North Hudson, Bayonne, Kearny, Jersey City and Hoboken for the next 8 hours!

2nd and 3rd Alarms were rapidly transmitted. Fire was roaring through the attached stores. Occupancies included an electronics store, a smoke shop, beauty supply, nail salon, clothing store, a media production studio and restaurants. A total of 9 attached structures would be consumed by fire, ranging from 6107 to 6123 Bergenline Ave. The northern most buildings were 2 stories in height.

Companies took advantage of a tiny street to the west, Van Buren Place, to attack the fire on 2 flanks, but a backdraft ensued, requiring any attempts at an interior attack to be abandoned. North Hudson Tower Ladder 3 and Jersey City Lad. Co. 3 set up master streams in the rear, while North Hudson companies attacked from the front with 2 ladder pipes, 1 squirt, a deck gun and a multiversal. Units dug in for a long operation, with heavy smoke and fire billowing

from the row of stores for hours. Several of the frame structures collapsed, complicating efforts to get at the seat of the fire. Heavy equipment was brought in to start demolition in mid-morning, while master streams continued to pound away. North Hudson Chief of Department David Donnarumma declared the fire under control at 12:30 hours.

In addition to most North Hudson companies working the fire, Jersey City Eng. Co. 7-11-8-9, Lad. Co. 3-2, Batt. 3-1 operated well into the morning. The 5th Alarm at 06:02 hours brought Bayonne Eng. Co. 2, Kearny Eng. Co. 1 and Hoboken Lad. Co. 1. Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, operated for nearly 7 ½ hours, with a crew of 3 serving 6 gallons of coffee, 3 gallons of Gatorade, 5 gallons of hot chocolate, 136 donuts, 2 gallons of oatmeal and 172 bottles of water.

But, just as occurred in December, while all units were heavily engaged in West New York, a pitched battle would be fought in Union City! 4 hours into the West New York fire, numerous calls were received for 1009 Bergenline Ave., Union City, some 50 blocks south of the first blaze. Two reserve North Hudson engines, staffed by recalled personnel, were dispatched, along with 3 companies relocated from Essex County. North Hudson Batt. 1, Batt. Chief Kevin Cowan, took command; reported heavy smoke and ordered a 2nd Alarm.

Fire involved an auto parts store, but rapidly extended in both directions, to a smoke shop and adjacent 3 story buildings of mixed occupancies to the north and south. Once again, the heavy artillery was needed. Montclair Truck 1, Bayonne Ladder 3 and Secaucus Tower Ladder 2 operated their master streams, an

unprecedented mix of ladder companies! An equally odd mix of special units supplied air needed to work in the heavy smoke condition. Mask Service Units from Jersey City, Hackensack and IMTT-Bayonne (an industrial fire department) worked at the scene.

The Union City fire damaged 5 attached structures and displaced some 60 people. In addition to mutual aid from 4 counties, the IFBA Region 9 mutual aid pact was utilized, with the Bayonne Fire Canteen covering for Car 26.

The rundown of this fire is one for the record books!

08:34 1st Alarm NHRFR Eng. 14-15 Bloomfield Eng. 3, Belleville Eng. 1 Montclair Trk. 1

Secaucus Tower Ladder 2

NHRFR Batt. 1

08:35 Working Fire Harrison Eng. 1 NHRFR Div. 2 Batt. 4

08:38 2-2 Secaucus Eng. 1 Bayonne Eng. 6 Kearny Lad. 1

08:45 3-3 Hoboken Eng. 1 Bayonne Lad. 3

08:47 Jersey City strikes their Box 005 Eng. 1-14, Lad. 12, Batt. 5 respond from their quarters to the fire

08:58 4-4

09:01 S/C Bayonne Fire Canteen

09:22 5-5 Bayonne Eng. 6 Hoboken Lad. 1

09:36 Jersey City Eng. 8-9 Lad. 2 Batt. 1 respond from their quarters to fill out the greater alarms



5-5 6107-23 Bergenline Ave., West New York 2/8/23
North Hudson Ladder 4 operates their ladder pipe;
Ladder 3's tower ladder covered the rear on Van Buren Pl.
(Ron Jeffers Photo)



5-5 1005-15 Bergenline Ave., Union City 2/8/23
 Bayonne Ladder 3 operates their ladder pipe;
 Secaucus and Montclair worked the other side of the fire. (Ron Jeffers Photo)

ONEROUS CLOUDS ON OLEAN!

With more and more electrical vehicles hitting the streets, the potential for fires in such vehicles also increases. A course on electrical vehicle fires has been developed by the Jersey City Fire Department and several companies were detailed for this training on the morning of Wednesday, April 5, 2023. Other companies were busy with typical morning chores; daily apparatus checks, housework and some company drills. The weather was cool and cloudy with occasional

drizzle; not a typical Spring day. The activities of most fire companies would soon become atypical as well.

Box 517 was transmitted at 10:12 hours for a reported fire at 197 Olean Ave.; a one-block street running north from Duncan Ave. and dead ending at Holy Name Cemetery. Companies heading downhill from Kennedy Blvd. saw clouds on the horizon, but with the climatic conditions, it was difficult to tell if this was weather or smoke. As Eng. Co. 9 turned into Olean Ave., it was apparent that the clouds were

the latter! "Three story frame; smoke showing from the top floor; working fire" was the report from Capt. Patrick Murphy of Eng Co. 9. Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Tom Jones, was responding from the training session and advised the Field Training Officer, Batt. Chief Joseph Ditommaso, that he would be first due. Smoke was billowing like a tornado from top to bottom at the rear of the building. Fire was extending to the exposure to the north, a 3 story, peaked roof multiple dwelling. Batt. Chief Ditommaso acknowledged Batt. 4's message and immediately transmitted a 2nd Alarm.

The dead-end street hampered apparatus placement; only 3 companies could squeeze into the block. Lad. Co. 9 raised their aerial ladder to the exposure to the south, a 2-story dwelling. Other arriving companies hand lugged ground ladders and additional hose lines to the involved buildings. Squad Co. 4 and Eng. Co. 5 took the rear; positioning their apparatus on Belvidere Ave. A 2 1/2" line was stretched through backyards and operated in the rear of the structures.

Deputy Chief Jack Johnson arrived and assumed command. He struck a 3rd Alarm 5 minutes after the 2nd Alarm had been transmitted. Those companies also parked on Duncan Ave. and had to walk in with their equipment. Fire was now raging in both #197 and #199. Fire was through the roofs; companies were withdrawn and an exterior attack was waged with Eng. Co. 9's deck gun, Lad. Co. 9's ladder pipe and numerous hand lines.

The master streams and hand lines required a copious water supply. A 4th Alarm was transmitted at 10:58. Eng. Co. 10 dropped their entire bed of 5" hose, supplying companies on Belvidere Ave. from a distant hydrant to the west of the fire. The roofs of both buildings partially collapsed, but fire did not extend beyond the 2 buildings initially involved. Fire was declared under control at 13:58, however all units worked until 16:00 before units started taking up. A fire watch consisting of one engine company and one ladder company was maintained through the night. 17 residents were displaced along with several cats, but miraculously, no injuries were reported.

This was the first 4th Alarm in Jersey City since February 11, 2022 and was the longest operation of the year to date. It was a long duration operation for Car 26, the Gong Club canteen as well. A crew of 4 served up 5 gallons of coffee, 4 gallons of hot chocolate, 360 bottles of water, 5 gallons of beef stew and 114 slices of pizza.

Response:

10:12 Box 517 Eng. Co. 9-15-17-Sqd. 4 Lad. Co. 9-3 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 4 FTO
 10:15 WF 517 Eng. Co. 7 Sqd. Co. 1 MSU Batt. 1
 10:16 2-2 517 Eng. Co. 5-1-11 Lad. Co. 4 Batt. 2 Car 3-26
 10:21 3-3 517 Eng. Co. 18-19-14 Lad. Co. 6
 10:58 4-4 517 Eng. Co. 10-8 Lad. Co. 12 Batt. 5



4-4 517, 197-9 Olean Ave., Jersey City
4/5/23
Companies setting up for a long day
(Jim Cullimore Photo)



4-4 517, 197-9 Olean Ave., Jersey City 4/5/23
Mid-day fire means lunch at Car 26; choice of beef stew or pizza! (Ron Jeffers Photo)

CAVEN POINT CONFLAGRATION

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 found the New Jersey area experiencing unseasonably warm temperatures and low humidity. The thermometer reached a high of 74° and a relative humidity of 28%. By the end of the week, temperatures would soar to 89°; summer weather!

These conditions were a recipe for one of the largest fires in Jersey City in some time; indeed, the highest number of alarms ever transmitted! The stage for this action was an all too familiar address; the Reliable Paper Recycling facility at 1 Caven Point Ave. Reliable is one of the largest recycling companies in the Tri-State area, operating a NJDEP licensed and approved multi-use paper recycling facility. The company has been at this location for over 30 years, employing 60 people and operating around the clock, 7 days a week.

As you would expect with such an operation, it is located in an industrial area with limited access where Caven Point Ave. dead ends at a railroad embankment, east of Pacific Ave. The company occupies a large corrugated metal structure used as offices, warehouse and service area for its fleet of trucks. As one might also expect, the facility has been the site of numerous fires, including 3 multiple alarms and several working fires.

Shortly after 14:30 hours on April 11th, Box 697 was transmitted for this address. Eng. Co. 8, commanded by Capt. Omar Manning was first to arrive. "We have large bales of paper; an outside fire and it's going good", reported Capt. Manning, followed by "Let me get a 2nd Alarm". Fire Dispatch acknowledged and advised that the CAD system had a note that there were no working hydrants on the property and to

utilize hydrants at 21 Caven Point Ave. The exposure to the west is a large warehouse building that had recently been converted to a soundstage. Rear access was pretty much non-existent; the base of an elevated roadway leading to New Jersey Turnpike Exit 14B.

Eng. Co. 8 next reported that the outside fire is extending into the building. Capt. Manning later recalled that in what "seemed like 20 seconds", flames had spread from the rear piles and ignited every bale of paper along the west side of the yard. And the bales involved were stacked 3 high, reaching a height of 30' in many places.

Batt. 2, Batt. Chief William Raleigh, arrived and assumed command. The chief calmly reported, "We have a large volume of fire involving bales of paper; exposure problem; a Class 2 warehouse; fire is extending into the exposure". Ladder Tower 4 reported that a 2 ½" line was in the front door of the garage and confirmed extension into the building. Engine companies started laying out to hydrants to supply the tower and Ladder 8's ladder pipe. OEM 2, an Emergency Management unit, reported that fire was encroaching on the NJ Transit Light Rail catenary lines. The Light Rail runs along the east side of the recycling facility and their Operations Center / car barn is to the north of Caven Point Ave. Batt. 2 ordered the power for the Light Rail to be shut down.

As 2nd Alarm companies reported in to the command post, Ladder 4 reported from their bucket that the fire goes all the way around the sides of the building. Res. Co. 1 advised that fire has extended across the building

and into the weeds. Batt. 2, Batt. Chief Raleigh, ordered a 3rd Alarm at 14:48. Car 3, Chief of Dept. Stephan Drennan, arrived on scene and ordered the police to shut down Garfield Ave., a major north / south thoroughfare. Meanwhile, Eng. Co. 13 warned Eng. Co. 22 that their 2nd handline was burning through. Res. Co. 1 reported heavy fire now inside the building but the building is sprinklered. Car 3, Chief Drennan, assigned Eng. Co. 8 to feed the sprinkler connection.

Res. Co. 1 next reported that they were still evacuating workers from the 2nd floor of the building and if the burning piles of paper shatter the windows, they would have fire into the 2nd floor. Batt. 2 responded "Once the building is evacuated, I want you out of the building." The chief also warned Ladder Tower 4 that the building has a truss roof and to stay in the bucket. Deputy Chief William McClintock arrived and assumed command. He immediately special called Ladder 6, but Fire Dispatch advised that they were using a spare, not their usual 95' tower. Deputy Chief McClintock then struck a 4th Alarm.

Fire was now moving quickly in 3 directions. Some 3rd Alarm companies were directed to attack brush fires burning along Light Rail tracks off Phillip St., northeast of the original fire. As companies from other sections of the city rolled in, 2 distinct towering columns of black smoke were visible. 3 master streams were now in operation on the recycling center. Lad. Co. 9, the 4th Alarm truck, was ordered into the soundstage property to the west. They set up a ladder pipe from that vantage point. A 20" main was located on Garfield Ave. and

some engine companies began laying out a 5" supply line some 4 blocks west.

Battalion 3, Batt. Chief Richard Gorman, responded to Phillip St. to take charge of that operation. Chief Gorman reported they were trying to get a knock on the fire. Deputy Chief McClintock transmitted a 5th Alarm and ordered that assignment to respond to Batt. 3's location. Fire Dispatch acknowledged but advised they were awaiting arrival of mutual aid companies into the City before dispatching that assignment. Batt. 3 stated the fire was impinging on the Turnpike and ordered traffic shut down. This would completely close the NJ Turnpike extension that leads to / from the Holland Tunnel; a traffic nightmare as rush hour approached!

Car 4, Deputy Chief Henry Diguilio, arrived on the fireground but advised he would respond to any other incidents in the City. Deputy Chief McClintock gave a progress report, "We have an extensive outside fire; extended to the building. The fire area is 1,000' x 500'. Fire has extended into the railroad cut and the meadows; Batt. 3 is working on that. All hands are working; lotta work!"

It was now one hour into the fire. Batt. 3 stated he needed mutual aid companies to respond onto the Turnpike and start a shuttle operation or the fire would jump the Turnpike. Eng. Co. 18 was on Phillip St., and Eng. Co. 14 was tasked to enter the Turnpike. Meanwhile Fire Dispatch advised that they were getting reports of a grass fire near the Liberty Science Center at 251 Phillip St., a popular tourist destination and museum. North Hudson Eng. Co. 1-9, Lad. Co. 4 and Batt. 1 responded to Box 615.

Deputy Chief McClintock struck a 6th Alarm and ordered all companies on that assignment to respond to the Liberty Science Center. Fire Dispatch advised they had a separate box assignment going to that location; all mutual aid companies.

Eng. Co. 14 made it onto the Turnpike and began knocking down fire with their tank. Batt. 3 reported that they had a knock on the head of the fire, but Deputy Chief McClintock advised that he could see spot fires along the turnpike as far south as Bayview Ave. Car 4, Deputy Chief Diguilio, took command of the Turnpike sector and advised Eng. 14 that the North Hudson companies would respond to their location. With master streams and a decent water supply now in place at the recycling center, Deputy Chief McClintock ordered all 1st Alarm companies to "take a blow at the Gong Club". Car 26 was set up in the soundstage parking lot and was ready for the sudden hoard of customers!

However, a column of smoke was now visible to the south. Car 3, Chief Drennan, reported he could see a column further south of Exit 14C. Batt. 5, Batt. Chief Howard Simone (a recall chief) reported the smoke was from a car fire south of Exit 14B. Car 4 diverted to that location and reported the car was fully involved and he needed an engine and a truck to handle it. When asked if he wanted the North Hudson units or 2 additional companies, Car 4 replied to Fire Dispatch, "Send me whoever is available. It's not like we got a lot of choice!"

The need to get units to the south end of the complex, adjacent to the elevated Turnpike ramp, persisted. "Transmit another alarm", ordered Deputy Chief McClintock at 16:34.

"Have a tower ladder and engine from Kearny respond south on Garfield Ave. from Danforth Ave., then to Caven Point Ave. and make their way to the rear of the building." However, as those units were responding, another brush fire was reported at 99 Caven Point Rd., about a half-mile south. The 7th Alarm assignment was diverted to that location. Car 4 arrived and found it to be smoke from the original fire; no need for any units there. The 7th Alarm continued to their original assigned task and would operate a master stream onto the bales of paper for almost 7 hours.

The fire fight had been in progress for over 3 hours before the original fire was contained and the brush fires were knocked down. Bayonne Chief of Department Keith Weaver, Unit 40, reported that the fire in Liberty State Park had been knocked down; the NJ Forest Fire Service had units on scene and they had established a 5" supply line into the park. Batt. 3 advised he could use a couple of Forest Fire brush trucks along the Turnpike.

With the situation in hand, Deputy Chief McClintock began to release companies where possible. However, a host of companies would operate well into the next day. A recall of off duty personnel was implemented. Those members were grouped into companies and relieved the on-duty Group B personnel to go back to quarters for some much-needed R & R.

A crew of 3 manned Car 26, along with a "secret weapon"! A few short blocks away on Garfield Ave. was O'Leary's Publik House who cranked out 16 pizzas for Car 26. A big thanks to proprietor Kevin Hennessey (a FDJC captain!) and his staff!

In addition to the pizza, Car 26's crew served 4 gallons of coffee, 10 gallons of Gatorade, 1 gallon of hot chocolate and some 560 bottles of water.

This fire was only the beginning of a week from hell! Car 26 would have 8 runs in the next 6 days!

Rundown:

14:34 Box 607 Eng. Co. 8-22-19-9 Lad. Co. 4-8 Res. Co. 1 Batt. 2 Div. 1
14:36 WF 607 Eng. Co. 2 Sqd Co. 1 Batt. 4 MSU

14:36 2-2 607 Eng. Co. 17-13-1 Sqd. Co. 4 Lad. Co. 11 Batt. 3 Car 3-26
14:48 3-3 607 Eng. Co. 5-6-7 Lad. Co. 2 Batt. 1
14:54 S/C 607 Lad. Co. 6
14:59 4-4 607 Eng. Co. 15-18-11 Lad. Co. 9 Car 4-8
15:13 5-5 607 Eng. Co. 10-14 Lad. Co. 7-3
15:36 6-6 607 Bayonne Eng. Co. 6-5-7 Bayonne Lad. Co. 3 Bayonne Batt. 4
16:02 S/C 607 Bayonne Fire Canteen
16:10 7-7 607 Kearny Eng. Co. 1 Harrison Eng. Co. 2 Kearny Lad. Co. 2 Kearny D. C.; Batt. 6
15:29 Box 615 North Hudson Eng. Co. 1-9 Lad. Co. 4 Batt. 1



7-7 607, 1 – 20 Caven Point Ave., Jersey City 4/11/23
Fire on both sides of the street! (Ben Stevens Photo)



7-7 607, 1 – 20 Caven Point Ave., Jersey City 4/11/23
Deputy Chief William McClintock enjoying dinner!
Car 26 served a total of 16 pizzas that day. (Ron Jeffers Photo)



7-7 607, 1 – 20 Caven Point Ave., Jersey City 4/11/23
Operations extended well into the next day! (Warren Zapp Photo)



5-5, 205-11 Jane St., Weehawken 4/12/23
The second of 2 5th Alarms in North Hudson that night! (Adolf Paasburg Photo)

“IT’S JOHN WAYNE TIME,” IN WEEHAWKEN

The following night, Wednesday, April 12, 2023, mutual aid companies from 3 counties would once again roll through the streets of Hudson County! Two major fires occurred almost simultaneously in the North Hudson Regional Fire & Rescue's First Battalion that evening, rapidly involved numerous occupied buildings, putting stress on firefighters and dispatchers. Briefly, the First Battalion exists between the Lincoln Tunnel cut, south to the Jersey City line. Both incidents went to working fire assignments and a second alarm quickly. More alarms would follow.

The first fire was reported on the 400-block of 9th Street, Union City, at 22:36 hours. Upon arrival, companies redirected to the 400-block of 8th Street where the fire origin was found. The

rear wall of a two-story wood-frame dwelling, attached to five others, was showing heavy fire. Lines were stretched and truck work commenced.

Due to radiant heat, the rear wall of a 9th Street dwelling ignited. Some companies were redirected to 9th St. to quell that blaze. By now, a 3rd alarm was struck. Additional alarms, with mutual aid, would follow. Besides 416 8th St., fire extended to 414, 418 and 412.

When the initial alarm for 9th St. was transmitted, a Union City police sergeant was racing down Palisade Avenue to the fire. On the part of Palisade Avenue that borders with Weehawken, a woman jumped in front of his radio car and reported a fire on her side of the street. The sergeant saw flames and called it in; approximately 15 blocks north of the 9th St. fire.

The original alarm for the Weehawken incident, described as a "modified assignment" by the dispatcher, was sent to Dodd St. at 22:39 hours. Eng. Co. 3 and 5, Squad 10, Lad. Co. 4 and Battalion 2 were dispatched. Fire was showing from Dodd Street; however, that was the rear of dwellings that were lit up that face on the 200 block of Jane Street. Companies headed around the block.

Heavy fire was consuming the rear of two dwellings, with flames racing through the interior to the Jane Street side. The 2 ½ story frame dwellings were separated by small alleyways in the densely populated area. Hand lines were set up to protect exposures, which were severely threatened. Flying embers were also rolling over the neighborhood. A 2nd Alarm was transmitted by Battalion Chief Adrian Prunes, but help had to come from a distance due to the other fire. Mutual aid companies headed for both locations.

B. C. Prunes and the members of the three engines and truck company got water on the exposures and held flames at bay until help could arrive. Radiant heat was felt in the street where Ladder 4 was positioned. Residents of homes on the north side of the street got their garden hoses out to wet down their properties.

This sight was reminiscence of a scene from the movie "Backdraft." As a factory building was burning, the second due firehouse had been shut down by city officials. Help was coming from a distance. While getting water, the engine chauffeur radioed to his lieutenant, "Sorry, John Wayne time. You're on your own, boss!"

In time, Kearny firefighters from Engine 1, Tower 2 and Deputy Chief Ed Agnew approached the fire buildings. Jersey City Eng. Co. 7-11, Lad. Co. 3 and Batt. 3 came in on Dodd Street and stretched lines through alleyways to attack the fire from the rear. With more alarms sounded, the Kearny and Jersey City companies were joined by Hoboken Engine

1, Ladder 1, Battalion 1; Bayonne Engines 6, 7, Ladder 3; Belleville Engine 2; Bloomfield Engine 3; Montclair Truck 1; and the Hackensack Mask Service Unit.

With additional manpower, more hand lines were placed into operation and Engine 3's squirt device was set up and used. Ladder 4 backed up from some overhead power lines, and their ladder pipe provided another master stream. Squad 10, hooked up to a hydrant at Jane St. & Hudson Avenue, placed their deck gun into operation.

The two original fire buildings were heavily damaged with neighboring dwellings also sustaining damage. Fifteen residents were displaced, according to North Hudson Chief of Department David Donnarumma. On 8th St., 22 people were displaced, according to the chief. The Red Cross had personnel at both scenes to assist the residents. Car 26 set up on Palisade Avenue, surrounded by engine companies from Hoboken, Bloomfield and Belleville! The Bayonne Fire Canteen covered the 8th St. Blaze. Both fires were classified as 5th Alarms.

During this period, fire companies either worked at fires or relocated to vacant firehouses from the counties of Bergen, Essex and Passaic. This was somewhat of a "rerun" for some of these units. On the morning of February 8th, five-alarm fires involving commercial and mixed occupancy structures in both West New York and Union City brought in a heavy mutual aid assignment to North Hudson. On December 1, 2022, a 4-alarm fire in a large West New York apartment house and a 5-alarm explosion and fire in Union City, back-to-back, also brought in numerous mutual aid fire companies from several counties.

THIRD MAJOR FIRE IN 36 HOURS LEAVES OVER 50 DISPLACED.

A third major fire in a 36-hour period struck North Hudson's First Battalion on the morning of April 14, 2023, displacing over 50 residents. Just after 05:00, an automatic fire alarm assignment was dispatched to 822 19th St., Union City, quickly followed by Fire Control announcing that the assignment was being filled out.

North Hudson Fire Communication Director Joe Isola lives a few doors and he was awoken by people banging on his door reporting a fire. He and first arriving police officers began alerting tenants in a large 3-story corner building to evacuate. In addition, fire was found in a 2-story dwelling at 1902 Kerrigan Ave., adjacent to the corner structure. Those residents were roused out of their beds also.

Heavy fire was consuming the structures and quickly broke through the roof. A 2nd Alarm was struck upon arrival of first-in companies. Hand lines were stretched, but it wasn't too long before a defensive posture was ordered. Local residents said that the 19th Street building had been remodeled several times. Flames lit up the early morning sky, visible for miles.

Master streams, ordered by Deputy Chief Anthony Venezia, were set up, including 2 ladder pipes, a tower ladder and a deck gun. Fire continued to roll around the void areas of the structure and a collapse zone was established. The roof was burned off, and a portion of the top-floor wall, 19th Street side, came crashing down onto the sidewalk.

3rd and 4th Alarms were sounded. The 4th Alarm, at 05:41 hours, brought Jersey City Eng. Co. 7 and 11, Lad. Co. 3, Battalion 3 and the Field Training Officer (FTO) once again directly to the fire. As the sun rose over the city, there

was still heavy smoke coming from the building and an additional part of the 19th Street upper floor area caved in.

With smoke still rising, multiple news helicopters hovered overhead, and the usual morning traffic problems would escalate to a traffic nightmare, which is not uncommon in this area. Hose lines were stretched across Kennedy Boulevard, a block from the scene, shutting down the major Hudson County artery.

Reliefs were made at the scene, as all units were still committed to the fire, when the department changed shifts at 07:30. Jersey City companies also began to be released. Car 26, with a crew of 3, brought cases of water to the command post as well as feeding thirsty and hungry from the rig on 19th St., west of Kerrigan Avenue. 5 gallons of coffee, 5 gallons of Gatorade, 4 dozen donuts and 240 bottles of water were dispensed.

One resident of 822 19th Street suffered burn injuries. The Red Cross was on location to assist the displaced residents. Chief of Department David Donnarumma said the 19th St. building would have to be demolished. The Kerrigan av. dwelling was not inhabitable, but would not require demolition. "As with the other fires, I can't say enough about our partners and how much worse these fires would have been without their assistance", Chief Donnarumma said.

Car 26 had no sooner backed into quarters when it was out the door again, this time to a 2nd Alarm at Box 366, 63 Prospect St., a few blocks from quarters at 12:57 hours. Jersey City companies made quick work of that fire, but it was déjà vu all over again at 15:07 hours. Members had just finished cleaning and restocking the rig when a 3rd Alarm was struck for Box 381, involving several buildings at 11 through 17 Manhattan Ave. Again, a few short blocks from quarters, Car 26 arrived with the 2nd and 3rd Alarm companies. This was the 3rd run of the day and 7th of the week for Car 26!



4-4 822 19th St.; 1902 Kerrigan Ave., Union City 4/14/23
North Hudson Companies again have their hands full! (Ron Jeffers Photo)

4th ALARM “BRUSH” FIRE

The congested streets of Downtown Jersey City would be the last place to envision a multiple alarm brush fire! However, on the pleasant, sunny afternoon of Tuesday, May 30, 2023, the Fire Dispatch Center began receiving numerous calls reporting a brush fire threatening property at 234 Montgomery St. The location is one half block west of City Hall on Grove St., an old section of the city filled with buildings of every shape and size. As Box 128 was transmitted at 14:28 hours, calls were also received reporting a fire in the rear of 55 Mercer St., the next street to the north.

Eng. Co. 2 arrived and found much more than a brush fire. Indeed, it appeared the fire originated in a large pile of tree limbs and other

cut up vegetation, but Capt. Terence Cooks reported “Heavy fire in the rear behind the church; make this a Working Fire”. Batt. 1, Batt. Chief Patrick Nestor, was right behind Eng. 2 and ordered Sqd. Co. 1 to report with tools to open up a wrought iron fence of a 2 ¼ story church at 238 Montgomery St. The fire had extended into a vacant 3-story frame structure and an occupied frame building at #236, immediately east of the Jersey City Spanish Seventh Day Adventist Church. Lad. Co. 2, Capt. Chris Daliani, reported they had gained access to the 2nd floor and confirmed the fire building is 234 Montgomery St.

Deputy Chief Joseph Menendez assumed command and ordered Eng. Co. 10 and Lad. Co. 12 to respond. Batt. 1 reported heavy smoke on the top floor. D. C. Menendez immediately

ordered a 2nd Alarm but his transmission was stepped on by heavy radio traffic. Fire Dispatch asked for a repeat and then asked to confirm the 2nd Alarm, which was then transmitted.

Eng. Co. 2 now reported heavy fire coming from the roof. D. C. Menendez next reported "3 story frame attached; 3 story frame extending into the exposure; transmit a 3rd Alarm". He next ordered Eng. Co. 5 to drop a 5" supply line and go out to Grove St. and take a large main. Sqd. Co. 1 advised they were stretching a line to #236 on the 3rd floor with Lad. Co. 3 and would open up the 3rd floor. Sqd. Co. 4 reported they were making good progress in the fire building.

Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Kenneth Simone, gave an urgent message about the 3rd floor, followed by "Urgent! Urgent! Urgent! Stair collapse, 3rd floor". D. C. Menendez requested EMS to respond and ordered Res. Co. 1, "need you to get in there and make sure all the members are OK". Capt. Michael Davis of Res. Co. 1 responded "We have the member who was in the debris". Batt. 4 next reported that all were accounted for and "we're bringing everybody out". Car 4, Acting Chief of Dept. Henry DiGuilio, arrived on scene as the members were exiting the building. D. C. Menendez ordered an evacuation of the fire building and that Fire Dispatch sound the evacuation tones.

Batt. 3, Batt. Chief Jose Colon, reported he was with Eng. Co. 2 and there is a 2-story rear extension where the fire appeared to originate. D. C. Menendez responded that he wanted everyone out of the structure. His aide ordered a roll call to commence, but the Deputy Chief asked Fire Dispatch to hold off until he got everyone out of the structure. Res. Co. 1 next reported that they had multiple holes cut and fire was coming through them. D. C. Menendez ordered the company off the roof. Lad. Co. 12 reported that they were in the rear, next to the church and were setting up their aerial.

Fire was now extending into the exposure building. Batt. 3 reported heavy smoke coming from floors 2 and 3 of the exposure. After confirming everyone was out, Batt. Chief Colon said "heavy fire showing; we're gonna hit it from the exterior". Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Simone, further reported that the main circuit breaker for the building was on fire, they couldn't put water on it and need the power shut down. Res. Co. 1 reported they were taking windows out on the 3rd floor. Batt. 2, Batt. Chief Joseph Vallo, asked for 2 companies with saws to report to the roof of the exposure. He next reported that companies were opening up on the 2nd floor, but fire was pushing into the 3rd floor and there was heavy arcing in the east wall. D. C. Menendez asked for Public Service Electric & Gas to respond as soon as possible.

With heavy fire now extending into the exposure, D. C. Menendez ordered a 4th Alarm at 15:04. He ordered all units out of the structure and would go defensive. However, after the fire darkened down, companies re-entered and expended considerable effort to open up "old-fashioned" tin ceilings and tile walls of bathrooms to extinguish hidden fire within the walls. Lad. Co. 4 reported they had a 4' x 4' hole cut in the exposure roof, but had heavy smoke pushing out of the "C-D" corner. Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Simone, replied, "I want a hole the size of a Cadillac; open up the whole roof if you have to"! Ladders 2 and 9 joined in the effort and after another 40 minutes of hard work, companies gained the upper hand. D. C. Menendez placed the fire under control at 16:20.

Ongoing construction impeded access at York and Barrow Streets, but Car 26 crossed through the work site and set up at Barrow & Montgomery Streets. A crew of 3 dispensed 1 gallon of coffee, 10 gallons of Gatorade and some 296 bottles of water. Despite the harrowing stair collapse, only 6 firefighters were injured, fortunately all minor.

Response:

14:28 Box 128 Eng. Co. 2-6-5-1 Lad. Co. 6-2 Sqd.
Co. 1 Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 1

14:31 WF 128 Sqd. Co. 4 Lad. Co. 3 Batt. 4 MSU
High Rise / Tunnel Unit

14:33 S/C 128 Eng. Co. 10 Lad. Co. 12

14:35 2-2 128 Eng. Co. 9-7-8 Lad. Co. 4 Batt. 3
Car 4-26

14:36 3-3 128 Eng. Co. 22-18-15 Lad. Co. 9 Batt.
2

15:04 4-4 128 Eng. Co. 13-14-17 Lad. Co. 11



4-4 128, 234-6 Montgomery St., Jersey City 5/30/23

A well placed multiversal protects the exposure (Andrew Rhode Photo)



4-4 128, 234-6 Montgomery St., Jersey City 5/30/23
Car 26 caring for the troops (Ron Jeffers Photo)

A CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Jersey City Chief of Department Steven McGill hung up his helmet on March 1, 2023, capping a 35 plus year career, the last 6 as Chief. The Gong Club wishes Chief McGill a long and a healthy retirement. The Jersey City Police and Fire Departments moved to a new 11 story headquarters at 2 Jackson Square in the Greenville section of the City in April 2023. The new office has a new occupant, Deputy Chief Stephan Drennan has been provisionally appointed

Chief of Department. Chief Drennan is one of the members of the famed Drennan Family of the FDJC. At one point, the Drennan Family had 13 members serving on the Department. \

Chief Drennan has certainly had a baptism under fire; there have been 18 multiple alarms since he took office as of June 1, 2023! We wish Chief Drennan a successful, but hopefully quieter tenure!



June 2023

To: All Hands,

Since the first day that the NYCFire.net website became operational, the volunteer staff has strived to ensure that it welcomes all viewers and members in a friendly manner. To be honest with you, I have seen friendships start on this site that have turned into a so-called family relationship, something that the fire service is noted for - brotherhood. I have heard of former friends and co-workers being reunited because of this website after years of separation. I consider NYCFire.net members as part of my family, I hope you do too!

Over the years some of the members have held small gatherings, touring fire department stations, repair facilities, and communication offices, but most of all, afterwards, gathering around a table and talking with each other face to face. Members have traveled across country and even across the pond to meet their new friends, who later on became brothers. Information was exchanged and the relationships grew stronger. What started as a one- or two-day visit extended into three-day and four-day adventures. Then came COVID & the whole world stopped!

We were forced to stay home. Travel in all forms was greatly diminished and our circle of in-person visits was exceedingly slashed. However, the use of the Internet was significantly increased. A tech genius developed an innovative idea that permitted people to meet virtually via the Internet and see each other as they spoke. So, the powers that be at NYCFire.net liked the idea and started to test this innovation. Using the Zoom platform, monthly meetings are being held each month, on the first Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. (NY time). Normally, there are one or more guest speakers, but the meetings have gone on afterwards for hours, with members gathering over the virtual firehouse kitchen table to chat. The subjects vary monthly from history, 'The War Years', to modern day problems. Presentations have included 'Today's Super Pumper'. Are you aware that these pumpers have already been in use for years across the states? New Jersey has had one for a few years now. Whether you were on the job or not, from NYC or elsewhere, all are still welcomed to join in.

The site's membership is composed of people from numerous backgrounds. Just take a look at the knowledge of our current staff members and see the levels of fire service experience that they possess:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| • Firefighter: | Paid, Volunteer, & Military |
| • Fire Officer: | Lieutenant, & Captain |
| • Chief Officer: | Battalion, Division, & Staff |
| • EMS: | Emergency Medical Technician & Paramedic |
| • Communications: | Dispatcher, Supervisor, & Chief |
| • Educators | EMS, Haz-Mat, Operations, Standards, Codes, College Fire Science |
| • Management Experience: | Field & Headquarters |

Other related jobs:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Fire Marshal | Municipal, State & Federal |
| • Engineer | Fire Protection |
| • Military Veterans | Enlisted & Senior Officer |
| • SWAT Medic | |
| • Emergency Management | |
| • News Media | |
| • Buffs | |

Now think about the 9400 plus members of this site and all the talent that they possess and are willing to share with you! As a member you are entitled to ask questions on the site.

Since this past March, I have reached out to over four thousand members via E-mail. I am sorry to say that I learned of the passing of a few members, other E-mails bounced or were blocked. Possibly others forgot to reply. We are all human.

In case you did not receive an E-mail from me, Atlas@NYCFire.net, you are being requested to contact me with your legal name, site name, and E-mail address. If you forgot your site name, I just might be able to help you out. I would need the E-mail address that you registered with. In case you don't remember, it's like baseball, you get more than one strike.

If your problem is more serious, maybe you changed E-mail addresses, I will transfer your information to our tech services staff, who will attempt to correct the situation and re-activate your site name. Yes, we all forget things, so don't be bashful!

For those who have been visiting our site anonymously over the years, I would like to 'Thank You,' but also ask you to join. Why not? It's FREE!!! Your membership helps keep the site operational. This year we have already had over seven hundred persons on the site at one time. Visitors and members come from around the world, viewing the information that is posted. This is your site and you, the membership, do the posting. But you do have to be a member in order to post or reply.

So, please take the time out to reply directly to me at Atlas@NYCFire.net, listing your legal name, screen name, E-mail address. This information is confidential and only used for site management. I will make it easy for you. Just copy & paste the below format & send it to me. If you are interested in attending the Zoom Meetings, your information will be added to that growing list.

Screen name: _____

Legal Name: _____

____ I would like to attend the Zoom Meetings.

____ I am interested in the website.

Any Comments:

Thanks!

Atlas\ Ken

Site Moderator

Repurposed



By Nicholas Segarra, NYCFire.net
1941 International Sealand



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.reguin@ucmu.com



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

Greetings from Southern Ontario where the 2023 fire buffing season took flight on May 13 with our first photo tour of the year. 16 members and 6 guests spent a sunny, warm day visiting the 3 fire stations in each of the cities of Thorold and Welland and photographing 27 pieces of apparatus. Both of these cities are situated in the Region of Niagara west of Niagara Falls and straddling the Welland Canal, Thorold to the north and Welland to the south.



Group photo – May 13, 2023

photo courtesy of Gary Dinkel

Thorold Fire and Emergency Services is a composite department with 18 career and 110 paid on call staff manning 10 pieces of apparatus running out of 3 stations, Stn 1 is downtown, #2 in Thorold South and #4 is in the rural southwest part of the city. Pumper 1 is manned 24/7 by the full time staff and the paid on call members man all the other apparatus. The department protects a population of over 18,000 persons in an area of 83 Sq. km.



Thorold Aerial 2 2018 [Rosenbauer](#) Commander R6000 100' Platform 1750/420/25F R. Rupert photo



Thorold Pumper 1 - 2020 [E-One Typhoon](#) 1258/833/25F SO#143107

R. Rupert photo



Thorold Pumper 3 - 2020 Ram 5500 4x4 / [HME Ahrens-Fox](#) 1050/250 J#23285 R. Rupert photo

Welland Fire and Emergency Services is also a composite department with 48 career and between 60 & 70 volunteer firefighters manning 10 pieces of apparatus out of 3 stations. A full time crew is assigned to each station with volunteers manning the other apparatus out of stations 1 & 2. They protect a population of approximately 56,000 persons living in an area of 81.2 sq. km.



Welland Aerial 1 - 2022 [Pierce Enforcer](#) Notched 7010 107' Platform 1665/420/17F J#37849 R. Rupert photo



Welland Pumper (new) - 2023 [Pierce Saber](#) 7010 1250/850/17F J#37965

R. Rupert photo



Welland Pumper 2 - 2015 Spartan Metro Star MFD / Arnprior 1250/400 S#77512

R. Rupert photo



Welland Pumper 6 - 2008 Freightliner M2 112 / [E-One](#) 1250/894 SO#134911

R. Rupert photo



Welland Tanker 6 - 2016 Freightliner M2 112 / [Arnprior](#) 420/2640 V#GZ5587

R. Rupert photo

Note: all pump, water and foam tank capacities are in Imperial gallons.

We have 4 more photo tours planned for the rest of this year and all are welcome to attend. They are: part of Oxford County in June; a 2 day tour of Mississauga in July; Pearson Airport & Milton in August and visits to 3 antique apparatus collections in the Chatham-Kent area in September. Check our website: www.ofba.ca for the exact dates. The first Saturday in November will see our Annual General Business meeting at the Toronto Fire Academy in the morning followed by our 32nd Annual Fire Service Collectibles Show from 11:30 am till 3 pm. In addition at least seven of our members plan on attending the Milwaukee convention in August. Stay safe and will see you then.

Fire Chief (Ret) Robert C. (Bob) Rupert

President, Ontario Fire Buff Associates

Montreal Auxiliary Firefighters



The past few months have been busy for us as we responded to many multiple alarm fires, fire department medal ceremonies and parades. The next few months will be challenging for us as we are already scheduled for many more events.



Representing the city, the fire department and the union keeps us occupied, and finding the right balance between volunteer services, work and home life can be challenging, but we do our best not to miss what is important to our mission.





With summer right around the corner we need to be prepared to respond to all 2nd alarm fires and deal with the high heat and humidity that we know is on the way. Misting fans, showers, and Kore Kooler chairs are vital pieces of equipment that we use to help reduce body temperature. With many new members added to our roster, rehab training is a must.



Things have been quiet in the shop where we work on our fleet of antiques. Our workspace is shared with the fire department and now there are some major remodeling/renovations going on in the building. Space has been reduced making it complicated to work on the trucks. We have sent out 1953 Dodge Fargo, one of the original canteens, for professional restoration, and we hope to have an update for everyone soon.



The museum renovations are finally complete. We have taken the extended closure to bring our cataloguing up to date and 90% of the artifacts have been put back on display. Many hours have been taken to clean and reorganize the museum, we hope to be open to the public in a couple of weeks with a new and exciting look to our inventory.

We are working with the fire department and fleet division on plans for a new canteen, with this vehicle replacing our spare 1990 canteen. Work is slow, but exciting as we get to design the interior space as we feel is needed. As a spare canteen, we need to ensure that we can cover all eventualities, extreme heat, bitter cold, part of a team, yet independent. It's a tall task, but we are up to it. We will update everyone with all the details as the projects takes flight.

We wish everyone a safe, happy, and healthy summer!

See you all in Milwaukee





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



Box 55, Nashville
Screen grab

Reflections

Bernard Grandjany

Fire Bell Club, New York

Bernie's family moved to New York City from Europe during World War II. As a teenager, he hung around at the original station of Engine 40/Ladder 35 at W. 62nd St., and 10th Ave. before the Lincoln Center was built.

He joined the auxiliary fire corps in the 1960's and then joined the American Red Cross. He served as Assistant Director of Disaster Services for New York City for 25 years assisting people who had suffered and lost from fires. He also arranged compassionate leave for military service members with family emergencies.

Bernie has been a member of the Signal 6-6 Club, Association of Auxiliary Firemen of NYC, the Third Alarm Association and is presently a member of the Fire Bell Club. He authored the Third Alarm Association newsletter, because he felt that the fire service needs a reporter and statistician. The Third Alarmer chronicled in detail the activities of the FDNY during pivotal 1960s.

He first attended IFBA annual conventions in Baltimore, Chicago, Boston, and Milwaukee in the 60s. He admired and visited those clubs that operated canteens - in his words, the working clubs. He has written articles for Turn Out from those times.

Bernie's most memorable events were responding with the Third Alarm/American Red Cross canteen to fires in Manhattan, particularly in the warehouse district area between 11th Ave., 12th Ave. and the 30s.

His most exciting moment was watching the Super Pumper system knock down building walls with its turret.

"Buffing taught me about the people in many organizations that are working to save lives and to prevent loss of life and property. Fire buffing taught me to understand the causes and effects of fire."

"I learned how people suffer when families are burned out, and it inspired me to be among the people that help them. What buffing teaches is knowing the values of life and how quickly they can be lost."

"For a young person it is an introduction to what life is all about and the many things that can happen."

Bernie is 93 years old.



SPECIAL FEATURE

National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend 2023





Many Canteens Participate in the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service

By Chris Oliphant
Friendship Fire Association
Canteen Coordinator for the Memorial Service

During the weekend of May 5th through the 7th, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation held it's annual Memorial Weekend to HONOR and REMEMBER 144 Line Of Duty Deaths for 2022. I was tasked as the Canteen Coordinator for all canteen requests.



On Friday May 5th, we had Washington County Rehab 255 posted at Liberty Resort for credentialing. Saturday May 6th, Greater Springfield VFD (VA) provided Canteen 422 and Canteen 422B during Rehearsal and for the Red Helmet Ride. Anne Arundel Alarmers used Rehab 2 for the start at Anne Arundel FD HQ in Millersville, MD. Upon arrival at Walkersville VFD, the ride was greeted by Kensington Canteen 705 and Prince George's Rehab Support 800.



During the Candlelight service Saturday evening the Canteen from Highway 58 in TN provided service. An early morning started on site around 6am Sunday May 7th, for the Memorial Service bringing in Canteen Units from Independent Hose Company 1 (Frederick MD), Friendship Fire Association (Washington, DC), Box414 Association (Baltimore, MD) and Philadelphia Second Alarmers (Philadelphia, PA).



In Addition to the Canteens pictured on the cover page, four additional non-IFBA canteens participated.



All said and done, ten different Canteen organizations provided service during the weekend. On behalf of @NFFF_News thanks each organization for participating and making the weekend a success. It should be noted that a Fire Department canteen has been part of the annual service since 2001.



Elliot Goodman & Chris Oliphant photos

Necrology Report

ROBERT BOWERS

JAMES FLAHERTY

CHESTER T. LAUCK

EDWARD MCMICHAEL

HALL OF FLAME, ARIZONA

BOSTON SPARKS

OLD DOMINION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INDIANAPOLIS FIRE BUFFS

Rest in Peace

9/11 Memorial: To Lift a Nation Sculpture

By Sheena Chi
Photo by H L Silver



On September 11, 2001, in New York City the World Trade Center (WTC) was attacked by terrorists. American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 were hijacked and flown into the Twin Towers. At Ground Zero amid all of the chaos three New York City firefighters raised the American flag as a symbol of freedom.

"To Lift a Nation" is a 40-foot-tall, eight-foot-wide bronze monument that honors those who gave their lives on September 11, 2001. The sculpture was created by artist Stan Watts and is modeled after Thomas E. Franklin's "Ground Zero Spirit" photograph for the "Bergen Record" of three firefighters raising the American flag at New York's Ground Zero. Watts states the firefighter statue and flag symbolize hope and courage despite the impact of deep tragedy.



TIMELY TOPICS

Watermarking of Photos - CFPA

Glenn Duda, Connecticut Fire Photographers

Foremost there is no sure fire way to stop people from stealing photos. A watermark is a faint logo or word(s) superimposed over the top of the photo. The idea of placing a watermark on your photos is so that others will not want to try to copy and use the photo without permission.

A. pros and cons of watermarking -

1. Pros-

- watermarks are free advertising for you or your site.
 - they do deter people from using your photos. They keep people honest.
 - they make people hesitant to share the photo as well. Such as social media networks.
- This can be considered pro or con

2. Cons -

- Some people are turned off by watermarks.
- they can be removed by someone good with Photoshop skills or the use of other programs.
- can make a picture look cheap or ruin the visual effect of the photo. Dominate the photo.

B. Options to watermarking photos:

- Purposely degrade the picture quality
- use a smaller dpi
- make the size of the photo smaller so that if it is printed it comes out bad.
- do not use the original.

C. If you must watermark -

- **Important** - make sure you do not watermark the original photo, save it as a copy.
- Make it subtle using opacity
- Come up with a logo or use a nice, different font.
- List only URL or Name make it easy for people to find you - not the copyright symbol, phrases, etc
- or all of this together.
- Consider hiding the watermark somewhere in the photos - creativity.
- Decide where you want to place it, across the pic, at the bottom, etc.

D. Programs used to create watermarks:

1. i-Watermark
2. Light Image Resizer
3. photoshop
4. Digimarc
5. Watermarker.com

E. Other Programs:

1. Want to see if someone is using your pictures?
2. TinEye
3. Google image search

Reflections

Kent Cullom
California

I was born, raised and lived my whole life in Santa Monica, CA. I got my interest in the fire service from my older brother who always wanted to be a firefighter & retired as a Captain with the Santa Barbara Co, FD. As kids, we rode our bikes all over Los Angeles to photograph fire apparatus, making a couple of trips a year to the Crown Firecoach factory in downtown LA and also visit some fire stations and the LAFD shops, in all about 35 miles. When we were old enough to drive we expanded our range of travel & the number of trips. Sometime in the 60's I joined the local fire buff club, the Box 15 of Los Angeles. While in college In the 70's I started attend Firemen's Musters all over CA. At these muster & regularly ran into volunteers with the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation & they eventually got me to start volunteering for the Burn Foundation & was eventually elected to the So CA chapter as President and then to the statewide executive board and also a Burn Foundation representative to the CA State Firefighters Association which put me in contact with FD's & Firefighters statewide.

In 1980, I became the Santa Monica FD's photographer & helped at department public education events. In 1981 I got my 1st full time job working for the AAA-Auto Club of Southern CA, which I retired from after 32 years. During that time I was one of their top producers and in turn they were very good in letting me take off extra time for FD's activities in Santa Monica and statewide. I had the opportunities to travel to conferences & visit FD's and fire apparatus manufactures all over the US & Canada, to to mention non fire related points of interest.

In 1989 I became a charter member of the Crown Firecoach Enthusiast, the Southern CA chapter of SPAAMFAA. During my years at AAA, I attended the SPAAMFAA Conferences all over the country & was eventually elected to the National Board of Directors and was also a liaison between SPAAMFAA & the IFBA.

Between taking care of my 97 year old Mother & the pandemic, my activities have slowed down but I still get out whenever possible.

In all my years I have managed to collect a vast photographic collection (250,000+) and I also have an extensive fire service shoulder patch collection plus badges, challenge coins & Code-3 collectibles collection.

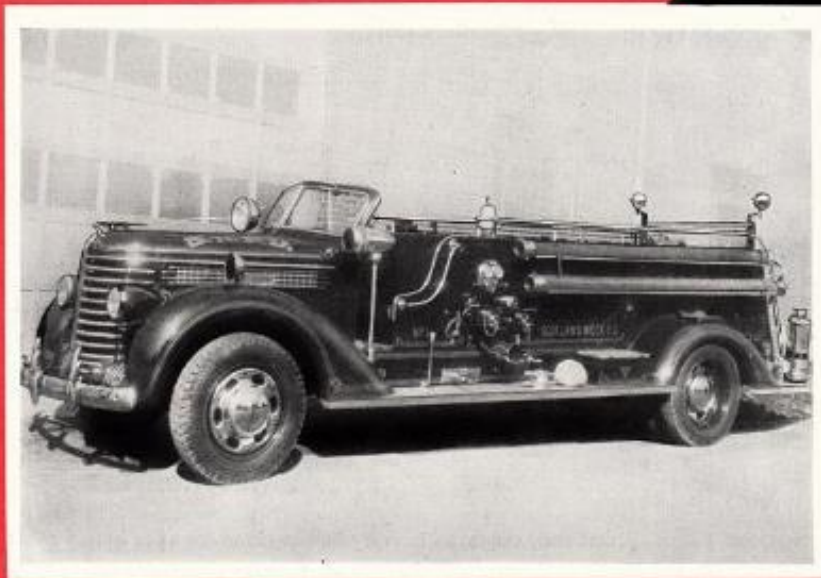
Besides being a member of the Box-15 Club-Los Angeles (IFBA), I also am a member of National SPAAMFAA & local SPAAMFAA chapters, Crown Firecoach Enthusiast, CA Chapter, Pacific Northwest Chapter & Pennsylvania Pump Primers. I am also a member of the Fire Museum Network & the Southern CA Assoc. of Foresters/Fire Wardens & a life member to the Los Angeles FD Historical Society, the CA Fire Museum & CA State FF's Assoc.

After living in the rat race for 72 years (So CA), I have had a house built In the hills above Kingman, AZ and I am in the slow process of moving all my stuff from CA to AZ, but will still be close enough to CA to commute to meetings & other events as needed.

Kent Cullom, Box-15 Club of Los Angeles (kentsmfd@gmail.com)



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