

TURN OUT

SUMMER 2024



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

Ken Beliveau

ken.beliveau@ifba.org

Editorial Staff

Mike DeWalt, Consulting Editor

mike.dewalt@ifba.org

Ignatius Kapalczynski, Editor & Committee Chair

ig.kapalczynski@ifba.org

Publication News

This issue was possible thanks to the consistent, reliable, and top-quality contributions from many of our clubs. Numerous individuals are also contributing content on their own. Welcome all and thanks.

Some clubs and individuals choose to participate only on Facebook. As a member supported publication, Turn Out does not generate content on its own nor does it mine Facebook for content that would be a duplication. Facebook participation should not exclude Turn Out contributions.

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

“Reflections” is a popular feature. All are welcome to share a few thoughts about the meaning of fire buffing in their lives.

Only 12 issues are missing from the Turn Out archive. Do you have any tucked away or forgotten?

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

Cover

Box 414 of Baltimore providing rehab and refreshment.

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.”



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 interest 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 necessity 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

2025 Winter Spring issue – deadline December 31, 2024.

Summer 2024



TABLE OF CONTENTS

IFBA Association News

IFBA Boards and Committees	6-8
Chairman of the Board.....	10
President's Report	
Executive Vice President.....	
Executive Board Meeting	
Meet Your Executive Board.....	
Executive Office Reports	
Annual Business Meeting.....	
Director of Publicity Report	
Past Presidents' Report	
Vice President at Large Report	10,60
2024 Convention Committee Report .	
Committee Reports.....	12-17
Awards Guidelines.....	19-20
Fire Buff of the Year	
IFBA Online Store.....	
Events & Dates	
Necrology Report.....	156
Convention Information	
2024 Richmond Convention	22-27
Hotel & Registration	27
Special Features	
Reflections.....	62,71,113
Welcome to Newbies	153
Timely Topics	
Removing Unwanted I-phone Items....	151

Region 1

Vice President's Report	29.
Connecticut Fire Photographers	30
Old School Fire Photographers.....	40
Box 61 Club	
Southern Maine Fire Notification	
Boston Sparks Association	
Box 52 Association.....	
The Leather Helmet Society 5A	44
Providence Citywide Fire Network	
Special Signal Fire Association.....	

Region 3

Vice President's Report	
Friendship Fire Association	63
Anne Arundel Alammers	
Box 234	
Box 414 Association	51
SHC Assn	
Greater Springfield VFD	
Metro Richmond Flying Squad	48
Old Dominion Historical Fire Society .	

Region 5

Vice President's Report	
Crescent City Blazes	67
Signal 51 Group	
Firefighting Historical Society.....	
Box 4 Fire Buff Association	72
Fort Worth Red Helmets	
Greater Houston Fire Battalion	



Region 6

Vice President's Report	
5-11 Club	
Metro Emergency Support Services	
Indianapolis Fire Buffs	
Metropolitan Fire Associates	
Moline Second Alarmers	
Box 42 Associates	
Extra Alarm Assn of the Twin Cities	
Box 8 Club of Saint Louis	
Box 15 Club	84
West Licking Firefighters Assn	
Western Reserve Fire Buffs Assn	74
Western Reserve Fire Museum	
Milwaukee Fire Bell Club	
Milwaukee Fire Historical Society	
Racine Fire Bells	

Region 7

Vice President's Report	
Hall of Flame Museum	114
Box 15 Club of Los Angeles	108
Fire Associates of Santa Clara	113
Phoenix Society	
Tacoma Fire Buff Battalion	111

Region 9

Vice President's Report	
Bayonne Fire Canteen	
Bell & Siren Club	
Box 54 Club	
County Wide Emergency	
Response Team	
Gong Club	117
Fire Bell Club of New York	125
NYCFire.net	131
Philadelphia Second Alarmers	
Passaic County Vol Rehab Canteen	
SPAAMFAA	65

Region 10

Vice President's Report	
Box 43 Association	
Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Assn	
Ontario Fire Buff Associates	95
Box 690 FD Canteen	
Club Appel 99 Quebec	
Pompiers Auxiliaires Lanaudiere	
Pompiers Auxiliaires de la Montérégie	
Pompiers Auxiliaires Montréal	134
Unite Communautaire Montérégie	

Region 11

Vice President's Report	146
Metropolitan Fire Association	149
Box 55 Association	147
South Florida Rehab & Emergency	
Support Team	
Wilson County	

BOARDS and COMMITTEES

2023/2024

Executive Board

execboard@ifba.org

regionalvps@ifba.org

Position	E-mail	Officer
President	president@ifba.org	Steve Korb
Chairman of the Board	chairman@ifba.org	Ken Beliveau
First Vice President	1stvp@ifba.org	Charles Lewis
Second Vice President	2ndvp@ifba.org	Joe Sullivan
Immediate Past President	pastpresidents@ifba.org	Bob Ristic
Executive Vice President	executiveoffice@ifba.org	Steve Garnett
Treasurer	treasurer@ifba.org	Paul Schaetzle
Secretary	secretary@ifba.org	Gerry Mahoney
Vice President Region 1	region1vp@ifba.org	Rick Conway
Vice President Region 3	region3vp@ifba.org	Charles Lewis
Vice President Region 5	region5vp@ifba.org	Tom McDonald
Vice President Region 6	region6vp@ifba.org	Dennis Ahrens
Vice President Region 7	region7vp@ifba.org	Dan Wolfe
Vice President Region 9	region9vp@ifba.org	Conni Spellman
Vice President Region 10	region10vp@ifba.org	Bob Rupert
Vice President Region 11	region11vp@ifba.org	Dave Williams
Vice President at Large	atlargevp@ifba.org	Joe Sullivan
Director of Publicity	directorofpublicity@ifba.org	Stuart Nathan

CFSI

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, Chair	ken.beliveau@ifba.org
Dennis Ahrens	dennis.ahrens@ifba.org
Steve Korb	rvaflingsquad@gmail.com
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, Chair	gerard.mahoney@ifba.org
Don Schmidt	DLS@PreparednessLLC.com
Dave Williams	dave.williams@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

Fire Buff of the Year

fboy@ifba.org

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

Historical

historical@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Ignatius Kapalczynski	ig.kapalczynski@ifba.org
Wally Banks	wally.banks@ifba.org
Ken Beliveau	ken.beliveau@ifba.org
Mike DeWalt	mike.dewalt@ifba.org
Daniel Rode	drode343@gmail.com
Chris Kelley	mweelin@comcast.net
Bill Mokros	bill.mokros@ifba.org
Charles Tentas	Cm10tas@comcast.net

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
Dan Wolfe, Co-Chair	dan.wolfe@ifba.org
Matt Ford, Co-Chair	matt.ford@ifba.org
Thomas Bilbrey	thomas.bilbrey@ifba.org
Wally Banks (Virtual Meetings)	wally.banks@ifba.org
Ian Duke	ian.duke@ifba.org
Cody Daniels	cody.daniels@ifba.org
Bill Mokros	bill.mokros@ifba.org
Conni Spellman (Face Book)	auntconni@hotmail.com

Past Presidents

pastpresidents@ifba.org

Member Name	Member Email
Rick Conway, Chair	richardaconway@comcast.net
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

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
Ken Beliveau	ken.beliveau@ifba.org
Vacant	

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
Dan Wolfe	dan.wolfe@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

Membership and Organization Business

– executiveoffice@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

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Essex County Fire Wardens held in Georgetown Massachusetts it was voted to Dissolve the ECFWA as of December 31, 2023 The remaining assets of the club will be split between the Shriner Hospital and the American Hand Engine Society Museum

If you are NOT interested in being on committee any more, please inform me, Steve Garnett and that committee chair so we can get your email removed from the group email.

Committee Chairs, is there anyone that you know wants to be removed or added to your committee? Please get back to me.

Committee Changes

Convention/Education
Ken Beliveau, Chair

Constitution & By-laws
Dennis Ahrens, Chair

Fire Buff of the Year
Tom McDonald, add

Historical
Charles Tentas, add

Information Technology
Dan Wolfe, Co-chair
Matt Ford, Co-chair

Turn Out
Ken Beliveau, add

Recruitment & Retention
Dan Wolfe, add



IFBA
Committee
Reports



Retention and Recruitment *Engaging our Future*

Report of the Retention and Recruitment Team **For presentation at the Spring Board Meeting in Richmond**

April 2, 2024

This will serve as meeting minutes and semi-annual report for the Retention and Recruitment Team.

The periodic meeting of the Retention and Recruitment Committee was held virtually at 1930 on March 27, 2024.

Members present included: Dave Williams, Wally Banks, Chris Oliphant, and Joe Sullivan. Guests included Ira Cohen, Iggy Kapalczynski and Paul Schaetzle

Oliphant reported:

No success in having IT post the on-line application. Chris even traveled to Nashville to see if he could assist in the process.

Met with several Canteen based organizations in the Mid-Tennessee area, and some applications are anticipated.

Spoke with Memphis Fire Museum about IFBA and membership concepts.

Banks reported:

Wally espoused the benefits of attending conventions. While the programs tend to be excellent, it is the ability to network with fellow buffs and renew acquaintances that make the conventions a success.

Tom McDonald is still alive and well in Houston.

Williams reported:

It is difficult sometime to meet with the proper club members to promote the IFBA to potential members. He cited South Florida as a prime example. Ira agreed that finding the key person is vital.



Retention and Recruitment

Engaging our Future

Sullivan reported:

Reached out to a member of the South Florida group and suggested an informal “meet and greet”. Was told to send an email for review by their Board. No answer was received.

SPAAMFAA produced a Youi Tube video of attendees at the Rhode Island Muster promoting the reasons why they attend. This is something our Google Account will support, we need some folks who will take the Initiative to film, edit and produce the video.

Schaetzle

Receive a Pay Pal membership dues payment from an individual in Maryland. Sullivan reached out to this person and sent him an application. VP Lewis took the Initiative to Communicate with this person and clarified the process, no further action is needed.

Iggy (whose last name is reported to be Jones in Polish)

We need to control our social media. It took a month to get 2 issues of **TURNOUT** posted and the NYCFires group graciously posted it simultaneously. Access is needed by selected Responsible individuals to all components of IT.

General discussion and direction

The team is seriously concerned about the status of IFBA Social Media. Sullivan was directed to request that the issue of IT be placed on the Spring Board Meeting agenda. *This request was made. Chairman Beliveau responded that he too was frustrated with the IT Committee and will put it on the agenda for discussion and resolution.*

NYCFires is intending to publish a voluntary roster and may be willing to open this roster to all IFBA members. Sullivan was direct to advise the Senior Staff (President, Chair and EVP) about this. *This was completed in conjunction with the communique about IT, requesting that NYCFire in conjunction with Iggy make a presentation to the Board at the Annual Meeting.* Meeting participants felt this is a worthy undertaking and an information exchange will be mutually beneficial.

Minutes Respectfully submitted.

Joseph P. Sullivan
VP@Large
Team Leader



Retention and Recruitment

Engaging our Future

ADDENDUM

Solicitation activities since Milwaukee Convention:

Region 1 --- 0 contacts

Region 3 --- 1 contact , handled by RVP Lewis

Region 5 --- Still trying to work with Retired Captain in St. Louis to try to resurrect a club in the city or expand membership for the new club in St. Louis County.

Region 7 --- 2 contacts. Will try to meet with Chief Chuck Montgomery of the Hall of Flame at the Richmond Convention.

Region 9 --- No new contacts, 1 club changed its name.

Region 10 --No contacts but the Canadian clubs do a good job of tending to their own.

Region 11 -- 2 contacts. In The Villages, as well as Chris' contact with the Memphis Museum

We would still like to have Connie Spellman added to the team. This may simply be another issue that IT has fumbled.

The Recruitment and Retention Team continues to Serve with Fun and Fellowship

Respectfully

Joseph P. Sullivan
Team Leader R and R Committee.



Retention and Recruitment

Engaging our Future

All

As the Team Leader for the Retention and Recruitment Team I am often asked “What do I get from the IFBA by being a member?” The standard answer I have always received is “Common Bonds”. In truth, “Common Bonds” are the bedrock of the IFBA, but I think the statement below may let all members know how they can build on that foundation.

We all must acknowledge that the IFBA truly is an organization of organizations hence there is little tangible "benefit" to membership. The primary benefits are common bonds and the ability to network with people sharing similar interests. Within the IFBA interests are quite varied, thus not all organizations are going to share the same interest. We all, however, have an interest, or should it be said, a passion for the Fire Service. The strength of the IFBA is derived from the participation of its members. The IFBA does not have, or intend to have, the resources to address each organization's challenges, but rather it provides a platform for the presentation of ideas to meet the challenges. All members are encouraged to tell the Executive Board what is expected from the IFBA, and how they, as members, will participate to meet the objective.

--

Joseph P. Sullivan

Vice President at Large

Retention and Recruitment Team Leader

703-754-4401, (c) 703-501-6602

alt. e-mail joewho4@aol.com

Service, Fun, Fellowship



**Office of the Vice President at Large
Joseph P. Sullivan**

R.I.C.E.

Responsibility- The IFBA may be a volunteer organization and you volunteered to help lead it. That leadership position comes with the Responsibility to help the organization thrive. To quote Bill Belichick “do your job.”

Initiative- If you see a way to improve the Association---do it. If you run into problem, research it, and solve it. We write books about Firefighting Strategy and Tactics, but until we meet the devil head on and overcome the obstacles of the individual event, we are not successful.

Communicate- Reach out and talk to and learn from other members. 100’s of years of multi-disciplinary talent are at our fingertips. We have an array of communication tools from snail mail to virtual meetings available to us. Respond to requests and questions?

Expectations- Learn what is expected from your position, then exceed expectations. Previous position holders are a great resource. Ask your contemporaries and constituents what they expect of you.

Turn Out Committee

Articles and features submitted by clubs and individuals have been outstanding. **Turn Out** continues to be a single source reference for all members to be aware of the activities and achievements of the entire IFBA organization.

While it is typical of the digitally dependent and technically savvy generation to expect and demand immediate access to detailed news and information sharing, as provided by social media, **Turn Out** continues to provide the global, organization wide overview of all activities from a semi-annual and historic perspective. All readers are encouraged to support both social media and **Turn Out** for the mutually compatible content that they provide. Posting to Facebook and submitting to Turn Out can be done simultaneously.

The Turn Out Committee continues to seek the few missing **Turn Out** issues from the 1950's and 1960's for the IFBA digital archive. While it is unfortunate that the original archive was misplaced, it is encouraging to see the occasional early issue appear for sale. A reprint of issue #1 was once offered at a past convention. Please continue to search those boxes in the attic or closet, before the grandchildren toss them to the curb.

The **Turn Out** production staff is severely short-handed. It is one attrition away from extinction. Among the many talented people in the IFBA, the editorial and composition abilities to keep **Turn Out** going are out there. Please consider offering your help.

Historical Committee

The acquisition, digital scanning, and archiving of IFBA and club publications and newsletters continues. Newsletter collections are being scanned for clubs and in some cases, collections thought to have been lost, have now been restored. Please continue searching and check with your club's 'senior' members to see what they may have squirreled away and forgotten. Several collections were rescued 'just in time' and unfortunately, some were 'just missed.' Newsletters from the first years of the IFBA in the 1950's are increasingly rare and newsletters from the 1960's are disappearing. Let's save what we can while we still can.



Awards

"HENRY N. WILWERS" FIRE BUFF OF THE YEAR AWARD

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

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

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

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

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

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

IFBA Club Website Recognition Award

General Criteria

In an effort to encourage new IFBA Club Websites, and recognize those already in operation, the following guidelines are suggested to be used as the basis of an award.

1. Home Page
 - a. Goals and Mission statement of the Club
 - b. Current Club Officers
 - c. Appropriate Club and Affiliated Organizations logos
2. Club history
3. Membership
 - a. General requirements/obligations
 - b. Printable/electronic membership application
 - c. Number of members
4. Home Fire Department(s)
 - a. History
 - b. Apparatus and Station locations
 - c. Current runs/statistics
5. Key Radio Frequencies in use in the area
6. Club Statistics
 - a. If operate a canteen, current run numbers
 - b. If sponsor a museum, number of visitors, hours of operation, type of exhibits, etc.
 - c. If give awards, what kind, criteria used, recent winners
7. Calendar of upcoming local, club and IFBA events
8. Abundant photos of Club, Fire Dep't., IFBA activities, etc. throughout the site
9. Links to other Fire Buff/IFBA sites
10. Ease of navigating the website
11. Evidence that the website is kept current

Any Club interested in being considered must self-nominate for this recognition. Others can also suggest club websites, and they will be considered as well. Note that the IFBA will not actively review Club websites; it is the Club's responsibilities to make the initial nomination.

All nominations should be directed to either:

Conni Spellman conni.spellman@ifba.org.

Matt Ford matt.ford@ifba.org

no later than February 15, so that there is adequate time to evaluate the website prior to the next IFBA Convention. Modification to this deadline may be made at the discretion of the Website Award Committee.

If a Club would like to be considered for this award, but for certain club specific reasons they do not include any of the above listed criteria, they should indicate this in their nomination request. We do not want to penalize any club for not including information, if there is a valid reason.

This award will be "virtual." The winner will be noted on the IFBA Website, and the winner will be encouraged to include proper notation on their website, club stationary, etc.



**2024
RICHMOND
CONVENTION
INFO**



2024 IFBA CONVENTION

RICHMOND VIRGINIA

September 24th – 28th

Hosted by Region 3 Club, Metro Richmond Flying Squad

History-Recreation-Dining-Antique Fire Apparatus-Museums-Historic Neighborhoods



METRO RICHMOND FLYING SQUAD



Hosted by the Metro Richmond Flying Squad

Serving City of Richmond, Henrico County, Hanover County, Goochland County, New Kent County, Chesterfield County

Richmond at a Glance

- Rocketts Landing
- Boathouse
- Great Ship Lock Park
- Bookbinders' Seafood and Steakhouse
- Lumpkins Slave Jail
- Va Holocaust Museum
- White House of Confederacy
- Valetine Museum
- State Capitol
- Poe Museum
- CNO East Portal
- Libby Hill Park
- Church Hill tunnel
- Browns Island
- Shockoe Slip.
- Pipeline overlook-picture area
- Hollywood Cemetery

Plus much More...

Richmond, VA is renowned for its wealth of history, art, and culture. The city's museums offer a deep dive into various facets of American and Virginian heritage, making it a cultural hub for residents and tourists.

Richmond is one of the most historically significant cities in the United States, but it is also home to a thriving food, music, and arts scene. You will find many things to do while you're in Virginia's capital.

HISTORY OF THE RICHMOND FIRE DEPARTMENT

In 1792 the Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia issued the nation's first fire insurance policy on the Masonic Hall on East Franklin Street in Shockoe Bottom. Fire prevention continued to become organized with the formation of the Richmond Fire Society in 1816. By 1819, Richmond had three volunteer fire companies: one based near the Capitol, one at Rockets Landing, and one on Shockoe Hill. Members maintained their own supplies, and each fire company sent representatives to Richmond Volunteer Fire Department meetings.

Richmond saw advances in firefighting technology and the founding of a paid city fire department in 1858, becoming the 6th in the Nation.

THIS YEAR'S HOST IS THE METRO RICHMOND FLYING SQUAD

The Metro Richmond Flying Squad is this year's host club. The Flying Squad name was taken from a former fire company in which the Fire Chief hand-picked it's members and they responded to the high life hazards and large incidents requiring their special knowledge and workmanship. The Modern Flying Squad reflects those same values as we select our members. Our members earn their Flying Squad wings through the membership process and their continued commitment to our area firefighters.

Our organization is only eight years old but from its humble beginnings serving one fire department and responding to 20 runs that year, the Squad has expanded to covering 2000 square miles providing support to seven fire departments with an average of 400 incidents annually.

Itinerary

Tuesday September 24th

- **Registration Opens**
- **Executive Board Meeting**
- **Complimentary MRFS Shuttles to Downtown, Capitol Square, Carytown and Shockoe Slip (ample restaurants and shops)**

Wednesday September 25th

- **Complimentary Breakfast in Lobby (each day)**
- **Opening Ceremony**
- **Keynote Speaker**
- **Lunch provided by Richmond Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 995 at hotel**
- **Rehab Training Track included with convention registration.**
- **13:00 to 13:45 – Ira Cohen Rehab Resources**
- **13:45 to 14:00 – Break**
- **14:00 to 17:30 – MRFS Cadre- Rehab 101- The 4 Ps (Principles, Processes, Practices and Practical Application)**
- **17:30 to 18:30- Dinner**
- **19:00 to 19:45 – Rick Golembeski Grant Writing**
- **Dinner on your own**
- **Photo op in hotel parking lot**
- **Complimentary MRFS Shuttles to Downtown, Capitol Square, Carytown and Shockoe Slip (ample restaurants and shops)**

Thursday September 26th

- Complimentary Breakfast in Lobby
- Bus trip
 - Regional Technical Rescue Team demonstration
 - Firehouse visits with photo opportunities
- Alternate trip: A historical tour of Richmond
- Lunch provided by the [Henrico County Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 1568](#)
- General Membership Meeting
- Mike Sanders – Rare Virginia Fire Apparatus
- Tommy Herman – History Of The Richmond Fire Department & The Original Flying Squad

Friday September 27th

- Complimentary Breakfast in Lobby
- Bus trip to Richmond Firehouse # 1 and St Johns Church on historic Church Hill.
 - RFD Firehouse 1
 - Photo Opportunities for both antique and in service apparatus.
 - [St Johns Church](#) (located across street from RFD Firehouse 1)
 - Private live reenactment of the Second Virginia Convention with Patrick Henrys [“Give me Liberty or Give Me Death”](#)
- Lunch provided
- Return bus trip to either hotel or Richmond International Airport Fire Station and Virginia Air National Guard Hangar
- Breakout sessions at hotel that afternoon or evening (to be determined)

Saturday September 28th

- Bus Trip to [Keystone Truck and Tractor Museum](#) for a self-guided tour of over 125,000 square feet of antique trucks, tractors, fire apparatus, motorcycles and automobiles.
- Fire Muster presented by [Old Dominion Historical Fire Society](#) in rear parking lot of Museum
- Buffet lunch on site
- Happy Hour (Cash Bar) in Hotel Lobby
- Closing Banquet

Convention Breakout Sessions * Refer to schedule above*

- Rehab – The Four P’s – Presenter, Rick Talley, Retired Assistant Chief from Chesterfield County Fire and EMS.
 - Principles
 - Processes
 - Practices
 - Practical Applications
- Grant writing – Presented by Rick Golembeski, Executive Director of Development at Randolph Macon College
- History of the Richmond Fire Department and Original Flying Squad , Tommy Herman, President of [Old Dominion Historical Fire Society](#)
- Mike Sanders presents “Rare Fire Apparatus of Virginia ”
- [Jim Peruta, photographer](#) for the Hartford Connecticut Fire Department

The members of the Metro Richmond Flying Squad look forward to your visit to our area. We pledge to produce an entertaining and informative convention. This year’s convention will include fire buff activities, rehab activities and historical site visits. We have included a reduced price for your spouse or significant other.

Remember that all roads, rails and airways lead to the Capitol City of Richmond Virginia this September.

Steve Korb, *IFBA President* * Subject to change

IFBA 2024 Convention

[Hotel Reservation – Convention](#)

[IFBA Online Registration](#)

[Click Here To Print IFBA Registration if mailing a Check.](#)

[FAQ](#)

Questions or issues Email us – IFBA2024@gmail.com

[IFBA AD Book Order Form](#)

[Join our mailing list for updates](#)

[Register for the Rehab training track only](#)

Note this is included with full convention registration

[International Fire Buff Associates Annual Convention 2024](#)

All roads, rails, and airways lead to Richmond VA September 24th - 28th



This years IFBA Convention promises to deliver a fun filled lineup.

The itinerary will include plenty of Buff events , informative breakout sessions, visits to local historical sites and plenty of jobs (no guarantee)

We are also planning an alternative track for non fire buffing guests

Registration will open by the middle of February

The host hotel link is on our home page at www.rvaflyingsquad.com

Stay tuned for more info and looking forward to seeing you all the last week of September !

Hotel registration link. The Convention begins 9/24 - 9/28

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/...>

DoubleTree by Hilton Richmond Airport
445 International Center Drive
Sandston, Virginia 23150 USA



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

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

Region 1

Good evening, everybody,

If you've forgotten, I'm Rick Conway, the IFBA Region 1 VP.

There are several things that I need to pass on to you folks, and have you pass it on to your club members.

1. Please send me an annual report of your clubs. Things like membership status, if you are having meeting, what you are doing, etc. Be prepared to give a quick update at the meeting. I will compile all of these reports into my Regional report for the convention.

2. Speaking of the Convention, please encourage your members to attend. It is always a good time. This year the convention will be in Richmond, VA on Sept. 24-28. Check out the Metro Richmond Flying Squad website for all of the information. If members of your club are attending, make sure EVP Steve Garnett knows who your delegate and alternate are. Also, submit the necrology report if any members have passed since the last convention.

3. Please add this email or richard.conway@ifba.org to your notification list for meetings. I am a member of several clubs, but I would love to attend meetings at the other clubs if I am available.

Any questions, feel free to ask.

Rick

Southern Maine Notification Group has disbanded.



Connecticut Fire Photographers Association

The CFPA sends greetings on this hot stormy day, in June. We hope all are well this year. We continue to share with the world our multi media (photographs and video). As our data tracking has showed us. As a club we share what we have learned over the years of fire photography with members of all ages. Our membership grows more each month as fellow photographers find our club.

So far this year our members have been busy, buffing fires and other incidents nationwide, while our apparatus enthusiasts have visited locations around the world. We have members in several states bringing us incidents we may not have heard about, some unusual.

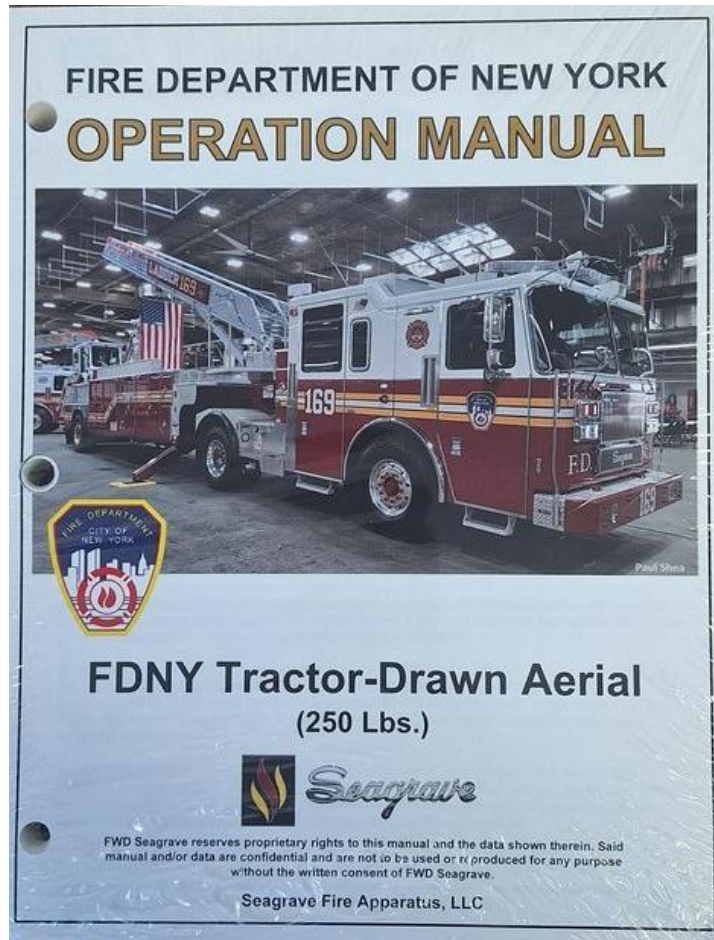


Lebanon CT, double horse rescue from being stuck in the mud.
May 2024, Photo by Thomas Nanos

Silver City Fire Fest



On July 20th, we co-hosted the 13th Annual Silver City Fire Fest. This event had a bunch of fire apparatus from CT, on display for photos shoots during the day. The model club had several displays their builds along with several firematic venders. The venue was been changed to; **The North Italian Club, 43 Thorpe Ave, Meriden, CT.**, for more information on next year's event, vender space or general info Contact Mike Quinn at m1968Q@aol.com



Paul Shea's photo of FDNY Ladder 169 used in the new Seagrave operations manual.



Detroit, MI E39 stretched on a dwelling going. Crews went defensive. Sturtevant & Linwood. 6/15/24.
Photo by David Bryce



**Rescue 8, Weaverville, North Carolina.
2009 Pierce Saber/Pierce Encore. Heavy Rescue.
Photo by Olivia Drake**



**1993 Stewart & Stevenson M1078 High Water Rescue truck.
Photo by John Walthers**



On 6/18/2024 the City of Manchester, NH Fire Department a house on fire on Nashua Street.
Photo by Sean Fesko



2004 Kenworth/2005 Pierce Walk-In Rescue Crane
Ex - Rescue Squad 5 Formerly of Fifth District Volunteer Fire Department, Clarksville MD (Howard County, MD)
Now serving Bell Arthur Fire Department, Bell Arthur, NC (Pitt County, NC) as Rescue 5206
850 GPM Portable Pump, 48 ft Hydraulic Fassi Crane,
(Has Additional Manual Extensions capable of reaching 67ft)
Photo by Robert Reed Jr.



**North Evans Volunteer Fire Company (Erie County, New York)
Attack 4. Photo by Daniel Gonska**



**Brockton, MA 3rd Alarm Box 2121 880 Main St,
Photo by Bob Myers**



**New Hackensack Fire Company
Wappingers Falls, NY
Photo by Bill Johnson**



**New Britain, CT. - 2nd Alarm plus.
The old National Spring Bed Company. 27 Columbus Blvd. 05/07/2024.
photo by Michael Carena Jr.**

Willowhillphotography.com
R. C. Gerard 2024



Nairobi, Kenya.
Photo by Robert Gerard



03/2/ 2024. 01 52 AM 3 Alarm Commercial Fire
6750 NE Broadway, Portland Oregon
Photo by Dennis Weis



**New London, Ct Church collapse
Photo by Robert Ladd**



**Franklin, Ct Commercial Building fire 06-24-24
Photo by Robert Ladd**



Shelton, CT Bruce Dr. 2nd Alarm Fire in 6/22/24.
Photo by Keith Muratori

Remember to follow the CFPA on social media at
www.ctfirephoto.org
www.facebook.com/CTFirePhoto
twitter - @ctfirephoto
Instagram – ctfirephotographers
Membership information - www.ctfirephoto.org



New Britain, CT operating at a 3rd alarm on High St on 5/7/24.
Patrick Dooley



**New Britain, CT operating at a 3rd alarm on High St on 5/7/24.
Patrick Dooley**



**New Britain, CT operating at a 3rd alarm on High St on 5/7/24.
Patrick Dooley**



**Avon, CT 2nd alarm on Avonwoods Rd on 4/21/24.
Patrick Dooley**



**Avon, CT 2nd alarm on Avonwoods Rd on 4/21/24.
Patrick Dooley**



**7/11/24 South Windsor operating on John Fitch Blvd, multiple RV's on fire
Patrick Dooley**



**7/11/24 South Windsor operating on John Fitch Blvd, multiple RV's on fire
Patrick Dooley**



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

IFBA Region 1 Member
Spring 2024 Issue

The Leather Helmet Society Fire Buff Club had its last meeting on Wednesday February 21, 2024 at the Hollis, N.H. F.D. firehouse. We thank Fire Chief Rob Boggis for allowing the LHS the use of their facilities conference room, eighteen members were in attendance.

Shown below are photos taken by LHS members at recent fire scenes, apparatus and at the meeting on February 21st. Join us at a future meeting, we have a great time with solid speakers and a lot of laughs!

The evenings entertainment was a presentation by LHS BOD/IFBA Region 1 V.P. Rick Conway of fires in Nashua, N.H. during the 2008 - 2009 time period of photos taken by Al Boucher. It was outstanding.

Our Deepest Sympathy goes out to the Family of Lifetime Member Paul Garant, retired Nashua Fire Commissioner who recently passed away. God Rest His Soul.

EXTRA : Welcome to our newest LHS Member Kevin Boyle of Wakefield, Ma.

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







Recent fire on Biron Street in Manchester...





Chelsea, Ma. Fire on March 1, 2024...





New Goffstown Engine 2



A Classic... Milford Engine 2



LHS Christmas Party @ Ollie's - early December 2023... a great gathering!





The Good Old Days...



Attending Conventions and Buffing with Friends... nothing better!



Rest in Peace Commissioner Garant...

Region 1 V.P., always on the job!



Photo credits: Al Boucher, Dave Morin, Charlie Tentas, Nashua Fire Rescue and misc. others



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
co156@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

BOX 414 Association, Inc.

FIRE – POLICE

MEMBER OF IFBA

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



By **Stuart M. Nathan**

CLUB NEWS

Our Club officers for the coming year will be Shaun Freund as President, Zach McCue as Vice President, Roger Katzenberg as Treasurer, Dan Polanowski as Recording Secretary, Marie Lemmon as Corresponding Secretary, and Charles Shultz as Sergeant at Arms

We continue to do battle with the City bureaucracy in our efforts to rehab our quarters. While we received a grant from the State to address some immediate needs concerning the safety of the building, the wheels grind slowly in obtaining all the approvals needed to begin the work. Since the City of Baltimore owns the building we occupy, it has been an uphill battle getting the necessary permission for the work. We remain optimistic that the work can begin soon.

PICTURING MARYLAND



BARBARA HADDOCK TAYLOR/BALTIMORE SUN

Clean machine

Howard Melle, curator at the Baltimore City Fire Museum, dusts the Mack 1944 Engine 24, which was used in the 1950s. The museum, at Orleans and Gay streets, was at one time the oldest active firehouse in the nation. Today, the museum is run and maintained by volunteers from the Box 414 Association.

UPCOMING IFBA CONVENTION

We look forward to seeing our fellow buffs at the convention in September, as we know our friends in Richmond will put on a great show. For those who might not know, the Richmond Flying Squad is a relatively new club that has done a fantastic job providing service to firefighters throughout the metropolitan area.

We continue to staff our support unit and coffee wagon as needed during any particularly hot and humid days during the summer.



Hot Weather Detail at Recent Working Fire

The recently ended Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024) was a relatively quiet year with only 24 multiple alarm fires, and nothing going beyond a third alarm. This compares to 29 extra alarm fires in FY 23, and 37 in FY 22. The busiest month for multiples was September, 2023 but with only four second alarms. For those not familiar with Baltimore, we should note that a full box alarm receives five engines, two trucks, a medic unit, a safety officer, and two battalion chiefs, and the rescue in the center part of the city.

Working fires, which receive an extra engine and truck and the shift commander (deputy chief) were up slightly over previous years. The areas in west Baltimore covered by Engines 13 and 14 had the most full box alarms as well as the most multiples. This has remained pretty constant over the past several years with the 3rd battalion stationed at Engine 8 responding to the most fires of any of the six battalion chiefs.

RUN TOTALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

JULY 1, 2023-JUNE 30, 2024

<u>Engines</u>	<u>Runs</u>	<u>Boxes</u>	<u>Fires</u>		<u>Trucks</u>	<u>Runs</u>	<u>Boxes</u>	<u>Fires</u>
Engine 6	5256	470	118		Tower 1	5373	370	122
Engine 13	5026	507	151		Truck 5	5322	332	103
Engine 33	5015	448	122		Truck 16	5162	368	119
Engine 31	4555	345	79		Truck 27	3856	214	43
Engine 14	4444	477	157		Truck 12	3493	284	68

<u>Chiefs</u>	<u>Runs</u>	<u>Boxes</u>	<u>Fires</u>		<u>Other Units</u>	<u>Runs</u>	<u>Boxes</u>	<u>Fires</u>
BC 2	1094	948	227		Rescue 1	3785	370	222
BC 6	1074	871	242		Hazmat 1	177	11	7
BC 3	1056	941	259		Fireboat 1	43	3	1
					FRes Boat 1	106	6	2
					FRes Boat 2	39	3	1

<u>Medics</u>	<u>Runs</u>	
Medic 21	6388	Total Suppression Calls: 179,610
Medic 15	6319	Total EMS Calls: 171,907
Medic 1	6278	Total Box Alarms: 2167
Medic 4	6144	Working Fires: 113
Medic 7	6059	Multiple Alarms: 24
		20 2nds, 4 3rds

Note: Engine 8 led all Engines with 174 fires. Truck 10 led all Trucks with 155 fires. Our thanks to Capt. Paul Novak Jr., Fire Communications Bureau for compiling these statistics.



Box 414 and Anne Arundel Alarmers at Maryland Fire-Rescue Service Memorial Ceremony in Annapolis



Car 417



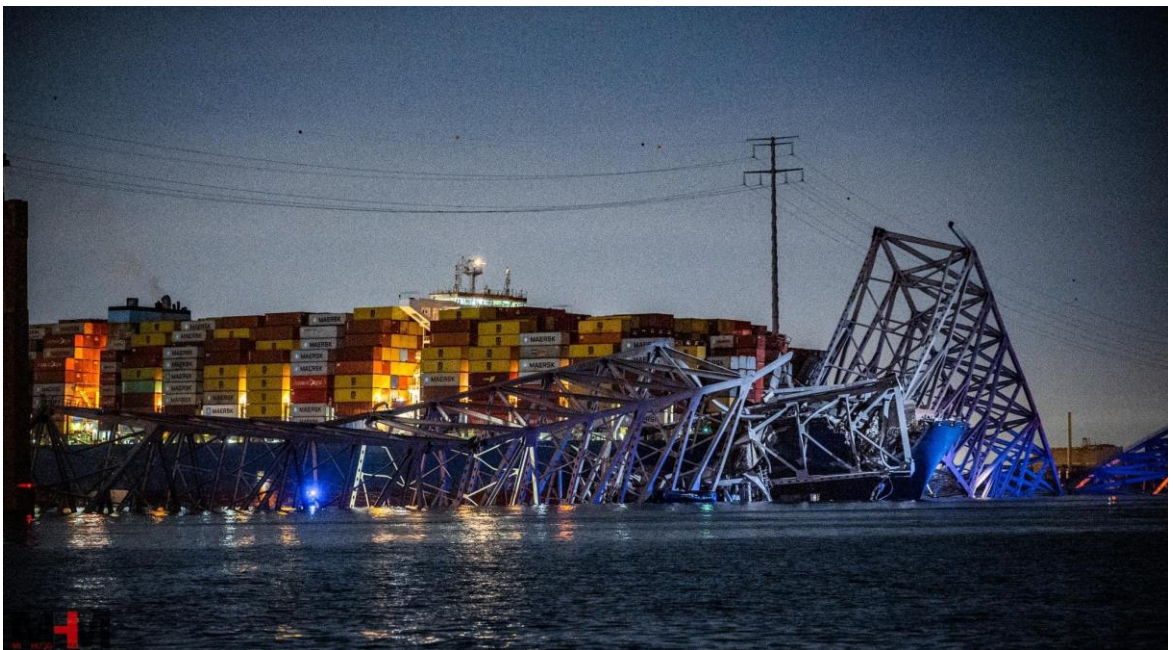
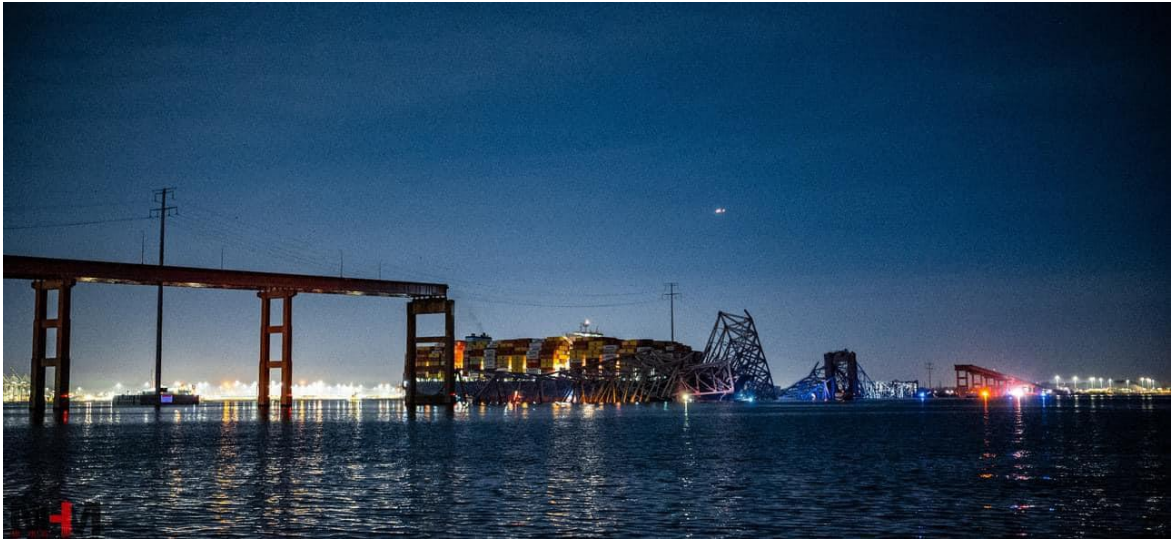
Unique Challenges



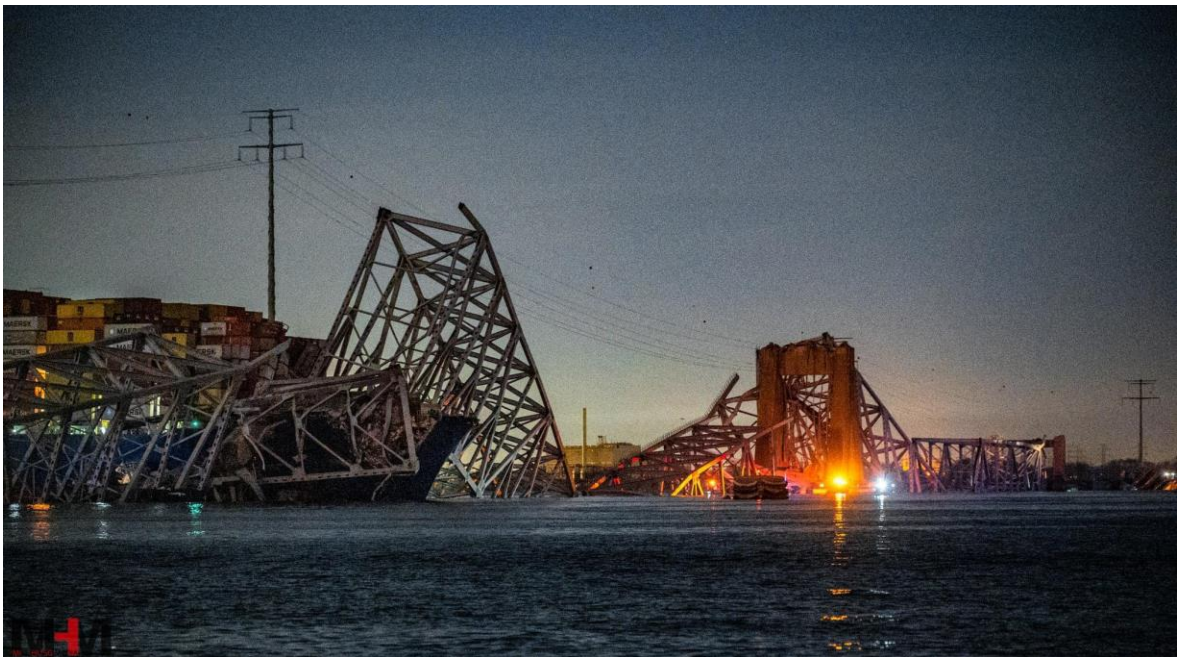
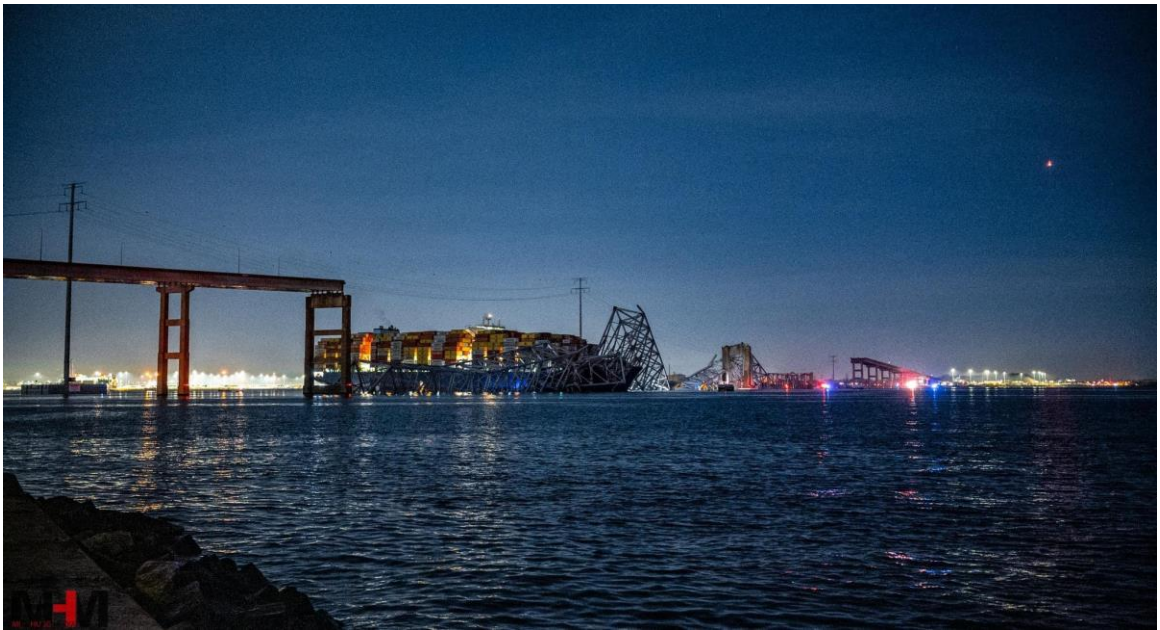
Water Supply

KEY BRIDGE COLLAPSE

As has been widely reported, on March 26, 2024, the container ship Dali collided with the Francis Scott Key Bridge in the Baltimore Harbor causing an almost instantaneous collapse of virtually the entire bridge. There was a crew working on the bridge at the time, and tragically six lives were lost, with the last victim not being recovered until May 7th. Our Box 414 canteen vehicles responded to provide support for the rescue efforts and remained on the scene while Fire Department assets were involved in the search for the victims. Ultimately, State and federal authorities assumed responsibility for the rescue and then recovery operations, and we returned to quarters. The channel has now been cleared with shipping operations in the harbor resumed, and planning for reconstruction of the bridge is underway.



Key Bridge Collapse (Courtesy of Mike Hugg Media)



Key Bridge Collapse (Courtesy of Mike Hugg Media)



Key Bridge Collapse (Stu Nathan)



Key Bridge Collapse (Courtesy of Mike Hugg Media & Stu Nathan)



Office of the Vice President at Large
Joseph P. Sullivan



16900 block of Waterfall Rd Haymarket. House set about 600' off the road and over 300' from apparatus access. Box 1533 in the mid afternoon of March 14th. Again Prince Willam. Loudoun and Fairfax units were put to work



Saturday May 4th around 1030 hours for a \$1,600,000 single family dwelling in the 13000 block of Dominique Estates Lane in Catharpin Va. Units from Prince William, Loudoun and Fairfax on the scene. Box 1518



Saturday May 4th around 1030 hours for a \$1,600,000 single family dwelling in the 13000 block of Dominique Estates Lane in Catharpin Va. Units from Prince William, Loudoun and Fairfax on the scene. Box 1518

Reflections

Greg Masi, Philadelphia Second Alarmers

My buffing days started in the early 60s. To be precise on January 1, 1963, which was New Years Day, Philadelphia had one of the largest fires in its history, when 12 Alarms were struck for the Fretz Building in North Philadelphia. This was a major conflagration that destroyed a city block, 8 story warehouse and over 50 dwellings. I was 8 years old, and I still remember the night sky lit up. I guess that was the catalyst to get me going. I chased fires whenever I could, some by bike, and others by bus. In 1973, I got my driver's license and now I could join the Philadelphia Reserve Fire Force, which was an auxiliary volunteer group that responded on all 2 alarm fires. We had our own station, which was the disbanded Engine 15 station. When I joined, we had a 1955 Mack pumper and many of times, I rode that back step. I attained the rank of a Lieutenant with the Reserve Fire Force and finally in 1977 I had to step down because I was becoming a police officer with the city of Philadelphia. Unfortunately, the Reserve Fire Force was finally disbanded in 1983. It was truly a great experience. Even though I was a police officer, my heart was still in the fire service. In 1998 is when I joined the Philadelphia Second Alarmers. In 2001, I was appointed the chief until my retirement in December of 2022. I had a great public safety career with 40 years of service with the Philadelphia PD and 29 years of volunteer service with the Reserve Fire Force & 2nd Alarmers. It was truly a time I will cherish forever.



FRIENDSHIP FIRE ASSOCIATION MUSEUM
District of Columbia Fire and EMS Department
ENGINE COMPANY 3
439 New Jersey Avenue, NW
Washington D.C. 20001

The Anatomy of a Call
By the Museum Staff
Mark Tennyson

The following story is a reconstruction of an actual fire that the DCFD responded to almost 100 years ago. The story is retold so the reader can get an idea of the department's firefighting techniques during the department's horse and steam engine era. Actual news articles, fire department records, and history books were used to research the story to keep it as accurate as possible.

The fire was at the El Reno Hotel located on the corner of New Jersey Avenue and C Streets, NW, close to the present location of Engine 3. The El Reno no longer exists. It was torn down to clear the way for the current location where Louisiana Avenue crosses New Jersey Avenue. A small triangle of ground in the intersection of New Jersey and Louisiana Avenues at C Streets is all that's left of where the El Reno once stood.

It was a cold winter morning in December 1912. The sun had barely begun to rise. Despite the early hour, the hotel staff was on the move. It was Christmas Eve and they knew the day would be busy. Many people would be traveling to and from the city. To add to the staff's excitement, Union Station was located about three blocks away. The hotel was a favorite stop-over for train passengers.

Around 5:50 AM one distracted hotel staff worker entered the linen closet located off the third floor hall. She pushed the light button and stamped her foot in anger as, once again, the bulb refused to illuminate. She made a mental note to, yet again, report the bulb was out. Reaching in her apron pocket, she took out a single piece of note paper and twisted into a cylinder shape. She lit one end with a match. In the dim light she retrieved several stacks of bed sheets, blew out the small flame, tossed the wadded paper on the floor, and for good measure, ground it with the tip her shoe. Because her hands were full, she was unable to fully close the closet door as she left.

The small wad of paper sat dormant on the closet floor. In a minute or two the burnt end came alive with a small circular glow. The glowing circle continued to expand across the paper. Within another minute it popped into a flame. The heat caused the varnish on the pine floor to liquefy. The paper absorbed this liquid causing the flame to get larger. Soon the paper found itself in a three inch circle of melted varnish and pine sap from the boards. In eight more minutes the flames were roaring up the entire left side of the closet, across the ceiling, and out into the hall.

It was now 6:30 AM in the morning. The gas street light still illuminated the corner of New Jersey Avenue and C Street NW Washington, D.C. The intersection was just north of the Nation's Capitol. Heavy smoke was pushing from the third floor windows of the El Reno Hotel. Some glass could be heard breaking as several panicked guests forced their windows open for air. Mary Smith, whose room was on the third floor, jumped from her window and landed on the shrubs and cast iron fence along C Street. An alert citizen ran 1 ½ blocks away to the nearby fire house and notified the members of DCFD Truck 1 and Battalion Chief 3. The house watchman phoned Fire Alarm Headquarters and asked for the house box building fire alarm assignment sent for their quarters. There was no street box in the area of the hotel.

At 6:33 AM the large brass fire house gongs clanged six times in all the station across the city. There was a brief pause, and the gongs rang five more times. The watchmen in the fire houses pulled the card for Box 65 to see what companies were due to respond and where the fire was. Within minutes engines 3, 8, and 6 along with ladder truck 1 and Chief 3 were rumbling down the cobble stone streets towards the El Reno Hotel. All the fire apparatus was horse drawn. The fire engines had boilers and steam driven pumps.

Truck 1 and Chief 3 arrived first followed closely by engine 3. The steamer connected to the closest hydrant. Engine 3's combination chemical hose wagon chemical laid a 2 1/2 inch attack hose line from the steamer to the front of the hotel. Next the small lines hose wagon and engine 3's officer advanced the 400 foot, pre-connected from the two 35 gallon chemical tanks of the chemical hose wagon to the fire floor. The first of two soda acid chemical tanks was activated causing a gas pressure buildup to force the water from the tank through the hose line. With all this action taking place, the layout man and other members of the company pulled off additional lengths of hose, broke the hose from the wagon's hose bed, and attached a nozzle then advanced Engine 3's 2 ½ attack line into the fire building to back up the chemical wagon's small line. When in position, the layout man would call for water from the steamer.

The units found heavy smoke showing from the third floor with numerous guests in distress at their windows. Then they found one had already jumped and lay injured along the sidewalk. Truck 1 immediately began laddering the C Street side of the building. It took the Chief only seconds to assess the situation and realize the life-loss potential. He told his aide to run back to Truck 1's quarters and request the 2'nd alarm. Within moments engines 14, 4, and 10 along with Trucks 4 and 7 were dispatched. Battalion Chief 1 was also included on the alarm.

As firefighters evacuated the guests, the fire was brought under control quickly. It took a while longer to clear the smoke from the building. This was the era before high powered fans. The battalion chief's aid ran back again to truck 1's quarters to inform fire alarm headquarters of the fire's status. Like today, salvage and overhaul were completed. The hoses were broken down, drained, and rolled up to be dried in the station's hose towers.

The units returned to quarters and readied themselves for the next alarm.

So who was Mary Smith and what happened to her after she jumped? According to the Washington Star's article on the fire, she was 20 years old (probably an approximation) and was from Alexandria, Virginia. She landed on the small iron fence that ran along the sidewalk and the hotel. The Star reported she sustained minor injuries (contusions, minor cuts, and bruises on the face, body, and legs) and was transported to Casualty Hospital. Casualty Hospital's main building was located at 728 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. She may have also been taken to Casualty Hospital's clinic located at 217 Delaware Avenue NE which would have been closer. This is now the site of the Senate office building.

1920 census records from Alexandria indicate there was a Mary E. Smith living in the town and that her age was 35. This would make her 26 or 27 at the time of the fire. The census also states she was born in Washington, D.C., worked as a clerk for the Federal Government. If any of our readers can provide any additional information, please contact us.



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



01-12-2024 2127 N Derbigny St 1- ALARM



01-05-2024 6700 Patterson St 1 ALARM



01-12-2024 2127 N Derbigny St 1- ALARM



02-01-2024 2631 Ursuline St 1- ALARM



03-14-2024 2900 Pittari Place 2- ALARMS



02-02-2024 2031 Laharpe St 3- ALARMS



02-02-2024 2031 Laharpe St 3- ALARMS



02-28-2024 1130 Keleric St 2- ALARMS



03-27-2024 1561 N Broad St 2- ALARMS



03-28-2024 7812 Hickory St 2- ALARMS



03-28-2024 7812 Hickory St 2- ALARMS

Reflections

Stephen Skaar, Extra Alarm Association of the Twin Cities

Fire Buffing is my life! When I was 12 years old, Paige Van Vorst (my best friend) and I visited three downtown Minneapolis Fire Stations on a whim on Paige's birthday. We ran into two of the nicest and friendly firefighters named Dave Hackett and Charlie Birkeli. From that day on, I was hooked...I became over a short period of time a very dedicated fire buff.

Paige and I went downtown almost every weekend and made it a point to visit MFD Station's 6 and 10 to visit our friends Dave and Charlie. As juveniles, we were not able to visit MFD Station 24 as it was on a Naval Base. Both Charlie and Dave were kind enough to take us to Station 24 on their off days.

Dave Hackett provided us with a listing of Chicago Fire Companies. When we were 15 years old, Paige and I took our very first out-of-town buffing trip together to Chicago by Greyhound bus. We stayed at the YMCA Hotel for five nights. During the day we visited Chicago fire stations on foot and by L-train and practice sessions for the upcoming CFD Thrill Show at Soldiers Field. Paige and I had a fantastic time on this trip and looked forward to visiting other out of town fire departments in upcoming years.

Paige and I met another fire buff, Duane Troxel, at MFD Station 10 through Dave Hackett. Duane would become a good friend and he would eventually become a loyal buffing partner. It was Duane who organized a fire buff group, the Extra Alarm Association of the Twin Cities in 1974 with the first three meetings held at his home. I met a number of other buffs through the EAATC.

Paige and I took a number of buffing trips together in the 60s before Paige moved to Milwaukee, WI. Duane and I continued to take trips together during the 70s, some for three weeks at a time. We met firefighters and other buffs on these trips that are still very good friends today. When Paige moved to Chicago in the 70s, I often visited him and we would buff as much as we could together. Paige joined the 5-11 Club in Chicago and is still its Treasurer. Sadly, Duane died of cancer in 1980 at the young age of 37.

When Dave Hackett retired, he and his wife moved to Florida. I visited them at their home on a number of occasions and we had a great time buffing and meeting other fire buffs there. Sadly, Dave passed away in 1986. Duane had collected 25,000+ slides from his many buffing trips (which he willed to me) and I had taken 25,000+ slides from my own trips over many years.

I have traveled most of the USA on numerous fire buffing trips over the years and have made a huge number of good buffing friends, many that I still stay in contact with today. While my traveling days are over now, I have very fond memories of each and every trip that I've taken over the many years. While I have done a number of things over my 76 lucky years on this earth, fire buffing has been my most rewarding memory!!!!

DALLAS



First Baptist Dallas Church
1707 San Jacinto St & 602 N Ervay St

1830

1-11	E18, E4, E3, E11	T18, T4, T3	BC1, BC9, BC6 R3		
S/C	E1	T11	BC10, DC807		
2-11	E6, E8, E45, E19	T17, T24, T19	BC3, BC8, DC806	M18, M11, M6	896
	E33	T33	USAR33	M33	Rescue Task Force
3-11	E15, E17, E36, E42	T23, T36, T27	DC808	M8, M71	
4-11	E27, E43, E34	T53	DC809		



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



310 Carnegie Ave, Cleveland, OH 44115

Fire on West 102nd Street with Mayday

The Cleveland Fire Department Dispatch Center started receiving numerous calls for a house fire with children trapped at 3607 West 102nd Street on Monday, May 6th at 9:30am. Engine 33 reported that they could see smoke in the sky from quarters. They arrived to find a 2-1/2 story frame, well involved with wires down. Soon afterwards, they reported that EMS was needed for three patients, including 2 infants. Additional EMS units were dispatched at that time. Approximately 10 minutes after arrival, a "Mayday" was called due to the collapse of the front porch. As per the Mayday Protocol, a 2-2-2 alarm (Triple-2) was made. The captain of Engine 33 was removed from the debris and transported to Metro Health Medical Center.

All other members were accounted for, the Mayday was cleared, and all the Triple-2 companies were cancelled except for Engine 24. A total of 4 civilian patients were transported to Metro: one female occupant and an 11-month-old who were able to escape the fire, a second 11-month-old who was trapped inside and a passerby who rescued the second child.

Box Alarm @09:30hrs: E 33, 38, 39 L4, 23 TR2 B3 AC1 720(PIO) Medic 21, 42, 43

Mayday and 2-2-2 @09:41hrs: E4, 24 L39 B4 TR1 713(FIU)

Mayday cleared at 09:48hrs. All 2-2-2 companies cancelled except for Engine 24

Under Control @10:02hrs



The West 102nd Street house prior to CFD arrival. Photo courtesy of WEWS.



The house after the collapse. Photo courtesy of the CFD.

Fire at St. Theodosius Cathedral

St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral, located on Starkweather Avenue in the Tremont neighborhood of Cleveland, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Constructed between 1911 to 1912 for Russian immigrants living in Tremont, it is perhaps best known for its appearance in the 1978 film "The Deer Hunter" with Robert De Niro, Christopher Walken, and Meryl Streep. Cleveland Fire was dispatched to a report of a church on fire at Professor St and Starkweather Ave on Tuesday, May 28th at 4:18pm. The box alarm companies were Engines 2, 4, 24 - Ladders 4, 20 TR 1 and Battalion 4. First arriving units reported smoke showing from the steeple. Battalion 4 ordered Ladder 4 and Tower 20 to set up their aerials while Engine 2 began pulling lines into the church. A 2-2-2 alarm was made shortly afterwards, bringing Engines 1, 7 - Ladder 1, Air Supply 1, Car 713 (FIU), Car 171 (Assistant Chief)



Early arrival photo courtesy of Steve Nedrich



Crews from Tower 20 opening up a copper dome, exposing hidden fire. Steve Nedrich photo.



Cleveland Ladder 4 and Tower 20
Photo courtesy of WEWS

AC 1 pulled interior crews out of the building approximately 25 minutes into the incident due to a partial ceiling collapse. Supplying water to 2 aerials and numerous hand lines proved to be a challenge due to the small water mains in the neighborhood. A special for one engine was made, which brought Engine 13 to the scene to relay water.

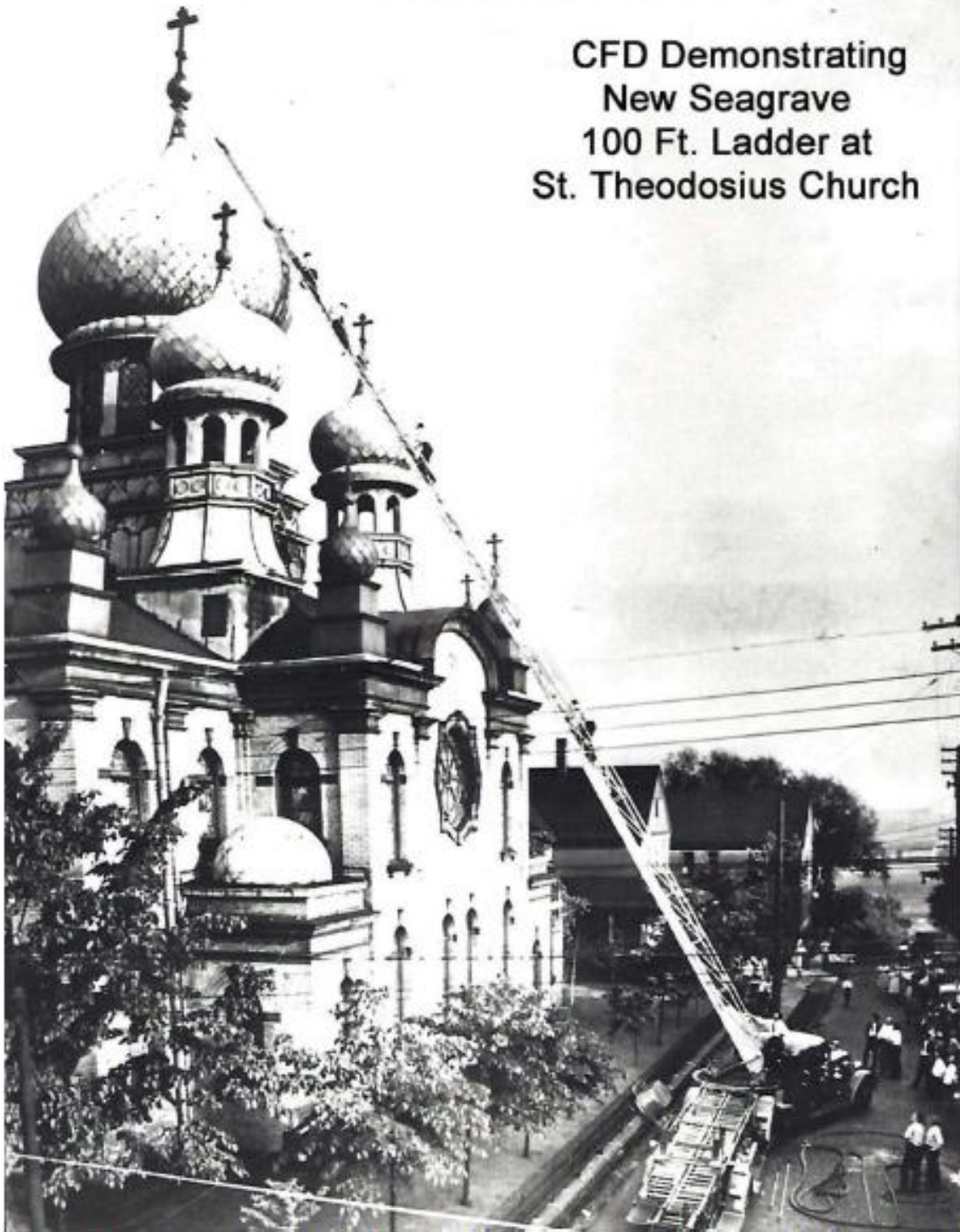
Crews worked for over 2 ½ hours before bringing the fire under control at 6:55pm.

The cause of the fire was determined to be accidental, according to Chief Tony Luke, as workers were welding copper on the roof at the time.

Although it was never a spectacular fire, damage is estimated to be over \$1million. The interior of the building suffered major smoke and water damage.

Engineers and Building Inspectors later determined that the large "onion dome" was unstable and had to be removed.

**CFD Demonstrating
New Seagrave
100 Ft. Ladder at
St. Theodosius Church**



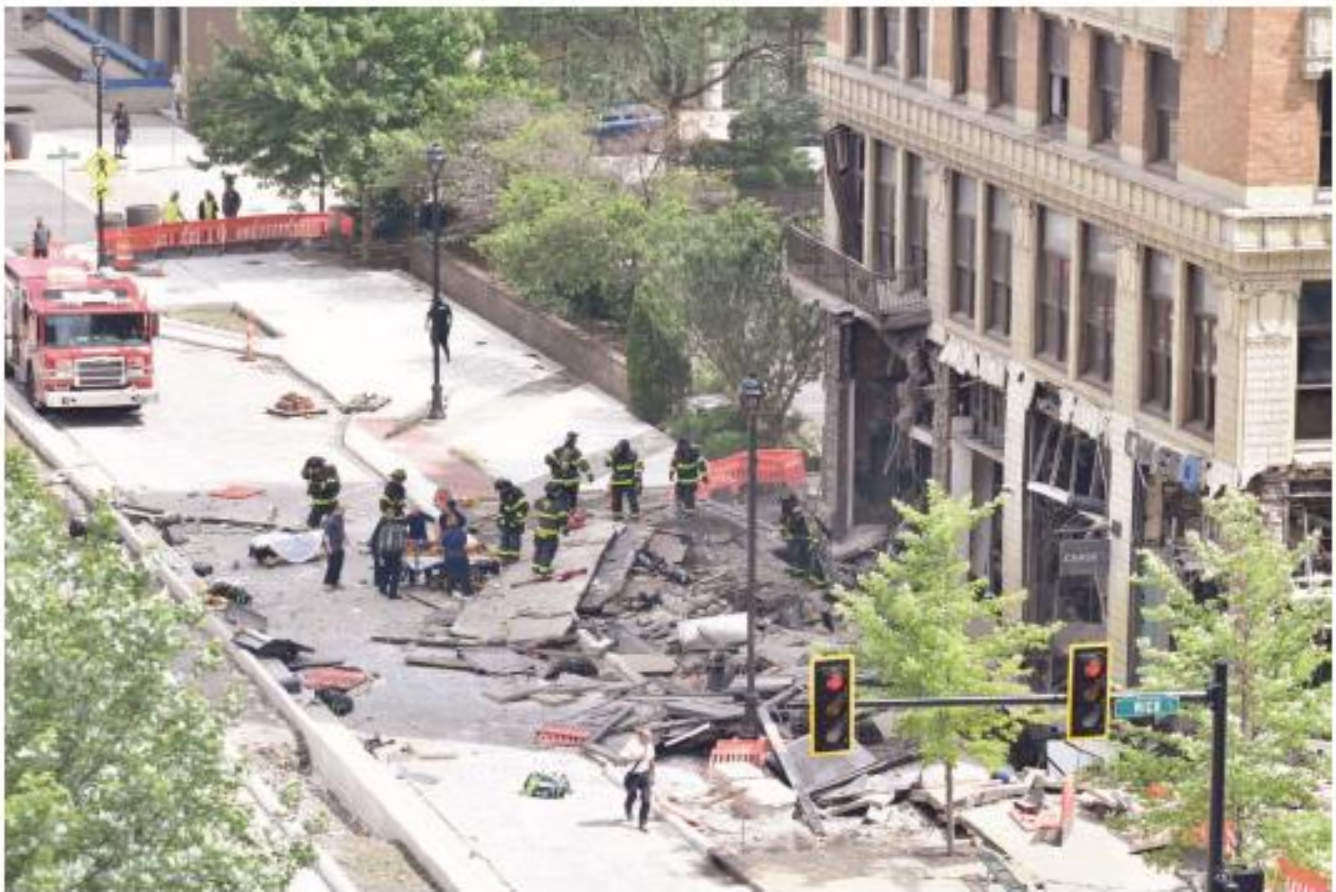
An undated photo showing the CFD at St. Theodosius. Photo from the Bob Gahr collection.

2-Alarm Gas Explosion in Downtown Youngstown

The Realty Building, located in the former Chase Building in downtown Youngstown at Market Street and East Federal Avenue, suffered a major explosion on Tuesday afternoon, May 28th.

The 13-story building had a bank on its ground floor and apartments on the 12 floors above it. A crew working in the basement cut a gas line before the explosion, unaware that one of the pipes in the basement's vault was pressurized. They did not have reason to believe gas was present in the pipe, according to the National Transportation Safety Board. Workers quickly evacuated, pulled the fire alarm, alerted the bank on the first floor and called 911.

The explosion occurred approximately 6 minutes later, killing a 27-year-old man who was working at Chase Bank on the first floor and injuring 7 others.



Aftermath of the explosion. Photo by Ed Runyan



Aftermath of the explosion. Photo by John White

WRFBA Members Apparatus News



Long-time WRFBA member Bob Shimits sold his 1922 Model T. He recently discovered, after owning the classic for many years, that it served the Burbank, CA FD. It will be returning to its hometown. Fear not! Bob will probably find a new toy to replace it soon.

WRFBA members Mike Brown, Mike Humenik and Todd Wolf spent Monday, June 24th in downtown Cleveland, or should I say downtown Metropolis, as extras in the latest Superman movie that was being filmed locally.

Brown's 1993 Pierce Dash, formerly Akron Engine 4, was transformed to Metropolis Engine 4 for the day. We are looking forward to his truck's movie premier!



Engine 4 at this year's Firefighters Memorial Motorcycle Ride in Cleveland. Marty Hout photo.



"Metropolis Engine 4." Online photo, unknown photographer.

Muster Time!

We will be co-sponsoring the first muster in Cleveland in over 31 years on September 7th. Plans are still coming together. Check out our Facebook event for updates.

<https://rebrand.ly/mskj6xe>

Antique Fire Engine Show and Safety Day



MetroHealth
Burn Center



Saturday, September 7th 2024, 10am until 2pm
Merwin's Wharf/Rivergate Park
1785 Merwin Ave, Cleveland, OH 44113
Free admission



Come see fire engines with pumping demonstrations along the Cuyahoga River. Planned events include displays by the Cleveland FD, US Coast Guard, MetroHealth Medical Center, children's activities, and a performance by The Cleveland Firefighters Memorial Pipes & Drums.

Thanks to our other sponsors



Konny Eybke



Email WRFBA1972@gmail.com for more details

Box 15

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

**“Serving Columbus and
Central Ohio Since 1947”**



Box 15 | 300 NORTH 4TH STREET | COLUMBUS, OHIO

Box 15

2023 Annual Report

President's Message

Greetings and welcome to 2024!

2023 was another very busy year for Box 15, and our active volunteers have shown their commitment and appreciation to all the firefighters and first responders that serve our communities. I greatly appreciate and thank our active members for their service and dedication.

I would also like to thank our generous donors; we were very fortunate to get several donations of cash or products. The donations we receive go back 100% into serving the firefighters in our communities. Thanks to Servpro of Delaware, Servpro of Northeast Columbus, Bailfish LLC, and Campbell Restoration provide us with a pipeline to bottled water, we passed out nearly 17k bottles of water again this year. MSC corporation continues to help us and several other Rehab groups with Gatorade Products. Lastly, Drip Drop QRS has been amazing in donating the Hydration product.

Please consider reviewing our statistics and other donors further in the report to understand our complete use of what we received.

The Firehouse EXPO returned to Columbus, and we had the privilege of working at HOT training and the Expo Hall. The expo really does give us a chance to share ideas and practices of Rehab with other departments around the country, we are always looking for ideas or innovations to help the firefighters we support. We also picked up some new cooling devices to try out this summer as well as some smaller tools we can use on our trucks.

This year Rehab 2 our oldest truck and most active had some issues causing our operating expenses to run higher this year. Fortunately, since we updated our fleet over the last few years, we were able to keep our trucks in service.

The Campbell Restoration's 3rd Annual Box 15 Golf Outing was another huge success, the event also raised money for the Brotherhood Drive that supports firefighters' families directly.

Thank You to those who support us, Box 15, and our mission.

Joe O'Brien

Box 15 President

Box 15 2023 Annual Report

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Throughout the year, Box 15 received many generous donations from organizations and individuals. We even received many donations from individuals who listed Box 15 as the receiver of Birthday Wishes on Facebook!

A special thank to some of our most generous supporters:

AMETEK
Columbus FF Foundation
CME Employees
Firehouse Expo
Coughlin Automotive
Liberty TWP Local
Golf Outing - Campbell
Walmart
Norwich Township Local 1723
Worthington Firefighters Foundation Night at the Races
New Albany Firefighters (Plain Township)

Box 15

2023 Annual Report

Mission Statement

Box 15 is dedicated to providing Canteen and Firefighter Rehab Services, to support, as best we can, in every practical way, the work of our “first line of defense against the ravages of fire – the men and women of the fire service”.

Meetings

Box 15 meets on the last Tuesday of each month except December. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM and include administrative and training activities.

Compliance

Box 15 operates under the guidelines set forth in NFPA-1584 “Standard on Rehabilitation Process”. We provide service to 40+ fire departments and rely on the local EMS protocols in place to make sure the firefighters are adequately served to meet department standards. We concentrate our efforts on hydration, core temperature stabilization, nutrition, rest, skin as well as PPE (turnout gear) decontamination.

January

January was filled with a good amount of training support. The month wrapped up with a very cold, Level 3 Snow Emergency Response to Delaware County.



February

Commercial and Multi-Family dwellings were sites of our responses in the month of February



March

March brought some very cold responses for Box 15. Once again, a variety of structures present larger challenges to fire operations, requiring our support in these cold months.

Training goes on, heat or cold, rain or shine and Box 15 is there to support our partners throughout Central Ohio.



April

Spring arrived with some great donations from our Friends at MSC and Hydration Nation Water! We also participated in several Outreach Events with CFD and the American Red Cross. Working Fires in surrounding counties helped keep us busy!



May

A very warm, 2nd alarm fire and a high-rise apartment building kept our crew busy with a large response.



June

While we mostly operate in Franklin County, our ability to support large scale scenes is an asset across Central Ohio. A large event in Morrow County allowed us to expand our reach to other agencies. Summer temps brought several responses due to the high heat.



July

The July heat made for a very busy month! In addition to several fires across the County, Box 15 supported several scheduled community events!



August

Supporting training activities allows our members to sharpen their skills for when the real emergency occurs. We also employ new technologies to help provide the best rehab benefits. The Ohio Fire Academy is one of our usual locations where this occurs throughout the year.



September

Columbus, Ohio was fortunate enough to host the Firehouse Expo for two straight years. This opportunity gave Box 15 the chance to demonstrate our abilities and network with fire professionals from across the United States.



October

Box 15 has many ties to the community which allow us to participate in some unique activities. One of the most memorable was in October where we were able to assist local volunteers in making a project come together!



November

Box 15 is an all-hazards response organization. From community events, single family homes, apartments, industrial complex and even oil refineries. Our mission is simple, to take care of our first responders.



December

Box 15 often responds to incidents with more than one vehicle, staffed by several volunteers. For larger scenes, having a full complement of rehab sector supplies in more than one location can aid in the recovery of first responders. This apartment fire is a good example of that happening.



2023 Vital Statistics

<i>Incident Jurisdiction</i>	<i>Alarm Status / Run Type</i>	<i>Count of Run Type</i>
351 BST&G	Civic Event	1
Berlin TWP	Civic Event	1
BST&G	1 Alarm - Fire	1
BST&G - 350	2 Alarm - Fire	1
Cardington Fire Department Morrow County	2 Alarm - Fire	1
Civic event	Civic Event	1
Clinton Twp - 60	Training	6
Columbus Fire	1 Alarm - Fire	27
	2 Alarm - Fire	8
	ARC Sound the Alarm	1
	Cemetery service	1
	Civic Event	4
	Maintenance (Scheduled / Preventative)	1
	Metro Fire Chiefs	1
	Public event	1
	Stair Climb Firehouse Expo	1
	Supply Pick-Up	2
	Training	42
Columbus Police	Civic Event	1
	SWAT Run	1
Concord 340	2 Alarm - Fire	1
Concord Twp - 341	1 Alarm - Fire	1
Delaware City - 300	1 Alarm - Fire	2
	2 Alarm - Fire	1
	Civic Event	1
Elm Valley	Civic Event	1
Firehouse Expo	Training	1
Firehouse Expo Hot Training	Training	1
Franklin Twp - 190	1 Alarm - Fire	1
Hamilton Twp - 170	9/11 Stairclimb	1
Jackson Township 201	Training	1
Jackson Twp -200	1 Alarm - Fire	1
	2 Alarm - Fire	1
	Hazardous Materials	1
	Training	1

2023 Vital Statistics

<i>Incident Jurisdiction</i>	<i>Alarm Status / Run Type</i>	<i>Count of Run Type</i>
John Glenn Fire Division	Training	1
Madison Twp - 180	1 Alarm - Fire	1
	Box 15 Golf Outing	1
	Training	10
Mifflin Twp - 130	Training	2
Mifflin, Jefferson and Plain	Training	1
N/A - Funeral	Funeral	1
Norwich Twp - 80	2 Alarm - Fire	1
OFA	Training	2
Ohio Fire Academy	Training	1
Orange Twp - 360	1 Alarm - Fire	1
	2 Alarm - Fire	1
Pleasant Twp - 230	Training	1
Porter-Kingston 381	Training	1
Prairie Twp - 240	2 Alarm - Fire	1
	Training	1
Station 1	Cold Weather Standby	4
	Hot Weather Standby	1
Station 33	Cold Weather Standby	10
	Hot Weather Standby	2
Station 35	Cold Weather Standby	6
	Hot Weather Standby	1
Truro Twp - 160	1 Alarm - Fire	2
Union County	Graveside service	1
Upper Arlington - 70	2 Alarm - Fire	1
Violet Twp - 590	Civic Event	1
Washington Twp - 90	2 Alarm - Fire	1
	Hazardous Materials	1
West Licking	Civic Event	1
Westerville - 110	1 Alarm - Fire	1
	2 Alarm - Fire	1
	Civic Event	1
	Training	1
Whitehall - 150	1 Alarm - Fire	1
Worthington - 100	1 Alarm - Fire	1
	Red Cross	1
Grand Total		185

2023 Vital Statistics

Miles Driven: 4847

Average Temperature: 66°

Average Personnel Supported: 45

Water Bottles Dispensed: 16,710

Pots of Coffee: 118

K-Cups Used: 287

Decontamination Wipes: 4,589

Sports Drinks Served: 2,650

Rehydration Packets: 2,494

Bulk Rehydration Gallons: 220

Hot Chocolate Packets: 53

Granola Bars: 2,754

2023 Awards

Congratulations

Lt. Matt Harding

Worthington Division of Fire

Box 15 “Larry Parlett” Distinguished County Fire Service Award

As the new generation of firefighters enter the service, Lt. Matt Harding stands out for his leadership, dedication, and mentorship.

Matt joined the Worthington Fire Department in 2007 and quickly became a virtuous leader in the department who encourages all to be the best at any time, during a shift, you will find Lt. Harding coaching a firefighter or peer.

In addition to him being a firefighter/paramedic, Lt. Harding is a peer support member, NAST – Haz Mat team member, Ohio Task Force One Member, and COST member. Other certifications earned by Matt are HazMat tech, Fire Instructor, and Rescue tech. Matt is a respected “go to person” on emergency scenes and around the firehouse.

Lt. Harding is an ambassador for the Division on and off duty. He is a role model outside of the fire service who works with the PB and J Ministries’ baseball program for athletes with special needs.



Box 15 2023 Annual Report

2023 Awards

Congratulations

Lt. Stuart Mack

Columbus Division of Fire



Box 15 “Max Haverman” Distinguished Fire Service Award

Lt. Stu Mack’s unwavering dedication to the fire service spans over 30 years, during which he has consistently demonstrated exceptional professionalism and expertise. Whether responding to emergencies, training his team, or implementing innovative strategies, Lt. Mack displays a deep passion for his work. His tireless commitment to preserving life, property, and the environment serves as an inspiration to his fellow firefighters and the community he proudly serves.

Lt. Mack exemplifies strong leadership skills by fostering a supportive and educational environment for his team members. His ability to lead by example and effectively communicate expectations enables his firefighters to perform at their best during high-stress situations. He has led multiple non-journeymen firefighters to successfully complete the journeymen process.

Lt. Mack went above and beyond to train and teach the young firefighter’s step by step through equipment and drills to have confidence on the fire ground.

Stu is the 2nd member of the Mack family to be bestowed the “Max Haverman” Distinguished Fire Service Award. Retired Lt. Doug Mack won the award in 1996.

2023 Awards

Congratulations

Pat Mignogno

Box 15

Box 15 Brett Barber Distinguished Service Award

Pat Mignogno was presented the 2023 Brett Barber award for his outstanding dedication and commitment to the firefighters and first responders of Central Ohio. Picture with Pat, is Brett Barber's daughter Shawnee, and Box 15 members Michael Fichera, Jen Moore, and Joe O'Brien.



Signal O – Expenses and Donations

In the Columbus Division of Fire, Signal O is to indicate when the last units have cleared the scene. We end this annual report with a brief overview of our expenses in 2023 and a link to our donation page where you can help Box 15 meet these expenses and continue to provide the services to the first responders of Central Ohio. Thank you for supporting us as we clear the scene and head into 2024.

Box 15

Operating Expenses

Date Range: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 31, 2023

License and Insurance	\$ 4,600.75
Repairs and Maintenance	\$10,729.32
Consumable Supplies	\$ 3,771.57
Phone / Computer Expense	\$ 777.57
Postage & Office	\$ 146.00
Tools and Equipment	\$ 238.61
Operations Misc	\$ 746.66
Total Operating Expenses	\$21,010.48



venmo



REGION 7

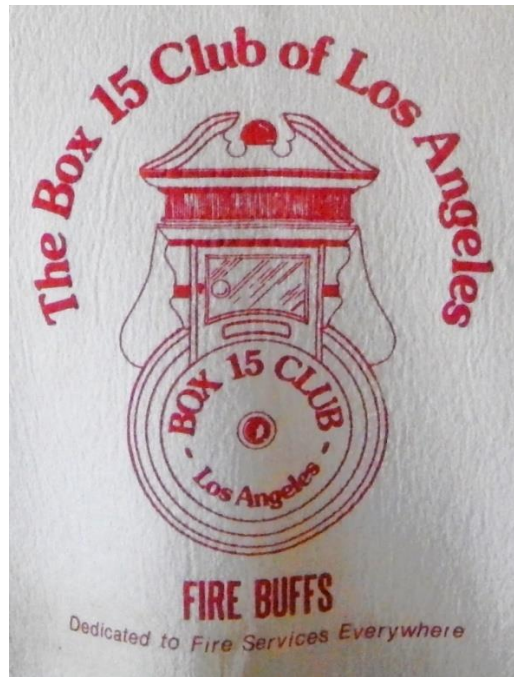
Box 15 Club of Los Angeles – 1949 (1963 IFBA)
c/o Charles Steele
2424 Earl St.
Los Angeles CA 90039
Box15_la@hotmail.com

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

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

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

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



Pictures from the 130-year celebration of the Plaza Firehouse on Olvera St., in the El Pueblo Historic Park. It was the first firehouse built by the City of Los Angeles. There was a display of apparatus from the LAFD, along with apparatus from neighboring departments. The Firehouse was built in 1884, which predates the creation of the LAFD in 1886. It was staffed by volunteers in the beginning.

Among the apparatus on display was the sole surviving FDNY Rescue from 9/11, which was touring the country at the time.

The Box 15 Club of Los Angeles has held our monthly meeting here since the early 1960's









Care to Tacoma Firefighters Since 1986

The Tacoma Fire Buff Battalion

THE TACOMA FIRE BUFF BATTALION RECOGNIZED

BY THE TACOMA CITY COUNCIL

At the May 14, 2024 Tacoma City Council Meeting, Deputy Mayor John Hines, on behalf of Mayor Victoria Woodards and the Tacoma City Council, awarded the Tacoma Fire Buff Battalion the following Compassionate Tacoma Recognition.





John Hines, Deputy Mayor, City of Tacoma:

“The Tacoma Fire Buff Battalion comes out to support the Tacoma firefighters. They bring Gatorade and water, supporting them. All volunteers. That’s a wonderful example of the volunteer spirit and compassion we want to see here in our city of Tacoma.”

Pat McElligott, Vice President Local 31 of the IAFF:

“I want to thank the fire buffs on behalf of Local 31 and all my brothers and sisters. The work they do for us is incredible. We show up because we have to; the fire buffs show up because they want to---and it makes a huge difference for us. All of them are volunteers that run off donations and the kindness of their hearts. It’s super appreciated by all of us, the Tacoma Fire Department, and Local 31 and I don’t know what we would do without them.”

Toryono Green, Fire Chief, City of Tacoma:

“The fire buffs are really an integral part of the Tacoma Fire Department. When the firefighters come out of the burning building, the faces they see and the smiles that welcome them come from our fire buffs. The fire buffs give them all the resources they need to replenish themselves so that they can go back into that building and do what needs to be done and finish the work. Without the fire buffs it would be difficult for our folks to do their work safely. They do this as volunteers. They are an example of what a good community member looks like. They do this all day, anytime of the day, and any hour of the night. We are incredibly thankful for them.”

Reflections

WAYNE PRESS- FIRE BUFF, Philadelphia

Fire buffing defined my entire life. At age 6, the sirens of Engine 57 racing south on 56th St. in Philly would call to me. Hopping on my 16" bike, I would chase after them, invariably losing sight after a few blocks. At 8yrs., living in suburban Collingswood, NJ, across the River, I'd go to the part-paid fire dept. to copy their fire reports. Evidently, they were impressed, and decided to ride me around town on their ladder truck and make me an honorary member. But Collingswood never had any working fires! On to the big time, Philly, 7 miles west back across the River. My father, who was not a buff, enabled me to continue buffing by us hanging out at Engine 17 & Rescue 1 in Center City, and eventually the Fire Alarm Room in City Hall. Much later, on to a small college in rural Ohio which had its own completely student-run volunteer fire dept. where I became its Chief. We had a '43 Ford 500 gpm pumper and a grass fire truck and ran with the township vfd on all their calls.

After college, I returned to Philly in 1968 to get my childhood dream job of being a PFD dispatcher which lasted 5 yrs.. The dispatching job and my years of buffing led to a 40 yr. career with ISO as a public protection field rep surveying municipal fire protection in the Phila. tri-state area. Looking back over the years, it seems like I hardly ever worked a day in my life! All during my life, I attended extra-alarm fires whenever possible. Since retiring in 2015, the extra alarms and fires are much fewer and far between. However, I've continued buffing of sorts by volunteering with the Philadelphia 2nd Alarmers, and Philadelphia Fireman's Hall Museum.

Celebration of Service



**Fire Associates of
Santa Clara Valley
and Friends**

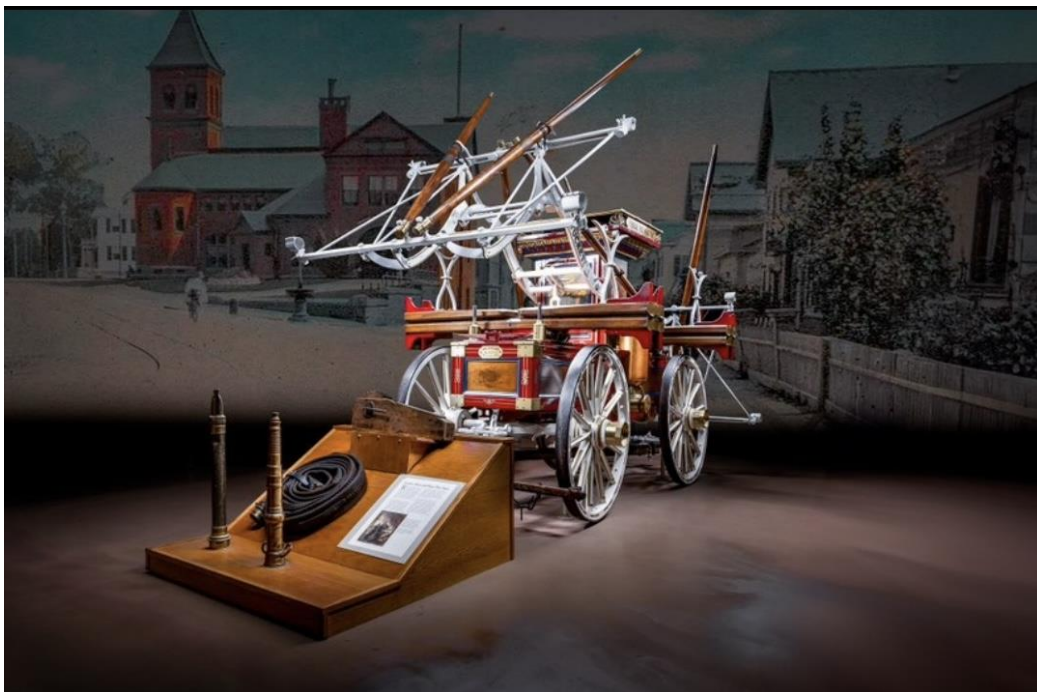


Celebrating over half a century of service to the fire departments of Santa Clara County.

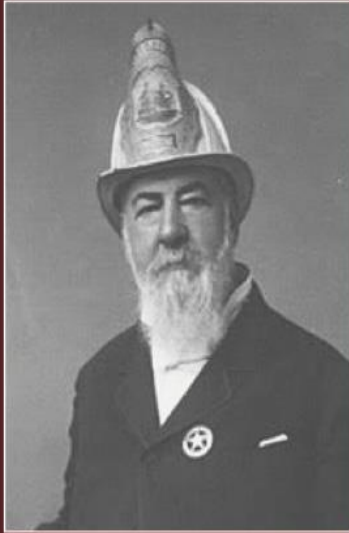
HALL OF FLAME VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION

The Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting

National Historical Fire Foundation



The history of America's pastime is at the Hall of Flame Museum!



THE RULES OF BASEBALL
WERE WRITTEN BY
HALL-OF-FAMER
ALEXANDER JOY
CARTWRIGHT,
A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER.

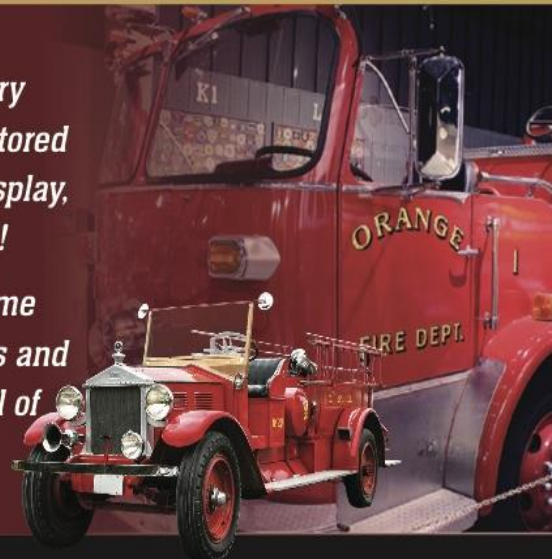


Learn more about this history, and the entire epic history of firefighting, at the Hall of Flame Museum!



Nearly an acre of fire history exhibits with over 90 fully restored pieces of fire apparatus on display, dating from 1725 to 2004!

Visit our website for Storytime Children's Video, Virtual Tours and more information about Hall of Flame Museum!



6101 East Van Buren St. • Phoenix, AZ 85008 • 602-275-3473 • www.HallofFlame.org



REGION 9

Bayonne Fire Canteen, Inc. - 1994
c/o Will Chwalyk
289 Ave. A
Bayonne NJ 07002
Bayonnefirecanteen1@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

County Wide Emergency Response Team - 2023
130 W Mount Pleasant Ave Suite 203
Maywood NJ 07607
Countywide7676@gmail.com

Fire Bell Club of New York, Inc. - 1939
204 E 23rd St.
New York NY 10010
treasurer@firebellclub.org

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

NYCFire.net - 2007
Attn: John Bendick
22 Homecrest Ave
Yonkers, NY 10703-1413
jrbendick@nycfire.net

Passaic County Volunteer Rehab Canteen - 2023
393 Piaget Ave Box 119
Clifton NJ 07011
Ent001@aol.com

Second Alarmers Assoc., Inc. - 1921
2900 Roberts Ave.
Philadelphia PA 19129
Alden.blyth@ymail.com

SPAAMFAA - 1967
Attn: Mark Davis
Gmd36021@gmail.com



GONG CLUB, INC.

JERSEY CITY, NJ

By Ron Jeffers and Paul Schaetzle

NUNDA AVE. BREAKS THE ICE!

After going 50 days without a multiple alarm, the Jersey City Fire Department broke the ice with a fast-moving 4th Alarm! The crisp, frigid morning of Saturday, January 20, 2024 was cloudless, so units responding to Box 519 knew they had work as soon as they turned out. An ominous column of black smoke filled the western horizon as companies rolled down the hill on Duncan Ave.

The fire was located on Nunda Ave., a literally dead-end street (it ends at Holy Name Cemetery!) lined with residential buildings of varying heights. Battalion 4, Batt. Chief Kenneth Simone was “two blocks away” when the box was transmitted. He arrived to find fire in 4 buildings! 2 detached garages were burning furiously in the rear of a single-story dwelling. The front dwelling was involved and the shingles were starting to burn on a detached 2-story frame dwelling to the north. The street to the west, Mallory Ave., also dead ends at the cemetery and homes were in danger on that street as well.

Batt. Chief Simone wasted no time calling for help. 2nd and 3rd Alarms were transmitted in rapid succession. A 4th Alarm was transmitted at 11:38. First due Eng. Co. 9 pulled past the buildings allowing room for the truck companies. Lad. Co. 12 was next to arrive, nosing the rig to the right and then backing the tail end of the apparatus onto the sidewalk. The turntable was now clear of a myriad of overhead wires across the front of the building and threw their stick to the roof.

An aggressive attack in the exposure buildings saved the day! The two rear garages collapsed into a heap of rubble but the exposed dwellings, though damaged, were still standing.

Companies had to relay water in from the main street in the neighborhood, Duncan Ave., into both dead-end streets. Hence, there was plenty of hose to pick up in frigid weather once the fire was under control.

The tactics and hose layouts were almost a carbon copy of the 4th Alarm 9 months earlier on Olean Ave., Box 517 on April 5, 2023. Another dead-end street off Duncan Ave, a scant 2 blocks east of this fire, that blaze heavily damaged 2 multiple dwellings on a dreary, rainy morning.

Car 26, the Gong Club canteen, turned out with a crew of 4, serving 2 gallons of coffee and 6 gallons of hot chocolate to frozen firefighters. One of our outboard heating units was deployed and quickly became a favored gathering spot for the troops.

Response:

11:30 Box 519 Eng. Co. 9-10-15-17 Lad. Co. 12-9
Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt. 4 FTO
11:32 WF 519 Eng. Co. 7 Lad. Co. 11 Sqd. Co. 4-1
MSU Batt. 1
11:34 2-2 519 Eng. Co. 18-5-1 Lad. Co. 3 Batt. 2
Car 3-26
11:37 3-3 519 Eng. Co. 11-8-22 Lad. Co. 2
11:38 4-4 519 Eng. Co. 14-2 Lad. Co. 4 Batt. 3



4-4 519, 215-9 Nunda Ave., Jersey City 1/20/24
Some maneuvering by Ladder Co. 12 (Ron Jeffers Photo)



4-4 519, 215-9 Nunda Ave., Jersey City 1/20/24
A warm spot on a cold day! (Ron Jeffers Photo)

HARD WORK OFF HARMON!

The next major test of the Jersey City Fire Department was the opposite of Nunda Ave. A fire broke out in a mixed occupancy, frame building at 743 Grand St. at Harmon St. The location is one block southwest of a famous Jersey City intersection, "The Junction", where two major thoroughfares cross, Communipaw Ave. and Grand St.

Box 655 was struck at 16:57 on Saturday, March 16, 2024. Squad Co. 4 had a short response from their quarters, 3 blocks to the west on Communipaw Ave. Capt. Anthony Klocko reported a working fire upon arrival. Once again, Group B was on duty and Batt. 4, Batt. Chief Kenneth Simone, was on the heels of Sqd. Co. 4. Batt. Chief Simone reported heavy smoke on the 1st and 2nd floors of the fire building and smoke showing from an attached exposure building to the east. Batt. 4 special called an additional engine and ladder 4 minutes after the working fire assignment was dispatched. Res. Co. 1 reported fire in the ceiling on the 1st floor of the exposure as did Squad 4 in the ceiling of the ground floor store of the fire building. Batt. Chief Simone transmitted a full 2nd Alarm at 17:06.

Deputy Chief Joseph Menendez, Group C, but working a mutual exchange of tours, arrived and assumed command at the same time. He reported a 3-story frame; commercial occupancy on the ground floor; heavy fire on the 2nd floor, extending to the 3rd floor; 3 lines stretched and operating. Conditions continued to deteriorate. Three minutes later, Deputy Chief Menendez struck a 3rd Alarm at 17:09 hours.

Third Alarm companies were ordered to report to the command post for assignment. Eng. Co. 9 reported heavy fire in the cockloft, extending to the exposure. Res. Co. 1 cut a hole in the roof, reporting no fire but "a lot of smoke". Batt. 4 now reported there was heavy fire running up

the walls between the two buildings into the cocklofts.

There was no lack of work for the 3rd Alarm units. They were soon working 3 handlines in the exposure building and checking the next building to the east, #739 Grand St. A long and arduous chase continued for nearly 2 more hours. Fire had traveled up void spaces of the aging wooden structures. An additional ladder company was special called. FAST units were swapped out, giving everyone a chance to work.

Batt. 3, Batt. Chief Richard Gorman, reported 2 8' x 8' holes had been cut in the roof, greatly improving interior conditions. Units worked through the evening hours, opening up and extinguishing pockets of fire.

Incredibly, despite being located on a busy street, near a major intersection and broad daylight, police surveillance cameras in the neighborhood captured smoke coming from the building for nearly 30 minutes before the fire was reported!

Unfortunately, with the major streets closed to traffic, a Papa John's pizza store was effectively shut down on what should have been a busy Saturday night. Fortunately, for our crew, a deal was struck, and Papa John's delivered a dozen pizzas, piping hot from the oven, directly to Car 26! In addition to the pizza, the crew served up 2 gallons of coffee, 2 gallons of hot chocolate, 7 gallons of Gatorade and some 224 bottles of water.

Response:

16:57 Box 655 Eng. Co. Sqd. 4-8-22-9 Lad. Co. 4-11
Res. Co. 1 Div. 1 Batt 4 FTO

17:00 WF 655 Eng. Co. 17 Sqd. Co. 1 Lad. Co. 2
MSU Batt. 2

17:04 S/C 655 Eng. Co. 2 Lad. Co. 9

17:06 2-2 655 Eng. Co. 1-5-15 Batt. 1
Car 3-26

17:09 3-3 655 Eng. Co. 6-18-11-19 Lad. Co. 3
Batt. 3

18:22 S/C 655 Lad. Co. 8



3-3 655, 739 – 743 Grand St., Jersey City 3/16/24
Truckies at work! (Ron Jeffers Photo)



3-3 655, 739 – 743 Grand St., Jersey City 3/16/24
Ladder Co. 9 getting it done! (Ron Jeffers Photo)

TWO ODD JOBS IN NORTH HUDSON

The last edition of Turn Out recounted the Thanksgiving Miracle on Bergenline Ave., West New York. Despite a ferocious explosion that lifted the roof off the exposure building and blew out its front façade, no lives were lost! The 10 injured fire fighters are mostly back to work; however, the most seriously injured member continues to recover.

After a night like that, a winter respite was well deserved. Indeed, Car 26, assigned on the 3rd Alarm in North Hudson, didn't have to turn right out of quarters until April 27, 2024. A pleasant Saturday afternoon was interrupted by a 3rd Alarm on busy Tonnelle Ave. This is actually a 4-lane highway, U. S. 1-9 and is always heavily trafficked. Passing motorists were astonished to see blow torch like flames pushing from a ground floor window of 4700 Tonnelle Ave., a modern lightweight frame, block long multiple dwelling! 2nd and 3rd Alarms were rapidly transmitted. With a crew in quarters, Car 26 was out the door upon transmission of the 3rd Alarm.

Even more astonishing than the blow torch flames in mid-afternoon was its source. No, it was not an apartment, but a car parked inside the grade level parking garage of the structure! The garage entrance and exit are located on the side streets. The building fronting on Tonnelle Ave looks to be apartments on all levels; not so!

After knocking down the car fire, companies checked the upper floors for extension of fire. Rigs were jammed into the northbound lanes. Despite the fire activity, one southbound lane was kept open during the fire. Fortunately, it was a Saturday and the fire was controlled relatively quickly. If a fire of consequence had occurred on a typical weekday, traffic would have been backed up to Philadelphia!

Just 5 days later, North Hudson fire fighters would be put to the test again with another unusual battle! Thursday, May 2, 2024 was unseasonably warm for mid-Spring. Numerous calls were received for a fire shortly after 14:00 at 409 41st St. Thick, brown smoke filled the neighborhood, but nothing was visible from the street! An oddity unique to mostly Hudson County, the fire involved a rear tenement, sometimes referred to as "a rookery"!

In the late 1800's and early 20th century, it was not uncommon to build another dwelling in a rear yard of the street-fronting structure. Although such hidden buildings would probably be prohibited by modern building codes, Union City, Hoboken and Downtown Jersey City have slew of such hidden buildings.

Fires in such structures are a logistical nightmare! Handlines have to be stretched through alleys or even hallways of the front building. Ground ladders and all other equipment have to be lugged into the rear tenement in the same manner, a very labor intensive operation!

Confronted with this situation, 2nd and 3rd Alarms were transmitted in rapid succession. This rear tenement was a 2 ½ story frame, peaked roof structure, with heavy smoke throughout. Although hemmed in by street-fronting structures, fire fighters managed to confine the fire to the building of origin.

The unusually warm weather didn't help! A 4th Alarm was transmitted, bringing Jersey City companies to join the fight. After a 2-hour fight, the fire was placed under control. Car 26, staffed by 3 members, quenched thirsts with 8 gallons of Gatorade and 240 bottles of water.



3-3 4700 Tonnelle Ave., North Bergen, 4/27/24
Fire apparatus rush hour! (Ron Jeffers Photo)

“NEW AND IMPROVED, BUT SLIGHTLY USED” ...

With those words, Captain Thomas Verdino placed Ladder Co. 3 in service with their “new” apparatus on Wednesday, May 8, 2024. In a highly unusual move, Jersey City purchased a used 1997 Pierce tractor-trailer 100’ aerial from Kingston, NY. After some painting, body work and re-lettering, Ladder Co. 3’s crew trained on the rig and it was placed in service as their permanent piece.

The company’s 2010 Crimson 100’ tractor trailer was not feasible to keep in service and will be disposed of. A new rig is on order from E-One, another tractor-trailer, but that rig is a

year away. The Pierce was placed in service at a fraction of the cost of a new tractor-trailer.

Ladder Co. 3 is the first due truck to Car 26’s quarters. The company stopped by on our meeting day, Saturday, May 11th, for some training in our side yard!

It didn’t take long to use the rig for real! Ladder Co. 3 responded as part of a mutual aid assignment to a 2nd Alarm at 60 Enterprise Ave. North in Secaucus on May 23, 2024. The Pierce was put through its paces, operating its pre-piped ladder pipe at a large warehouse fire for several hours.



Ladder Co. 3 at Car 26 Quarters, 5/11/24
1997 Pierce 100' ex-Kingston, NY (Adolph Passburg Photo)

AVE ATQUE VALE!

Congratulations are in order for Jersey City Chief of Department Stephan Drennan! Since the retirement of Chief Steven McGill last year, Deputy Chief Drennan had been serving in that position as Provisional Chief of Department, pending a State Dept. of Personnel (Civil Service) test for the top rank. Chief Drennan topped the list and has now dropped the "Provisional" word from his rank.

The new Chief is a 2nd generation Jersey City fire fighter, part of the famous Drennan family. At one point there were 13 members of the Drennan family on the job. Chief Drennan's son, Brandon, continues the tradition; he is a fire fighter assigned to Eng., Co. 8!

Alas, Chief Drennan reaches mandatory retirement age in July 2024, so his term in office will be short-lived. The next Chief will come from the same list, so stay tuned!



**Chief of Department Stephan Drennan,
the 19th Chief of the Jersey City Fire Department
(Ron Jeffers Photo)**



THE FIRE BELL CLUB OF NEW YORK, INC.

Organized February 10, 1939

*Preserving the History and Traditions of the
Fire Department of New York*

204 EAST 23 STREET

(212) 448-1240

New York, NY 10010-4628

www.firebellclub.org

By Alfred Epstein, Former Chairman of the Board of Directors

The Fire Bell Club, the oldest and largest such group in the New York City area consists of both individuals, both in and outside of the fire service. These members have a strong interest in the Fire Department of New York (FDNY).

The FBC was organized on February 10, 1939 by a group of 22 fire buffs. These founding members included Frank Brannigan.

In October 1940, Fire Commissioner John J. McElligott authorized the Bureau of Fire Communications to install an official fire alarm telegraph circuit in the clubs meeting room.

Members of the FBC are regularly involved with public relations service with the FDNY, attend Department functions, and contribute a vast amount of time and effort to the Fire Museum and the FDNY Mand Library.



Fire Commissioner Laura Kavanagh and Fire Bell Club President Sergio Nieto.

Photo By FBC member Nicholas Truong

The FBC awards the Fire Bell Club Medal biannually since 1984 as an expression of their admiration and appreciation that has existed between the FDNY and the Club. In addition, the club sponsors 2 scholarships to the FDNY, The Fire Bell Club Scholarship to a member of the FDNY and the Joseph Higgins Scholarship to an EMS member or Fire Alarm Dispatcher. Joseph Higgins was the past president of the club.



Acting Chief of Department John Esposito. Photo By FBC member Nicholas Truong

Our 85th Anniversary dinner was held on June 11, 2024. The club honored the winner of the Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr Medal and the Fire Bell Club Medal. Also honored was former FDNY Fire Marshall, a friend of the club Gene West.

Since 1869 the FDNY has been awarded an annual medal for the highest act of bravery by a firefighter or fire officer. Prior to 2020 this medal was the James Gordon Bennett Medal and in 2020 it was renamed to the Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci Medal. Chief Ganci was the highest-ranking uniformed member of the FDNY killed on September 11, 2001. A copy of the 2024 Medal Day book is available here

<https://www.nyc.gov/assets/fdny/downloads/pdf/about/medal-day-book-2024.pdf>



**FDNY Emerald Society Pipes and Drums with the Honorees.
(L-R) Captain James F. McAlevey Fire Bell Club Medal winner,
Lieutenant Mark H. Russ, Chief of Department Peter J. Ganci, Jr. Medal winner
and former FDNY Fire Marshall Gene West.
Photo By FBC member Nicholas Truong**

FDNY Apparatus Update

The FDNY has added a new piece of apparatus during 2023. It was originally called an Industrial Pumper, but then former Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro decided to name it the Super Pumper. It is quite different from the original Super Pumper. The captain of the original Super Pumper was FBC member Ray Flood.

FDNY has also decided to replace 5 Rear Mount ladder companies with Tiller ladders. The decision was based on their 1st due response area and if they had a tiller ladder many years ago and if the quarters can support a tiller ladder. The first one was delivered prior to the Fire Bell Clubs annual visit to the Repair Shops in May. It is going to Ladder 169 in the Brighton Beach section of Brooklyn.



Original Super Pumper Tender, Photo credit to FBC Member Allan Hyatt



Original Super Pumper, Photo credit to FBC member Allan Hyatt



New Super Pumper, Photo credit to FBC member Michael Martinelli, www.FDNYTRUCKS.com



Ladder 169, Photo By FBC Member Paul Shea



New Engine 292, Photo by Paul Shea



New Ladder 8, Photo by Paul Shea



New Rescue Medic Ambulance, Photo by Paul Shea



Have you realized that half of 2024 has already passed by? So now, we as fire enthusiasts are getting ready to attend the annual department parades or even to attend a club trip to visit a fire museum or a distant department. How about attending the annual IFBA convention this year in Richmond, VA starting on the 24th of September?

Capturing that 'right angle for a photo' of a new rig is something that we all strive to do. I know that I am guilty of putting the photos into storage and forgetting about them. Now we can show them off in 'Turnout' or even on the web. If your organization does not have a website, then please think about sharing them with NYCFire.net. Let the world see them!

During the month of June (2024), we received over 300 applications to join. Not only from persons within the United States, however, there were applications from 11 new foreign counties, places that I never heard of. So far, we have received applications from 48 different countries. Now that is not too shabby.

Last month we broke another record while reviewing the 10,700 plus applications that have been received since the group started at the end of 2006. During this time, what is bringing applicants to NYCFire.net is an interesting question. Is it the website?

Possibly or is it the fact that we don't charge dues. The true answer is that we really don't know. Teenagers are permitted to join as long they show an interest in the fire service. On the other hand, we have members in their 90's who have witnessed major changes in the fire service during their lifetime. Some of them might have witnessed motorized fire apparatus that were originally pulled by horses. Stop and think about the stories that they could tell.

As an organization within IFBA, we are responsible for educating others, besides preserving fire service history. We have been doing just that by using the website. In addition, when we get together, either in person or via zoom, we always make sure that time is provided to talk about the past. Thanks to our members, we make sure that there is a history period to have participants present photos from the past. During the Zoom meetings it's easy for us to have a member dig into their files and show some photos of a previous fire anywhere in the world. Or maybe pull out some photos of older rigs. It's fun, but it is also an educational experience for others.

The year started off with Wayne Powell, a 50-year veteran of the Fire Service, presenting "A Historical Look at the National Fire Academy". Mr Powell served as a senior staff member at their Emmitsburg, Maryland facility until he retired. His presentation provided an interesting perspective about why some of their partnerships have proven so vital to America's defenses against unwanted fires. The attendees were provided with information about many of USFA's ongoing programs.

February saw the crew receiving a briefing from Elliot Paisner II, a student at the University of Maryland's Fire Engineering program, concerning how 'Our National Treasures' are protected by the Smithsonian Institute. The museum is also responsible for the safety of the 'occupants' at the National Zoological Park. Elliot is also a volunteer fireman in Prince George's County, Maryland.

In March, Gary Greenbaum, a veteran of 41 years' service to FDNY's Bureau of Fire Communications, presented several powerpoint presentations providing information about FDNY Communications Operations. Gary, over the years, worked in all the five boroughs including headquarters.

April brought one of the best know fire service personalities to our Zoom program. Vito Maggiolo has been known for many years as the 'PIO' officer (Public Information Officer) for the Washington DC Fire Department. Prior, Vito was an Auxiliary Fire Lieutenant In the Bronx with Engine 62. During the 'War Years' Engine 62 used to interchange with Engine 82. So, Vito spent many nights in the South Bronx as it was burning. For years, he was also part of the volunteer crew who manned the Salvation Army Canteen daily in The Bronx.

It is hard to find a superstar after Vito is a presenter, but we tried by calling upon a 52-year veteran of the fire service as the May guest speaker. A person who went from being a fire cadet to Chief of Department. A man who started as a volunteer, then becoming a paid-on call smoke-eater before landing a full-time job. Currently Dave Traiforos serves as an instructor with the McHenry County College Fire Academy. Dave had just returned from making a presentation at the annual FDIC gathering in Indiana, when he made a special performance for our membership. The topic 'Learning from Others' Experiences'. Boy oh boy, was this an eye opener.

'The Professor', Gary Greenbaum was called at the last minute to fill in for our scheduled June speaker, who had a medical procedure earlier that day. Gary kept all the members' attention as he presented additional information about the past years of FDNY.

July was Tom Bendick's time to talk about one of the three video units that FDNY maintains. Tom, a 24-year FDNY veteran, works for the unit that is stationed at the Fire Academy. He was one of the FDNY's presenters at the recent FDIC conference. His lecture provided information that most of the members were unaware of and found extremely interesting.

Publicly I would like to thank all our speakers. Just wait until you see who else has been invited for the remainder of the year.

If you are interested in joining this group, please go to our website, NYCFire.net, and fill out an application. There are no fees or dues. While visiting the site, notice that some registered members are usually present and often, there are several hundred visitors viewing the site's vast content.



REGION 10

Appel-99 Quebec - 1989
Att: Richard Gauvin
140 Rue St. Jean #307
Quebec City, Quebec
CANADA G1R 1N7
rjobin@gmail.com
info@clubappel99.ca

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

Pompiers Auxiliaires de Montreal – 9/10/1944
5100 Boul. St. Laurent
Montreal, Quebec
CANADA H2T 1R8
stevegarnett411@gmail.com
museedespompiers@videotron.ca

Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Assn. - 1975
701-70 Drury St
Bradford, Ontario
CANADA L3Z 1W9
gtmaal1975@gmail.com

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

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

Montreal Auxiliary Firefighters



Historical celebrations

This is an important year for the Pompiers Auxiliaires de Montréal, with two historical events taking place within the group:

Not only will we be celebrating our 80th anniversary in September of this year... 2024 also marks the 20th anniversary of the presidency of Steve Garnett, who officially holds the title of being the youngest member ever voted into that position and second longest running president.

Over the course of the last 80 years, not only have there been many faces that have come and gone within the group, but there have also been major changes in the role that the PAM plays both within the Montreal Fire Service and within the community.

In the early days, members would stay in the background as the firefighters did their job extinguishing the fires and then cleaning up the site and their equipment. Once the job was complete, the commanding officer would then give permission to his men to go get a coffee from the auxiliaries before heading back to the station.

Eventually, the PAM were outfitted with vehicles supplied by the city, allowing them to not only serve refreshments, but to assist in transporting both injured firefighters and civilians to the hospital for immediate care.

Today, while local ambulance services provide most of the first aid treatment as well as all medical transportation, we still provide rehab, refreshments and medical aid when needed. Our vehicles have evolved into bigger models, outfitted with all of the modern conveniences necessary to carry out our mission on fire scenes and our training has evolved to include not only basic first aid, but also CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and the use of AEDs (automated external defibrillators) and other, more advanced techniques.

We strive to adhere to the most recent methods in both first aid and in the rehab services provided to our brothers and sisters in the fire service. We make sure that our truck is on site at every single intervention during extreme weather conditions and extraordinary circumstances.

We represent the Montreal Fire Service at various community events both on and off island, be it for parades, for Family Days, etc. We do so by showing off our collection of antique vehicles for the public to enjoy and by bringing along our museum tent, showing off a small sample of old firefighting paraphernalia and photographs in the hopes of encouraging visitors to come by our museum.

The last few years have seen the launch of our websites – one for the museum aspect and one for the operations aspect (WWW.APAMTL.CA). Included on the website is an on-line store where people can purchase t-shirts and other memorabilia sporting the PAM logo, and all profits are thrown back into the maintenance of the trucks and the museum. We have also created a quarterly newsletter called Le Ticker, named after the ticker machine, that was used at the turn of the 19th century to transmit calls from the alarm boxes to the communications central.

We have come a long way over the past eight decades, but there is no way that we will be stopping there!

The first half of this year

Over the course of the last six months, the PAM have responded to 45 calls and participated in several community events.

For the first time ever, we had a team participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Run which is the largest annual fundraiser for Special Olympics athletes. In February, alongside the Montreal Police and various politicians, four of our members voluntarily jumped into the frigid waters of the Saint-Lawrence River. The water temperature was between 2 and 4 degrees Celsius (which would be around 37 degrees Fahrenheit) and we were thankful for a relatively mild, sunny day. Kudos to Anna, Jacob, Louis and Daniel!

March brought the Irish celebrations and several parades. We were very pleased to once again have the Montreal Firefighters Emerald Society by our side for the events.

The PAM have been present for all of the swearing-in ceremonies for the new recruits within the Montreal Fire Service; we rolled out a few antique trucks to support the Montreal Honor Guard during their annual car wash, raising funds for Opération Enfant Soleil (Sun Youth) and we participated in a weekend-long festival hosted by Montreal 's Mile-End borough which is the neighbourhood where our museum is located. Over the course of the 2 days, our doors were open to the public and we had more than 2000 visitors. The firefighters next door had a barbeque for the community, the technical rescue team performed high rescue demonstrations from the roof of the museum, prevention was on site with the smoke house and we were able to bring out several of the antique trucks to put on display as the street was closed to traffic. Judging by the line-ups for people waiting to have their pictures taken while sitting at the wheel, the citizens loved it! City officials intend to make the weekend a yearly event.



Several of our members were implicated in the Formula One race in Montreal, chauffeuring shuttles around Saint-Helen's Island and the racetrack. We participated in the annual Firefighters' Day celebrations in Laval, just north of Montreal and we were present for McHappy Day, gladly supporting our newest sponsor – the McDonald's located in the borough of Saint-Leonard. They are now the official suppliers of the coffee that we serve to the firefighters.

We have had several heatwaves already, with temperatures soaring into the high 40s with the humidity (for our American friends, that would be almost 115 degrees Fahrenheit). Our showers, misting fans and Kore Cooler © chairs have been in high demand and we have had teams responding to every 1st alarm, gas leak and specialty calls every time the relative temperature reached 30 degrees Celsius – or 86 degrees Fahrenheit.

The museum remains open every Sunday afternoon, and we have had many reservations for private tours during weekdays, including the personnel from dispatch at headquarters. We are always on the lookout for new talent to join our ranks, and we are very pleased to add the name of the notorious J. Gordon Routley to our roster and to reiterate the long-standing associate membership of Mr. Rick Leckner.

The coming months promise to be as busy as ever, with multiple events already confirmed. Steve and Tracey are both active on the planning committee for the 2025 IFBA convention that will be held in our nation's capitol region of Ottawa/Gatineau, and we look forward to having many of you come up to Canada for a visit. We know that our co-hosts, The Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Association (GTMAA) and the Ontario Fire Buffs Association (OFBA) join us in encouraging you to get your passport in order to be able to come visit us from September 14th to September 18th, 2025.

On behalf of all of the Pompiers Auxiliaires de Montreal, we wish you a fantastic summer.

Stay safe!



ST-PATRICK'S PARADE 2024



POLAR ICE JUMP



HONOR GUARD CAR WASH



MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE



CITY HALL OPEN HOUSE



MONTREAL AUXILIARY ON THE SCENE



MONTREAL AUXILIARY ON THE SCENE



FIRE SCENE REHAB



FIRE SCENE REHAB





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

Region 11 Annual Report. 28 June 2024

Wilson County TN Rehab 23

Rehab 23 has supported 3 Active Shooter Training events dating back to July of 23.

These include all Law Enforcement in Wilson County plus THP, TBI and Homeland Security.

We are on site all day and provide lunch to 150.

The last event in March also included our two EMS agencies that were in the high school to handle medical issues of the 30 doing role play.

For our 4th year we will support ~125 First Responders during the late June NASCAR event at Nashville Superspeedway. We provide our routine offerings plus 3 meals/day Fri/Sat/Sun.

NASCAR donates \$10k to us. We spend ~6k and that leaves us \$4k as a donation.

We also recently support the Dangerous Drug Task Force of Middle TN as they trained on a mobile drug testing device for a full day.

regards,

Linn Yeager, President

www.rehab23.org

Metropolitan Fire Association – Atlanta

No report

(The MFA is rapidly losing ground. No member has stepped up to be the Corresponding Secretary and therefore no one to submit a report to IFBA)

Respectively submitted

Dave Williams, CFPS

Soon to be replaced Region 11 VP



Box 55 - Nashville TN

Box 55 Association has had a good year.

Membership: We have had a slight increase with 39 active members. Our strategy of recruiting younger members is working and we are committed to a succession plan for growth and sustainability of our organization. We are very careful on screening, vetting, background checks and training for all new members.

Vehicles: We operate in a 2016 Sprinter Van and 2020 Sprinter Van. We have ordered a 2024 Ford Van on November 17, 2023, and as of this writing no VIN or build date has been assigned. We are considering keeping all three units when the 2024 is built out and placed in service based on volume of runs, back up for maintenance, etc.

Agencies served: We support Nashville Fire Department, Metro Nashville Police Department, Office of Emergency Management, TN Dept of Transportation, TN Highway Patrol and others in Davidson County as well as area Counties by request.

Rehab Development: We are the Founding Member of the Middle TN Rehab Alliance, a group of 8 Rehab organizations from Surrounding Counties. We meet monthly for new ideas, problem solving and Mutual Aid Response planning.

Responses: in 2023, Box 55 Association made 442 on scene responses to the served agencies. We are on pace to surpass that this year. Nashville/Davidson County TN continues to have growth. We respond on all working incidents for Fire and OEM. Protocols are in place for responses to PD SWAT and other incidents.

Recognition: We recognized Buck Dozier, former Fire Chief, long time member and President of Box 55 on his retirement in December of 2023.

Necrology: We mourn the passing of Ed Sandoval, 35-year member of Box 55 in October of 2023.

Summary: We look forward to many more years of service to our front line First Responders.

Thank you,
Be well and safe,

Rick Short
Board President
Box 55 Association
C) 615-840-1703

VP Elect Region 11--IFBA

Antique Fire Apparatus Show and Flea Market

March 6 to 8, 2025

Wydham Orlando Resort & Convention Center-Celebration
3011 Maingate Lane, Kissimmee, Florida

Sponsored by the Florida Antique Bucket Brigade (FABB), in conjunction with
The 2025 Winter SPAAMFAA (Society for the Preservation & Appreciation of
Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America) Convention.

Saturday March 8 - 9:30am to 3:30pm—Apparatus Displays

Awards to be Presented

Longest distance driven out of state: Trophy & \$150	Best appearing non-motorized – 1 st & 2 nd
Longest distance transported out of state: Trophy & \$150	Oldest non-motorized - 1 st & 2 nd
Longest distance driven in state: Trophy & \$100	Oldest motorized - 1 st & 2 nd
Longest distance transported in state: Trophy & \$100	Hard luck award
Best appearing apparatus/vehicle - 1925 & older- 1 st & 2 nd	Judges Award (2)
Best appearing apparatus/vehicle – 1926 – 1950 - 1 st & 2 nd	Fastest Water (2)
Best appearing apparatus/vehicle - 1951 – 1975 - 1 st & 2 nd	Most Original Apparatus (unrestored)
Best appearing apparatus/vehicle - 1976 – 2000 - 1 st & 2 nd	Chief's Choice (any entry)

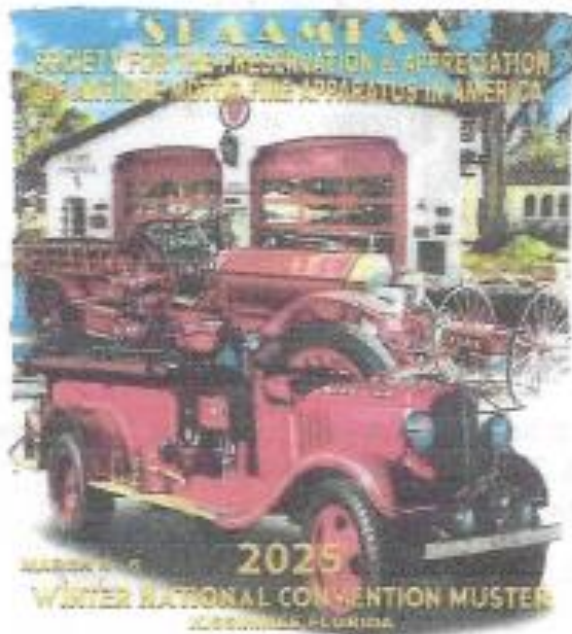
Fire Related Flea Market

Indoor and Outdoor Displays

Tee shirts - books—nozzles—gauges—toys— lights—sirens— and much more

Thursday March 6—1:00pm to 5:00pm Friday March 7— 7:30am to 5:00pm

Saturday March 8— 7:30am to 3:00pm



For additional information, book a hotel room,
or to download the Convention package, visit
our web site at: fabbfire.org.

Or contact Bob Romig at: bobfire17@gmail.com
or

"Bo" Borwegen at: firetruckbo1955@gmail.com





Metropolitan Fire Association

Metropolitan Fire Association - Atlanta GA

During the travel restrictions and no visitors rules by departments caused by the COVID pandemic, the Metropolitan Fire Association of Atlanta shifted to virtual meetings to keep club membership engaged and updated on things going on. Due to the age of the members of the club, we voted to have only virtual monthly meetings. This has worked very well and lets members avoid needing to leave home 3 and 4 hours ahead of a meeting time and location just to get there. The virtual system has eliminated having to fight the horrible traffic conditions all over the twenty-nine county Atlanta Standard Metro Statistical Area (SMSA). Members voted to make use of the virtual meeting capability offered through the MFA's membership in the IFBA. This has increased our monthly meeting attendance and allowed several MFA members living well outside of metro Atlanta to join in on a regular basis. We regularly have club members from Texas, Virginia, New York, Maryland, Florida and other areas as well as IFBA executive staff members participate with us.

An additional advantage of using this virtual system is allowing guest speakers all around the country to sit in the comfort of their own home but give us a rundown on events they recently have handled such as the hospital fire and evacuation in Brockton, Massachusetts. We now have had speakers from all over the State of Georgia as well as throughout the country and even international speakers. We would never have had this opportunity without the virtual connection. We highly recommend sister clubs use the virtual connection even if you are still conducting in-person meetings. The virtual window gives MFA Members an opportunity to participate and sit in on virtual meetings of other IFBA Clubs that are also using a virtual connection to their meetings. It really pulls the fire buffing community that much closer together.

These virtual meetings are being supplemented by several "Field Trip" events during the year. Normally, these will be on a Saturday morning when the traffic issues are not as severe as trying to get somewhere on a weekday evening and fighting the afternoon rush hour congestion. We make physical visits to see various departments with new apparatus and in some cases new stations. We also have visited large industrial locations which have internal fire departments and since on a weekend, an opportunity to tour the plants. Following the plant or industrial visit we then re-gather at a nearby restaurant for a dutch lunch which give the in person visit and we can conduct whatever business we need to at that time as well. If your club is conducting a virtual connection, please cross post the date, time and access information to the IFBA - FaceBook page so we can join in!!

Dave Williams, CFPS

Metropolitan Fire Association - Atlanta GA



TIMELY TOPICS



How to Erase Unwanted Items from iPhone Photos

Posted: 10/09/2023

Photographer Clifford Pickett from [iPhone Editing Academy](#) recently showcased an app that has proven indispensable for cleaning up photos: *Touch Retouch*. If you've seen the [video tutorial](#), you'll know how the application transforms images by seamlessly removing unwanted distractions. Here are the significant takeaways from the tutorial.

1. Easy Access and Integration:

- With a single click, you can import photos from your gallery to the Touch Retouch app.
- The app launches instantly and conveniently opens the chosen photo.

2. The Power of Lines:

- Spot an unsightly power line or cable in your image? The "Lines" tool helps eliminate it.
- In some cases, particularly with thicker cables, adjusting the line thickness setting ensures optimal results.
- With Touch Retouch, often just highlighting a portion of the line is enough, and the app smartly completes the rest.

3. Object Removal with Precision:

- The "Objects" tool lets you paint over unwanted objects and swiftly erase them.
- A simple tap on "Go" and distractions vanish, making your main subject stand out even more.

4. Detailed Clean-Up:

- Zooming in allows for more accurate editing, especially for smaller distractions or blemishes.
- With the tap and hold feature on the top right icon, you can easily compare the original image to the edited one, revealing the profound impact of your retouching.

5. Export in Preferred Format:

- Once done, you can export your cleaned-up image directly to your camera roll.
- For iPhone users, the default export format is HEIC, though Touch Retouch allows customizations for your preferences.

6. Advanced Removal – Fences and Meshes:

- A seemingly complicated task, like removing a fence, becomes astonishingly easy with the "Meshes" tool.
- The tool detects and highlights the fence, and with adjustments to the sensitivity slider, you can perfect the selection. A simple tap and the entire fence disappears!



SPECIAL FEATURE



Office of the Vice President at Large Joseph P. Sullivan

During her term as President, Vickie Mokros formed a Retention and Recruitment Committee tasked with, among other things, bringing younger members into the IFBA. A highlight of the Milwaukee 2023 Convention was the blooming of her inspiration to bring new and younger members on board.

At least 10% of the attendees were what we considered younger members, being those in their 20's, 30's and 40's. These folks met, had fun, and bonded during the convention and started to make plans to attend next year's convention in Richmond. They are all fine people, and we need to encourage, nurture, and embrace them as future leaders of the IFBA.

Included in the New Breed:

John J. Hooper from Wichita

Zachory Domingues from Providence

Dewey Olsen from Waterloo WI

Micah Bodford from North Carolina

Ashley Ristic from Milwaukee

Bobby O'Brien from Nashville

Ryan Olsen from the St. Paul area

Rachel Botzet from St. Paul

Trevor Burgess and his mom Megan from Milwaukee area.

Yes, Rachel and Ryan are planning to be married the week after the Richmond Convention

In addition, three of our new Officers for 2023-2024 fall into the same category

Dan Wolfe Region 7 VP

Charles Lewis Region 3 VP

Matt Ford 2nd VP

The Milwaukee Fire Bell Club also jumped onto the youth movement by integrating several younger members onto the well-oiled Convention Team that will perpetuate the Milwaukee conventions for the foreseeable future.

We welcome all the new members and pledge to guide them as they enjoy and benefit from membership in the IFBA.



Office of the Vice President at Large
Joseph P. Sullivan



Dan Wolfe



Bob O'Brien

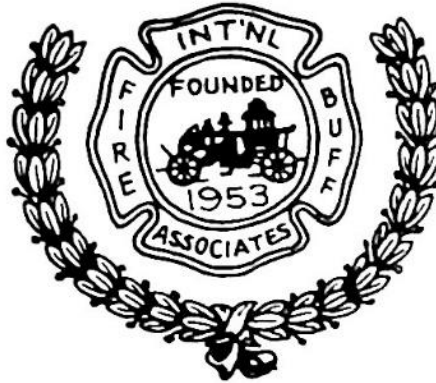


L-R Micah Bodford, Ryan Olsen, Rachel Botzet, JJ Hooper



Necrology

In Memoriam



Every person lives life with the knowledge that one day it must end. For some, this day comes in the golden years, after tasks are completed, missions fulfilled. Others are taken before their tasks are completed, and when they are still providing inspiration, leadership and service to their comrades and fellow humans.

It matters not whether these persons whose memory we honor here were members of the fire service or just plain citizens, vitally interested in the fire service. They all have had one thing in common: the advancement of the fire service for the protection and welfare of all.

Therefore, we here pay special homage to the memory of the following named members of Member Groups of the International Fire Buff Associates, Inc., who have made their 'final run' and passed on during the current year.

Anthony J. Rzucidlo

– Box 42 Detroit

Albert (Al) Fay

– Boston Sparks Life Member

Paul Garant

– Leather Helmet Society

Joseph Scully Jr

– Leather Helmet Society

Fr Dan Mahoney

– Box 52, Boston Sparks

Ed Sandoval

– Box 55 Nashville



Larry M Childress – Region 5



Bernard Grandjany
Third Alarm Association, NYCFire.Net



Gordie Kirkpatrick – OFBA Honorary



Put HIS safety first



**STOP
FIRES
SAVE
LIVES**

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK - OCTOBER 5-11

