

# THE BUGLE

October - December 2007

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## RINGING A TOLL OF THANKS

### Sam Miller is Aboard After a Visit to the Fire Museum

By Scott Carpenter

I'm sure you are all familiar with the expression, "Good things come to those who wait." Well on November 20<sup>th</sup> a long wait ended and something good happened to the Fire Museum. But first let me tell you a little story...

On October 11<sup>th</sup> the Fire Museum hosted a reception for the Fallen Firefighters Memorial Committee to honor **Sam Miller**, Co-Chairman of Forest City Enterprises, for his leadership supporting the Memorial. It was a terrific event and we had a wonderful turnout with many civic leaders. Cuyahoga County Commissioners sent a proclamation recognizing **Mr. Miller** for his significant contributions to the Memorial and firefighters and their causes. Many of our guests took a tour of the Fire Museum and some had their picture taken behind the wheel of



Sam Miller visits with Fire Museum Board Members in the Alarm Office.

**Stuart Warner's** Ford Model T fire truck from Cedar Point. The chef of the Cleveland Plain Dealer provided a tremendous spread of hors d'oeuvres, fruits, and other delicious snacks. Our volunteers manned the bar serving beer

and wine donated by Knall Beverage and Dave's Supermarket. For their part the Memorial Committee had a small model of the Fallen Firefighter Memorial made by Cleveland Artist **Ron Dewey** and painted by **Ralph Brussee**. These two artists also collaborated to complete the full-scale Firefighters Memorial located on Cleveland's lake-front and across from Cleveland Browns Stadium. Unfortunately **Mr. Miller** was unable to attend and **Jim Andrews** of the Memorial Committee accepted the model on **Mr. Miller's** behalf. The model was presented to **Mr. Miller** the next day and was warmly received.

Well, as I said before, good things come to those who wait and on November 20<sup>th</sup> **Sam Miller** was able to come to the Fire Museum. Assistant Chief **Norman** and board member CFD Captain **Roy Ziganti**, met **Mr. Miller**

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This newsletter is dedicated to informing the members of the Western Reserve Fire Museum and Education Center of its activities and events.

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### PRESIDENT'S LOG

By John Zangerle

In recent months wheels are really rolling at the Fire Museum. Many of the positive developments are reported in greater detail in this issue of *The Bugle*. As I write this column, I have just finished viewing Channel 3's feature story about the Fire Museum narrated by **Jeff Maynor**. The story was aired on Saturday November 10 & Sunday November 11 as part of four different newscasts. It was great publicity for the Fire Museum and included interviews with Executive Director **Dan Hayden** and Project Manager **Scott Carpenter**. For those who missed it, check it out on our web site at [www.wrfmc.com](http://www.wrfmc.com). Board member **Stu Warner** deserves credit for making initial contact with Channel 3 during the Indians playoff games. He arranged to have Channel 3 do their nightly newscasts from the roof of the Fire Museum overlooking Jacobs Field on the evenings of the home games.

Another recent development is the gift of a fully restored 1952 700 series American LaFrance pumper from our newest Life Member **Rick Rogel**.

The LaFrance comes fully equipped and runs very well. It is a great addition to our collection.

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## SAM MILLER

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at his Terminal Tower office and brought him to the Fire Museum. Sam was joined by his administrative assistant, **Eleanor**, and board member Judge **Tim McGinty**. Assistant Chief **Norman** and board members **John Zangerle**, **Stuart Warner**, Captain **Ziganti**, and myself took our honored guests for a tour of the facility. Afterwards we had lunch in the Day Room and talked about the project and the great need for **Sam's** support.

I am very pleased to report that **Sam Miller** is on board and ready to help us in a variety of ways.

I want to thank board member Judge **Tim McGinty** for his help in making this visit happen. I also want to thank **Chief Stubbs**, Assistant Chief **Norman**, Captain **Ziganti**, and the Firefighters of Engine 1 for their help in bringing our honored guests to the Fire Museum.

So, good things are happening—and now, more than ever, the pressure is on us to get the job done.



Chief Norman and Board members greet Sam Miller upon his arrival to the Fire Museum.

## LOG

(Continued from page 1)

In October the Fire Museum hosted a "Blue Ribbon" event for the Firefighters Memorial committee. The event drew a number of civic and community leaders to the Fire Museum. The reception was a celebration of the completion of the new Firefighters Memorial and a presentation to **Sam Miller** of a scale model of the Memorial. Unfortunately **Sam Miller** was unable to attend that evening. Local 93 past president and memorial committee member **Jim Andrews** accepted the scale model on **Sam Miller's** behalf. Thanks go out to Capital Campaign committee members **Pat Poole** and **Bill O'Brien** for organizing a very elegant and successful event. Thanks also to **Scott Carpenter** who played an important role in arranging the event and expediting the completion of the model of the Memorial.

Also in October we were pleased to receive notification from National City Bank that the Museum will be receiving a substantial grant toward our Capital Campaign. This is a great kick-off for our Capital Campaign and I want to express my thanks to the National

City Bank Private Client Group for their help in providing this funding. Special thanks also go to Capital Campaign Committee member **Chris Geiss** and Board member **Stu Warner** for their help with the application process.

On a number of occasions the Fire Museum has been contacted upon the death of an area firefighter by family or friends who would like a fire engine to serve as a caisson for the funeral. The Fire Museum has not been able to fulfill these requests because it lacks an appropriate apparatus. One of our most active members, **Rob Sheldon**, volunteered to explore the feasibility of acquiring an engine for this purpose. **Rob** prepared a complete business plan and submitted it to the Board. The Board has approved the plan and is in the process of acquiring a more modern piece of apparatus for that could handle these duties. The Museum hopes to have plans finalized by year end.

November is the traditional month for the Division of Fire's annual United Way drive. Thanks go to **Chief Stubbs** for approving the Fire Museum as the location for the United Way meetings. Use of our building gives the firefighters the opportunity to observe the progress we have made at the Museum.

We appreciate the Cleveland Firefighters continuous and generous support of the Museum project. Special thanks go to Board member **Joe Mason** who initiated the firefighter's payroll deduction program and who was available all week to answer any questions firefighters had about their contributions. We also thank Board member Captain **Roy Ziganti** who spent the week efficiently coordinating the movement of fire companies to and from the Museum. We are very pleased to report we received a number of new contributors as well as many who increased their level of contribution to the Museum. These contributions are the backbone of the Museum.

Last, but not least, be sure to mark your calendars now for our Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 27, 2008. The meeting will start at the Fire Museum at 1:00 PM with refreshments. The business meeting will start at 1:30 PM. This is your best opportunity to both receive information about the Museum and ask any questions you may have. We always have great eats and time to socialize with fellow members. See you there.

— **John Zangerle**

# From the Desk of The Executive Director

As you read the articles in this issue of *The Bugle* you will see reference to the "Blue Ribbon" reception we held for the Memorial Committee. When we started to plan this event the Museum was nowhere ready to host it. The building needed to be cleaned up, floors had to be fixed, ceilings had to have loose paint removed, equipment moved and stored, the list goes on and on. So who was going to do all this, the Executive Director and the members of the Board? We could try, but we couldn't do it in time. So I started to call volunteers. The response was overwhelming! I would like to thank those who jumped in and answered the call. **Chris Cook, Paul Bobak, Dean Murad, Johnny Brewington, Mark Condrich, Rob Sheldon, Zak Miklowski, Jeff Volmer, John Ebenger, Mark Storch, Ray Ross, Dick Bowman, Marty McGinty,**

**Steve Nedrich** and we did have our Board members helping. **Stu Warner** was on his hands and knees patching the apparatus bay floor and President **John Zangerle** even came down to help wash the walls even though he was suffering from the flu. And I have to thank **Chief Stubbs** and Assistant Chief **Kelly** for their help and support.

On the day of the event our volunteers included my wife **Bonnie**, my daughter, **Laura**, **Joe Mason's** lovely

wife, **Portia**, **John Zangerle's** wife, (always ready to help) **Patricia**, **Pat Poole** (who did a whole lot for this event) and **Dean Murad**. If I missed anyone who helped I am sorry. Let me know so I can make this correction in future issues of *The Bugle*.

I have been giving a lot of thought in answer to those Fire Museum members who I cross paths with and say to me that they wish they could spare the time and come down to help, but due to varying circumstances can't. We have several pieces of



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## Cleveland Firefighters Just Keep Giving

Starting on November 5th the Fire Museum hosted the CFD United Way Drive and like in years past, made a short presentation to firefighters thanking them for their support. When the Fire Museum last hosted the drive the demolition work had only just begun so coming to the Fire Museum this year gave firefighters a chance to see the progress and gauge for themselves just how we're doing. Companies came in twos, threes and even five at a time. Presenters, board members **Joe Mason** and **Captain Roy Ziganti**, kept their comments short and to the point. The results speak for themselves. All together the Fire Museum added sixteen new members and increased giving by almost four percent. Some firefighters increased their contributions by more than 100%. This is a huge show of support and a testament to the giving nature of all firefighters. Many thanks to Cleveland Firefighters for their support and for making our payroll deduction campaign such a huge success and one of the best in the nation.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Museum regularly receives requests for an apparatus to be used as a carriage for a deceased firefighter's funeral procession. We have been unable to honor those requests because the Museum has lacked a suitable piece of apparatus. After much deliberation, the Board approved the purchase of a 1980 American LaFrance pumper from Fairview Park that will be converted for use in funeral processions and parades. This project was undertaken only after consultation with leaders of the Funeral Directors Association, funeral livery services, and the CFD Honor Guard. The consensus is that this service would be well received.

The Museum will need a list of drivers who would be available to operate the pumper upon request of the funeral livery service. Drivers should be active or retired firefighters and would be expected to wear Class A uniforms. Participating volunteers will need to attend a short orientation program and will be compensated for each driving assignment.

The Board believes this project will provide a service to firefighter's families, but, to be successful, we must have enough volunteers to man the apparatus when needed. If you would be willing to help, please contact the project coordinator, **Rob Sheldon**, at 440-466-2138 or email at [trumpets@windstream.net](mailto:trumpets@windstream.net).

# **Saving History, Saving Lives!**

## **Project Manager's Report**

**By Scott Carpenter**

At the beginning of the year we asked our members to pass a new set of by-laws for the Fire Museum. As Board President, John Zangerle, proposed in the January 2007 Bugle, the revised by-laws would be in keeping with the by-laws of similar historical and cultural organizations. These new by-laws would also make it possible for us to more effectively develop our board and the committees needed to successfully execute our capital campaign. With passage of the new by-laws we have added 7 new trustees and have established a Capital Campaign Committee to help raise the funds needed to establish the Fire Museum. When we are finished we will have added between ten and twenty new trustees and the Capital Campaign Committee will be filled with people who are helping us reach our \$3 million goal. If you know someone who you think might be able to help us in our cause please let me know. Input from membership is both welcome and greatly appreciated.

Members of the board and the capital campaign committee have been meeting since July and have made a lot of progress. Foremost on the list of things to do has been establishing an identity for the Capital Campaign. In September we announced our Capital Campaign, Saving History, Saving Lives! This moniker was derived from our mission statement and its primary objectives: preserving the history of the fire service, and saving lives through fire safety programs. With this identity in place hundreds of capital campaign announcement cards were mailed to prospective donors and those already supporting the project. Over the next couple of months hundreds more will be mailed and even more phone calls will be made. If you are interested in helping with mailings or with any aspect of the capital campaign please don't hesitate to call me at (216) 262-1723.

### **Helping In The Cause:**

**Hon. Michael P. Donnelly**, *Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court*

**Don K. Dreier**, *Executive Vice President, Donley's Inc.*

**Christopher J. Geiss**, *Vice President and Relationship Manager, National City, Private Client Group*

**R. Thomas Green, Jr.**, *Chairman Emeritus, Oglebay Norton Company*

**Clark E. Hawk**, *Department Analyst, Cleveland Clinic*

**Terrence P. Joyce**, *Secretary/Treasurer, Laborers' Local 310*

**Joe Mason**, *Captain, Cleveland Division of Fire, Retired*

**Hon. Timothy J. McGinty**, *Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court*

**Chuck Miller**, *Principal, Doty and Miller Architects*

**Paul Nelson**, *Fire Museum Historian*

**Bill O'Brien**, *Fund-raising Consultant*

**Patricia A. Poole**, *Esq., Baker Hostetler*

**Loree Soggs**, *Executive Director, Cleveland Trade Union Council*

**Paul Stubbs**, *Chief, Cleveland Division of Fire*

**Craig Tame**, *Manager, Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee, U.S. Attorney's Office Northern District of Ohio*

**Stuart A. Warner**, *Industrial Safety Engineer, Retired*

**Charles J. Yowler, M.D.**, *Director, The John A. Gannon Center for Burns and Trauma, MetroHealth Medical Center*

**John A. Zangerle**, *Esq., Baker Hostetler, Retired*

**Roy Ziganti**, *Captain, Cleveland Division of Fire*

## **DESK**

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firefighting equipment that need to be cleaned up and painted. We have hose reels on metal wheels, a couple of wheeled dry chemical extinguishers, that could use a cleaning and some paint-work done. Then they would make a nice piece for display. This kind of project could be done in a fire station by the members, be a Cleveland fire station or one of the suburban firehouses where our members work. Cleveland Fire Station #43 has done work for the Fire Museum by building our Firehouse Bell stand and Station #33 has helped with several mailings. Maybe your firehouse would like to take on a project. If you want to help give me a call at (216) 664-6312.

**— Dan Hayden**

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## **The Illustrated Encyclopedia of American Fire Engine Manufacturers By Walt McCall**

Walt McCall is a good friend of WRFM and his just released (October, 2007) hardbound book (304 pages) is sure to become the "Bible" for anyone interested in fire apparatus. Retail price of this deluxe limited edition is \$99.95, but the Museum has obtained a non-profit discount that allows the Museum to offer this book for \$65.00 as a Fire Museum fund-raiser. We will make arrangements with purchasers for pick-up at the Fire Museum. A limited number of books are available. If you would like a copy, send a check to: Western Reserve Fire Museum, PO Box 39251, Cleveland, OH 44139-0251. Checks should be payable to The Western Reserve Fire Museum. If you have any questions, contact John Zangerle at (216) 316-2804.

# In Memoriam

We lost a great friend. Bill Lee was a loyal supporter of the Fire Museum, at one time serving on the Board of Directors. He also was an active member of the Western Reserve Fire Buffs Association and served as one of the committee chairmen for the International Fire Buffs Convention held here in 1992 that generated the first funds for the Fire Museum.

He started his 36-year CFD fire fighting career at Ladder 1 and worked at old Rescue Squad 4, Rescue Squad 1, Engine 17, Engine 4 and Battalion 4 along with stints at FPB and the FTA. In addition to his fire fighting efforts, Bill is remembered for reorganizing the Department's Arson Squad that significantly reduced the number of arsons in the City and for starting the distribution of free smoke detectors and batteries to the public that helped reduce the number of civilian deaths attributable to fires



## **WILLIAM E. LEE**

Retired Cleveland Fire Chief  
Appointed to Department July 18, 1960  
Retired from Department April 5, 1996  
Served as Chief from June 1, 1994 to April 5, 1996



Leading the funeral cortège is John Zangerle's 1915 Seagrave pumper. Photos by Paul Nelson

# OUT BEYOND I-271

By Paul Nelson

The Western Reserve Fire Buffs Association recently held its fall fire station visitation tour, this time to Ashtabula County which is the largest county by area in the state. The excursion, organized and planned by WRFBA and Museum member Rob Sheldon, included stops in Harpersfield, Trumbull Township, Austinburg, Rock Creek Village/Morgan Township, Jefferson and Geneva. Several interesting old vehicles were found including a pair of Prospect/Model T's at Rock Creek and Jefferson.

Rock Creek 1924 Prospect/Model T  
Chemical engine/rotary gear pumper.  
First Rock Creek motorized apparatus.  
Photos by Paul Nelson



Jefferson 1924 Prospect/Model T Chemical engine. Originally from the Sugar Creek area. Note the two Garret Morgan smoke masks at the rear



Geneva 1983, Sutphen 1500/500/65-ft, Rehab by Precision. Two ex-Cleveland rigs are in service in Ashtabula County, both 1983 Sutphen mini towers that have been rehabbed to like-new condition. They look quite similar to the days of their service in the City with the exception of doors added to enclose the jump seats. The refurbished rigs are located in Geneva and Trumbull Township but it is not clear where they were used in Cleveland.

## Channel 3 Covers Fire Museum Project

This fall the Fire Museum made news. In October the Fire Museum roof served as the location for Channel 3 News and anchors Ramona Robinson and Tim White during the Cleveland Indian's playoff games. Then in early November Channel 3 returned to cover the Fire Museum project. News coverage continued in late November with coverage of our Holiday Fire Safety Demonstration at the Cleveland Fire Training Academy. For more on these stories go to the Fire Museum website [www.wrfmc.com](http://www.wrfmc.com) and click on the "News" button at the top of the home page.



Tim and Ramona of Channel 3 News high atop the Museum building in beautiful downtown Cleveland over looking Jacob's Field prior to the Cleveland Indian's playoff game with the Boston Red Sox.

## Christmas Came Early to the Fire Museum



In early November this beautifully restored 1952 LaFrance pumper was given to the Fire Museum by our newest Life Member, Rick Rogel. When Spring comes the pumper will be put into service as a parade vehicle and will be used at area events to promote the Fire Museum project.

## Calendar of Events

- **Sunday, January 27** – Cleveland, OH, Western Reserve Fire Museum Annual Meeting at the Museum, 310 Carnegie at 1:00 PM.
- **Wednesday to Saturday, February 20 - 23** – Dallas, TX, SPAAMFAA Annual Mid-winter Meeting and Convention hosted by North Texas Chapter. Contact Scott Simpson, [www.texasfiremuseum.com](http://www.texasfiremuseum.com).
- **Saturday, March 1** – Cleveland, OH, WRFM Annual Flea Market, Cleveland Fire Training Academy.
- **Saturday and Sunday, April 19 - 20** – Allentown, PA, Fire Memorabilia Auction, Allentown Fairgrounds on Saturday, April 19. Flea Market at Fairgrounds, Sunday, April 20. Contact Donn Zalewski at [www.donnandassociates.com](http://www.donnandassociates.com).
- **Saturday, April 26** – Jackson, MI, Great Lakes Chapter Flea Market, Jackson County Fairgrounds at 8:00 AM.
- **Sunday, May 25** – Cleveland, OH, 4th. Annual Firefighters Memorial Ride. Bikes will begin to stage on Alfred Lerner Way at 8:30 AM. Contact John Kikol at [kiksharley@aol.com](mailto:kiksharley@aol.com).
- **Saturday, June 21** – Reynoldsburg, OH, Central Ohio Chapter annual muster at the Ohio State Fire Academy. Contact Bill Davis at [gwilliamdavis@netscape.net](mailto:gwilliamdavis@netscape.net).
- **Saturday, July 26** – Frankemuth, MI, Great Lakes Chapter annual muster at Heritage Park,
- **Wednesday - Sunday, July 30 - August 3** – Syracuse, NY, SPAAMFAA 50th Anniversary Summer Convention and Muster. Contact Gary Thurston at [www.cnyspaamfaa.com](http://www.cnyspaamfaa.com).

## Make [www.wrfmc.com](http://www.wrfmc.com) Your Home Page

In the last few months a lot has happened at the Fire Museum that just can't be fully covered in the pages of The Bugle. Go to [www.wrfmc.com](http://www.wrfmc.com) and get more in depth coverage of all that's happening at the Fire Museum. With more than fifty pages packed with content, the Fire Museum website has the very latest on the project, events, history, fire safety, photos, videos, news, and collections.



We recently acquired this 1980 LaFrance from Fairview Park. With help from our neighbors at BEARS the water tank was removed and the volunteers got to work transforming the apparatus into our funeral caisson. For more on this project see the article "Volunteers Needed" on page 3.

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Dan Hayden, Executive Director  
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## **Annual Meeting At The Fire Museum Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup>**

Don't miss the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 27, 2008 at the Museum, 310 Carnegie Ave. Join us at 1:00 PM for great food and beverages. The meeting will start at 1:30 PM. Come learn what happened in 2007 and what we are planning for 2008. This is your chance to ask questions and provide input! Time for socializing after the meeting will give you the chance to admire our newest donation — the 1952 American LaFrance. You won't want to miss it.

**Western Reserve Fire Museum  
at Cleveland, Inc.**

310 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115

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