



THE BUGLE



Summer 2021

SAVING HISTORY, SAVING LIVES!

Volume 27, Number 3

SUNNY SKIES PREVAIL FOR LUAU FUNDRAISER

BY JOAN OLIVER

The morning of Sunday, August 29th was off to an auspicious start with overcast skies and the threat of rain. Then an hour before the event, the skies opened up with a torrential down pour. Luckily though the Gods were looking out for us, the rain disappeared and the sun came out to bring sunshine and cool breezes for our Hawaiian Luau fundraiser.

200 people came out this year in support of this event, many of them dressed in tropical themed attire. The Veranda was adorned with lush tropical flowers and their beautiful aroma filled the air giving everyone the feeling of being in the Polynesian islands.

The backdrop was superb with a wonderful view of the lakefront. Our DJ, Michael Adachi did a great job entertaining the crowd with a wide variety of musical selections. Our featured performers that evening were the Ohio Burn Unit who dazzled us with a show revolving around fire and flames. (Continued on page 2, see Luau)



Joan Oliver photo

Good Food & Conversation was Enjoyed by All

PRESIDENT'S LOG

BY JIM BELL

As summer slips into autumn I look back over the last couple of months and realize how busy the fire museum has been. As you read through this edition you will see all of the activities and special events we have completed, or are yet to come. As you read above, the museum had a very successful fundraiser back in August. Our luau theme is very unique and well received. My thanks to everyone who came out and supported our event! I also want to thank the luau committee for all of their hard work. My thanks to Patti Poole, Joan Oliver, Bryan Draga, Dan Martone, John and Pat Zangerle, and Andrew Czarzasty (Lago Custom Events).

We recently received a very special donation. Through museum member Frank Novak we received a donation of a sophisticated scanning radio receiver capable of listening to fire department radio traffic from all over northeast Ohio. Frank's good friend David Vaughn had a spare scanner sitting in his house and he decided to donate it to the museum so we can keep track of all the fire service action in our area. Predominantly we listen to Cleveland Fire and are ready to 'respond' to any working fire. Thank you Frank and David!

If any of you were awake and watching Fox8 around 7:45 am on September 10, you got to see the fire museum from a very different perspective. The museum was featured in Fox8's Friday Flyover. The SkyFox helicopter flew over the roof of the museum and aired several members waving flags and zoomed in on signs advertising our September 11 Remembrance Ceremony, scheduled for the next day. The on-air morning show talent read our press release and gave all of the details regarding our ceremony. What better way to remind the public of that special event and promote the museum. My thanks go out to museum member and volunteer docent Bob Szabo for making the arrangements for the flyover.

As you can see the museum is alive and well. Plan on joining us soon at any of our upcoming events!

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

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LUAU

(Continued from Page 1)

Everyone attending had a terrific time enjoying both good food and good company. There were a variety of silent auction baskets to bid on as well as Chinese raffle items to win and many attendees went home happily with great items and packages. The premier silent auction item of the evening was the use of the Sherwin-Williams field suite for a September Indians game complete with parking, foods and beverages. Other popular items were Browns 50 yard line tickets, Browns tickets in section 146, a night in the flats (including dinner, hotel and tickets to a discotheque), and a theater package (including hotel, dinner and a gift certificate to Playhouse Square). A big thanks to all those who contributed baskets and gifts.

A special thank you goes to Museum Board member Bryan Draga and Sherwin-Williams who provided the lead auction item as well

as sponsorship support. One of our most generous contributors was Museum Board member Andrew Czarzasty, Esq. and Logo Custom Events, who did a magnificent job working with the committee to set up the venue on the East Bank of the Flats and to cater the food. We would like to thank all those individuals and businesses who gave sponsorship support by purchasing tables as well.

The success of this event was due to the support and hard work of a committee consisting of Board members, Andrew Czarzasty, Pat Poole, John Zangerle, Bryan Draga and Dan Martone as well as Pat Zangerle and Joan Oliver. A special thank you goes out to Pat Poole who oversaw the silent auction and Chinese raffle. We would also like to thank all those who volunteered to work the event. Last but not least, we would like to thank all those that attended and showed their support to make the event a success. and we look forward to next year.



Bidders Browse Silent Auction Items



Aloha Greetings to Everyone Upon Arrival



Ohio Burn Unit in Action



Emcee Jim Bell



Which Chinese Raffle Items Should I Bid On?

GENEROUS GIFT PLUS OHIO GRANT MADE TO MUSEUM

BY JOHN ZANGERLE

Weddings are joyous occasions and the Museum was happy to receive a generous donation from John and Sally Schulze in honor of the marriage of Erin Stefancin and Alex Taylor. The bride is the daughter of Captain Daniel Stefancin of CFD Ladder 4. The Museum was happy to be included in their celebration.

Your Fire Museum Board has also been paying close attention to available grants and other sources of funding. This summer we learned that the State of Ohio through its COVID relief funds was offering an Ohio Entertainment Venue Grant to support entertainment venues that had lost revenue as a result of the COVID shutdowns. The grants included museums in this category and were on a first come, first serve basis. We applied the first day of eligibility and were awarded a \$10,000.00 grant which has already been received by the Museum. This will certainly help offset some of our loss of revenue during COVID.

MACK DAY AT THE FIRE MUSEUM: A DOGGONE GOOD TIME

BY JOHN ZANGERLE

Since the Museum has not sponsored a formal muster for several years, some of our members thought it would be a good idea to simply gather antique apparatus at the Museum. The result was Mack Day at the Museum on August 14. The choice to feature Mack apparatus was easy because the Museum has Hudson's Mack L model currently on display and a number of our members own and love Mack fire engines. Then we realized something was missing - the bulldog, symbol of Mack trucks. The invitation was expanded to include canine bulldogs. Happily, bulldogs and their owners attended, including a pair of bulldog puppies. The owners

enjoyed posing their dogs next to the big red "bulldogs" in front of the Museum.

One amusing event that occurred was all of the apparatus owners showing up within minutes of each other and we had a Mack traffic jam in front of the Museum. The weather was ideal and we had a great variety of Mack apparatus from Ken Rybka's 1936 Model GB to Greg Oesch's 1990 Model MC. Greg also brought his excellent condition 1964 Model C95. Wayne Poussart exhibited his restored 1956 B95 and John Zangerle and Ted Elder brought John's 1951 Model L95. It was a great day for all the "dogs".



Joan Oliver & Jim Bell photos

Bulldog Puppies Being Admired by Crowd



Mack Fire Trucks All Lined Up in a Row



Let Me Drive a Fire Truck Too!

DALMATION CELEBRATION

BY JIM BELL

If you were at the fire museum on Saturday September 18 you would have seen spots in front of your eyes. Hundreds of spots! The museum hosted Dalmatian Celebration Day and invited Dalmatian owners from across northeast Ohio to bring their furry friends to the museum for fun and fellowship. The museum partnered with the Western Reserve Dalmatian Club to have lots of loveable dals on hand for petting and pictures. We even had some Dalmatian

owners see our posting on our social media outlets and they brought their dogs as well. All together we had forty-five visitors and over twenty Dalmatians come to the museum that day. Visitors got to enjoy hot dogs, popcorn, frozen ice push-ups and cold beverages. Our four-legged visitors enjoyed a splash pool and dog treats. A fun time was had by all.



Joan Oliver & Jim Bell photos

Cruella Admiring her Puppies



Ready, Aim, Fire... Put Out the Flames!



Beautifully Created Artwork



Western Reserve Dalmatian Club



Ken Rybka with Restored Fire Chief's Car

9/11 PLUS 20...SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 REMEMBERED BY FIRE MUSEUM

BY PAUL NELSON



Paul Nelson photos

9/11 Remembrance Ceremony on Museum Plaza

NEVER FORGET

- 08:46:40hrs AA11 crashes into WTC North Tower
- 09:03:11 UA175 crashes into WTC South Tower
- 09:37:46 AA77 crashes into Pentagon
- 09:59 WTC South Tower begins collapse
- 10:03:46 UA93 crashes into field at Shanksville, PA
- 10:28 WTC North Tower begins collapse
- 2,983 perished in the four incidents. Including 343 members of FDNY and an additional 69 emergency responders
- 257 additional members of FDNY have died from 9/11 related illnesses since 2001

At 11:00hrs on September 11, 2021, a 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony was held on the Plaza of the Fire Museum. Museum President Jim Bell welcomed those in attendance and Museum member (CFD retired) Joe Mason gave the opening prayer.

Music for the event was provided by a brass ensemble from the Cleveland Institute of Music. The CFD Honor Guard presented the colors as two members lowered the Plaza flags to half staff. Guest speakers were Chief Greg Glauner of the Brunswick Fire Department (ret. CFD Batt. Chief) and Bedford Fire Department Chaplain (ret.) Michael Millet. Both responded to NYC as volunteers to work at the pile. The “four fives” was sounded from the apparatus bell of the Museum caisson by Museum member Robert Szabo (Clev. Hgts, ret) in remembrance of those who lost their lives on that day.



Chief Glauner



CFD Color Guard



Chaplain Millet



Four-Fives and Taps

TWINSBURG DAY AT THE MUSEUM

BY JIM BELL

The fire museum hosted members of the Twinsburg community on Saturday, August 21. All members of Twinsburg Fire Department, Twinsburg Historical Society and the community at large were invited to the museum to view their departments installation in the Mandel Exhibit Gallery. With the assistance of Fire Chief Tim Morgan and retired TFD member Bob Davet, of the Twinsburg Historical Society, the museum was able to create an interesting display that chronicles the development of Twinsburg FD. Special thanks is also extended to the Simecek family for making available their 1934 Ford fire truck that served Twinsburg faithfully for many years.

Assistant Fire Chief Steve Bosso spoke to the gathering about the history of Twinsburg Fire Department. TFD recently celebrated their 150th year as an organized fire service. After Asst. Chief Bosso's remarks the crowd of over fifty participants enjoyed refreshments and a tour of the museum and education center. This display will be in place until March 2022. Come to the museum and see this and the other interesting artifacts on display.



Joan Oliver photos

Chief Bosso Talks About Twinsburg FD



Historical Society Pres. Bonnie William and Treas. Gayle Davet



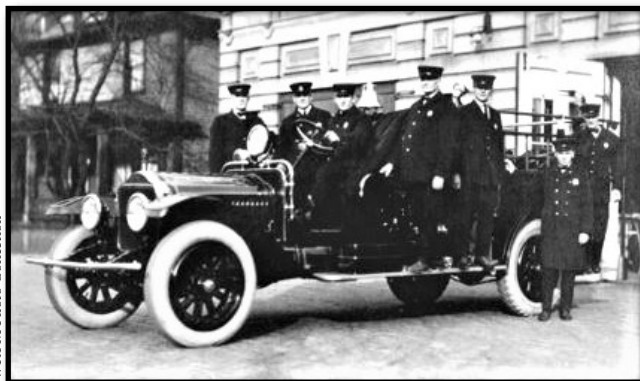
Residents Listen Attentively to Tour Guide Jim Bell

FIGHTING FIRE IN CLEVELAND... 1921

BY PAUL NELSON

Historians like to compare things. A one hundred year look-back is a favorite tool. And so, we look back at fire fighting in Cleveland in 1921.

Cleveland Fire had become a Division of Public Safety in 1903 and was operating under a Book of Rules and Regulations adopted in 1913. There were 35 engines (including 2 fire boats), 14 ladders, 3 hose companies, 2 flying squads and 1 water tower in service. George A. Wallace was fire chief. Conversion from horse-drawn to motorized apparatus, begun in 1912, continued with the addition of 16 new pumpers and 6 new aerial ladders.

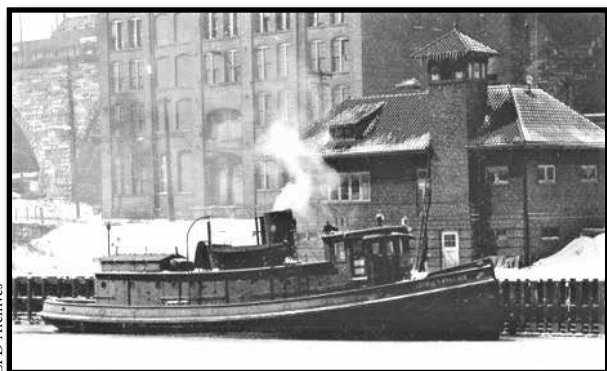


WRFM Photo Collection

New Engine 32 1920 White 600gpm

On May 16th working shifts returned to 24-hours/two platoons from 8-hours. Battalions were returned to 11. Members had 1.5-hrs each shift for meals (there were no kitchens) and had 14 days of vacation. A few positions including fire alarm operators and engineers at the High Pressure Pumping Station remained on 8-hour shifts.

The 8-hour shift scenario began on January 1, 1919 after City voters approved the change in the November 1918 election. Chief Wallace opposed the change stating there were not sufficient members on the roster to adequately cover company manning. Some companies were closed. Beds were removed from stations on the Mayor's order to eliminate sleeping on the midnight shift. Temporary fire fighters were hired to improve company staffing and bring back closed companies. For a few weeks in February 1919, shifts returned to 24-hours. On March 31, 1919 the Court ordered the return to 8-hour shifts that remained in effect until 1921.



CFD Archives

Fireboat *George A. Wallace* at New Station 15

Engine 15, the *George A. Wallace*, moved to a new berth and new Station 15 on Riverbed Road on July 15th. A new training room opened on the third floor of Fire Headquarters and a temporary

drill tower was erected at old Station 3 on E. 18th Street that was the Veterinarian Stable and Hospital. A Fire Department marching band was established on October 24th under the direction of AC James Granger.

A new ladder company was established on November 1st with Ladder 14 going in service at Station 30. The 1895 Gleason and Bailey 65-ft aerial with 1914 Peerless 4-wheel tractor replaced a horse-drawn "Auxiliary" 4-wheel ladder carriage that was a hold-over from the Glenville merger in 1905. It was operated by members of Engine 30 when needed.

There were two names added to the LODD list in 1921. FGF William A. Haley, Eng. 12, fell from the apparatus while responding to Box 878 for a fire at 2223 W. 61st Street on February 20th. He succumbed to injuries suffered in the fall. Captain Patrick H. Jordan, Eng. 14, died on June 3rd from an accident in quarters.

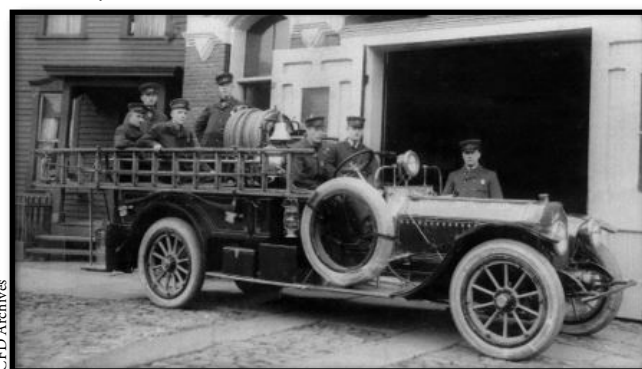
There were 36 call fires in 1921, the most significant at the Greif Brothers Cooperage on Wiley Avenue on August 10th. The 3-alarm fire (there were only three alarms in the running books) included a special call for five engines. Major fire scenes now saw very few horses in attendance and all would be gone by 1925.



WRFM Photo Collection

A typical fire scene 431 Champlain Street

Ten members of the flying squads were selected to begin the study of first aid at the Red Cross Training Center on Euclid Avenue. They were to be given theory and practice in the relief of any accident situation. Once the course was completed, they would be able to handle anything from a drowning to resuscitating a gas victim. CFD was the only fire department in the nation except FDNY to have on duty members certified in first aid.



CFD Archives

Flying Squad (Hose) 6 1913 Peerless

And that's the way it was a century ago at a time when both the fire department and the City were growing in size.

MUSEUM RECEIVES DONATIONS TO THE COLLECTION

BY JOHN ZANGERLE

We are pleased to report that the Museum has recently received several major donations to our collection. First and largest of these was from our Museum Historian, Paul Nelson, who generously donated the vast majority of his collection to the Museum. Paul grew up in the Boston area and started collecting fire alarm boxes and other memorabilia early on. His collection included not only the fire alarm boxes, but fire equipment and photographs. In fact, Paul had so many items that we needed an enclosed trailer and two pickup trucks as well as a group of devoted volunteers to move the items out of Paul's home to the Museum. Paul directed that any proceeds received from his collection be reinvested in the Museum's collection fund to support the maintenance and improvement of our collection.

Not long after Paul's donation, we received a call from past board member, Bruce Sidaway. Bruce's collection included a Cleveland fire alarm box, nozzles and memorabilia as well as books, slides, and photographs. Additionally, former Board member, Tom Green, has donated his collection of fire books to our Museum to be added to our growing library.

The Museum really appreciates these donations and encourages our members to contact us if they are in need of more space at home or downsizing their personal collections. Some of these items can be used to fill in holes in our collection, while duplicate items can be sold to raise needed funds for the Museum.

FAMILY FALL FIRE SAFETY TIPS

BY BOB SZABO

There is nothing more important than the safety of your family. And as summer turns to fall, it is a good idea for everyone in your home to refresh and practice their fall fire safety procedures.

Check Smoke Detectors & Fire Extinguishers

- Changes batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and test them
- Verify each month that the detectors in fact work
- Verify that all fire extinguishers are fully charged and in good working order and easily accessible
- Make sure everyone in your family knows what a smoke detector sounds like
- Make sure everyone knows how to use the fire extinguisher

Make Sure all Heating Sources Work Properly

- No matter what type of device you have to heat your home, make sure that it is in good working order and serviced by a trained professional

Space Heater Safety Tips

- Make sure that any space heaters are surrounded by at least three feet of empty space
- Never place clothing or any other objects on a space heater to dry
- Do not place heaters near furniture or drapery
- Turn space heaters off when you leave the house or go to bed
- Avoid storing any combustible items near heaters

Halloween Safety Tips

- Use flashlights instead of candles in Halloween jack-o-lanterns
- Make sure children's costumes are made with fire retardant materials

Family Fire Safety Tips

- Teach your kids how to respond in the event of a fire
- Make sure young children know how to dial 911
- Establish and practice a fire escape plan with your family that includes a designated meeting place outside the home
- Practice crawling low with your children so they learn how to escape beneath the smoke
- Teach everyone in your family multiple ways to escape from every room in the event of a fire
- Do not place candles where they can be reached by children
- Never leave burning candles unattended
- Do not leave candles burning when you go to sleep
- Make sure all flammable substances are properly stored in safe containers and out of the reach of children

Outdoor Fire Safety

- Clear your roof and gutters of unnecessary buildup of debris, such as pine needles and leaves
- Learn the outdoor burning regulations in your area, and do not engage in illegal burning of leaves and other outdoor debris

Kitchen Fire Safety

- Don't leave cooking food unattended on the stove
- Keep everything that might be flammable away from your stove



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021** – Cleveland, OH Hudson Day at the Western Reserve Fire Museum, 310 Carnegie Ave., 10am – 4pm, Guest Speaker, Chief Jerry Varnes on the Hudson Fire Dept., Free Admission for all residents and anyone who works for or in the City of Hudson. For more information call 216.664.6312.
- **Monday, Nov. 1, 2021** – Cleveland, OH, William Walker Memorial Blood Drive. Held at the Western Reserve Fire Museum, 310 Carnegie Ave. from 7:30am to 1:30pm, Contact Local 93 Trustee Brian Webb at 216-272-9712 for more information or questions.
- **Saturday, Dec. 18, 2021** – Cleveland, OH. Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus, 11:00am – 1:00pm at the Western Reserve Fire Museum, 310 Carnegie Ave. Goodies for the kids. Bring your camera, a great photo opportunity for the family. For more information visit Museum website at www.wrfmc.com or call 216.664.6312.
- **Tuesday, Feb. 22 - Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022** – Kissimmee, Florida. SPAAMFAA National Winter Convention hosted by the Florida Antique Bucket Brigade. Host hotel Days Inn by Wyndham, 3011 Maingate Lane. Registration Deadline January 22, 2022. Contact Bob Romig at BobRFire17@aol.com or <https://spaamfaa.org/calendar/> for information. For all registration forms, awards & convention mementos visit <https://tinyurl.com/8efth7nz>.
- **Saturday, March 5, 2022** – (Tentative) Cleveland, OH. Annual Firematic Flea Market, held at the Cleveland Fire Training Academy, 3101 Lakeside Ave, Cleveland, OH. 8am – 1pm. Admission \$3.00 with children 12 and under free. For more information visit the Museum website at www.wrfmc.com.



<https://spaamfaa.org/calendar/>



<https://tinyurl.com/8efth7nz>



<https://www.wrfmc.com>

CFD TRIVIA

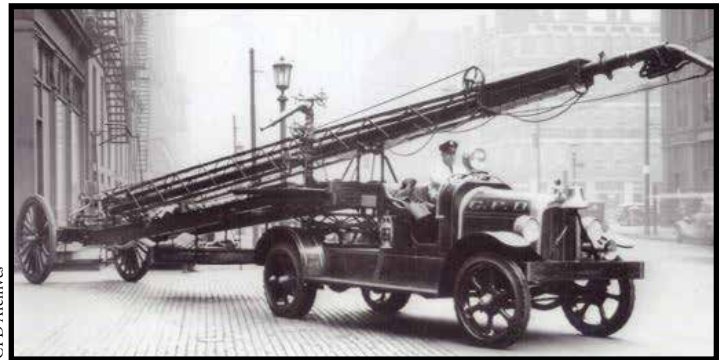
Q: When was the last time the Water Tower was used at a fire?

BY PAUL NELSON

A: September 7, 1934: 2-2-2 Box 2164 at 312 High Avenue

The Water Tower was placed in service on June 10, 1894 at Headquarters Station, W. St. Clair St. It was an 1894 Champion 75-ft tower, manually raised, drawn by two horses, delivered at a cost of \$4,500. It had an assigned driver and was operated by members of Ladder 1 at a fire. The Running Book showed the Tower “due” on first alarms in the downtown area but that was discontinued when the new 5-alarm Running Cards were installed in 1930.

The Tower was motorized on March 15, 1925 with a 34hp, 4-wheel Prospect tractor. At 2:15pm on that day the last horses on duty in the Fire Department were retired. It was used at numerous



1925 Prospect/1894 Champion Water Tower

significant fires in the City, the first time on March 17, 1895 at the Cleveland World newspaper fire on St. Clair St. Its last recorded fire was on September 7, 1934 at the Schroder Co. fire at 312 High St. Unfortunately, no photo is known to exist of that fire.

The fire at the Ellington Arms block on June 7, 1932 is the last fire photo of the Tower working. That 4-4 alarm and specials claimed 12 lives. The Tower was removed from the active roster in 1936 but was listed as “available” in Annual Reports into the 40’s. Its exact date of scrapping is not known but it is believed it was donated to the metal scrap drive during World War II (a fate similar for CFD remaining steamers and fire station cast iron bells). The Museum has a number of other photos in our archives of the Tower.



Tower working at Ellington Arms fire



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

310 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2816

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**PLAN TO ATTEND
SANTA VISIT
DECEMBER 18 , 11 AM - 1 PM**

**Don't Throw
That Away**

The Fire Museum is looking for fire related photos, articles, artifacts from Cleveland and all of the Lands of the Western Reserve as we preserve area fire history.



Santa to Make Special Stop at Fire Museum

Word has just come from the North Pole that Santa will be making a special stop this year at the Western Reserve Fire Museum and Education Center on Saturday, December 18th from 11:00am to 1:00pm. As a special treat Mrs. Claus will be joining him. There will be goodies for the kids as well as a chance to have your picture taken with Santa. So, don't miss out on the fun! Check our website for further details at www.wrfmc.com.

The Bugle is a publication of the Western Reserve Fire Museum and Education Center. The entire contents © by Western Reserve Fire Museum at Cleveland, Inc.

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