



THE BUGLE



Winter 2022

SAVING HISTORY, SAVING LIVES!

Volume 28, Number 1

FLEA MARKET RETURNS TO FTA

BY JOAN OLIVER

After a brief hiatus due to COVID, the Museum will once again be holding their Firematic Flea Market this year at the Cleveland Fire Training Academy located at 3101 Lakeside Ave E, Cleveland, OH 44114 on Saturday, March 5, 2022. The doors will open 8:00am with local vendors as well as participants from several surrounding states and continue through 1:00pm. Admission is a \$5.00 donation. There will be a wide variety of antique and modern fire memorabilia, books, photos, patches and toys as well as collectibles and apparel. For the early bird shoppers there will be coffee and donuts for purchase and for those who come in closer to lunchtime, hot dogs, Firehouse Sub sandwiches along with a variety of other treats.

The Firematic Flea Market began 37 years ago by the Western Reserve Fire Buffs Association using the back room of the Cuyahoga Heights Fire Station. Steve Hildebrant and Bob Gahr were the original organizers. As time passed it grew and changed location to the FTA where it is held today. Some of the original faces may have changed, but it's still as fun as when it first began. Bob Shimits has taken the place of Bob Gahr. He and Steve Hildebrant have been organizing it the last several years. This is a great excuse to break free from winter seclusion, get out of the house, have some fun and visit with people you haven't seen in a while.



Photo: Joan Oliver

Todd Wolf and Son at Kid's Table

PRESIDENT'S LOG

BY JIM BELL

Greetings to our museum members and friends! I hope you had a happy holiday season and have survived our recent cold weather and snowfall. I remember fighting fire and running EMS calls in this time of year... and it wasn't fun. Just after I retired, I was at home listening to the scanner and heard my brothers and sisters at Cleveland Hts. FD roll out on a working fire. The high temperature that day was FOUR DEGREES BELOW ZERO! I must admit I was glad to be safe and warm in my living room. But, I digress...

I want to thank all of the supporters of the Western Reserve Fire Museum for their financial contributions and membership renewals during the last months of 2021. Your generosity has helped us build our coffers and gives the Executive Committee the needed resources to push forward with the renovation of the building.

In past issues of the Bugle I have mentioned our renovation project. Perhaps I need to better explain our strategy. The goal of the Executive Committee is to complete the restoration of the dormitory space and the installation of new restrooms on the second floor. This space will be made available for rent and provide the museum with an on-going, reliable income stream above and beyond our admission fees, grants and donations. The completion of these areas comes at a huge cost. The Executive Committee is weighing multiple plans as to how to accomplish this goal. Some of the considerations are the need for air conditioning, finishing ADA compliant restrooms, creating a food preparation area, creating exhibit space, and serving/seating as many as 125 guests. All of these facets have overlapping needs.

The Executive Committee has procured updated estimates on what it will take to complete this renovation project in the wake of the recent pandemic, supply chain issues and the effect on material costs. We are now at the stage of evaluating all the elements of the project, their order of completion and laying out a projected timeline. There was a slight set back with the HVAC and the Committee had to bring in a structural engineer to make sure the roof could support the weight of the HVAC units. Possible adjustments still may be needed.

The Fire Museum is working hard to strengthen its financial position. With the support of our friends and the development of grants, donations and loans we are hoping to be in a position to finish the second floor. Our belief is we will soon have a completion date for the dormitory and restrooms.

Once again, I want to thank our construction volunteers and our financial supporters. Without you, this museum would not be viable.

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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.

Published by The Western Reserve Fire Museum and Education Center, 310 Carnegie Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2816

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www.wrfmc.com

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN THANKS ITS 2021 SUPPORTERS

BY JOHN ZANGERLE

Our ongoing Capital Campaign is vital to our goal of completing the restoration of Station 28 and the Fire Alarm office. This past year our schedule of regular Museum hours and events started out slowly because of COVID restrictions, but we still continued planning events and by the middle of the year we were able to hold our Luau fundraiser and many Museum activities and special events.

As you have read, we are close to obtaining our financial goal of being able to complete the second floor dormitory and bathrooms as well as installing a new HVAC system. Our appeal this past year was extremely successful as we raised a total of nearly \$49,000.00 from sixty-six contributors. The contributions came from individual members, Board members, and friends of the Museum in amounts large and small. Some have contributed regularly in the past, but others made first time contributions. We would like to thank the following individuals, listed in alphabetical order, who made significant contributions to the 2021 Capital Campaign:

Daniel Bambic
Jim Bell
Augustine Boland
Christopher Bondzio
David Boyes
Johnny Brewington
Bradley Campbell
Robert Derritt
Bryan Draga
Christopher Fink
Linda Florian
Larry Gordon

Stephen Habash
Daniel Hayden
David Haynes
Steve Hildebrandt
Hook N Ladder Jerky
Debbie Hubbard
Larry Huston
Douglas Kishmaron
Raymond Kotecki
Life Safety Enterprises, Inc.
Melvin Lowe
Jack, Joseph & Morton Mandel Foundation

Robert Marquard
Jim Mordaunt
Cynthia Nieberding
Frank Novak
Robert Sheldon
Sherwin-Williams Co.
Bob & Mary Shimits
Stan Socha
Brian Wilker
Zangerle Family
Roy P. Ziganti, Jr.

It is not too late to help support our Capital Campaign. The Museum's building is approaching its 100 year anniversary and we want to finish the job. We encourage you all to help our Capital Campaign in 2022. You can contribute online by going to our website under the "Support Us" tab or by sending a check to the Fire Museum. Some of our contributions have come from IRA Qualified Charitable Donations. We also accept donations of appreciated stock. Several members have made donations that include matching funds from their employer. Some families have designated the Fire Museum for memorial contributions or have remembered the Fire Museum in their will. We are grateful for any support you can give and for all you do for the Museum.

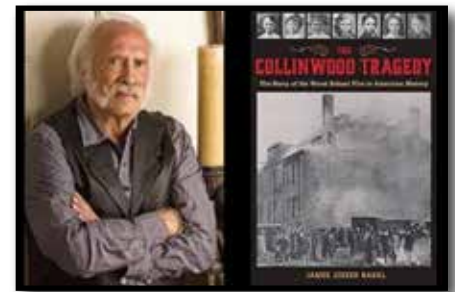
THE COLLINWOOD SCHOOL TRAGEDY

BY JOAN OLIVER

March 8, 2022 marks the anniversary of one of the most horrific fires in American History, the Collinwood School fire. On February 26th in memory of this tragic event, the Museum is excited to announce that award-winning author James Jessen Badal will read excerpts from his book, *The Collinwood Tragedy; The Story of the Worst School Fire in American History* and talk about the events of that fateful day. The event will be held in the Education Wing and begin at 1:00 pm. Afterwards he will be available to sign books.

In his book, Badal's extensive research reveals how a devastated neighborhood and a shocked nation responded to this tragedy. He not only discloses the events of the day, but also their lingering effect and how the citizens of Collinwood were desperate to find someone to blame for the tragedy. Rumor and suspicion splintered the grieving community. Yet, they rose to challenge of healing: officials reached out to families. City charities, churches, and relief agencies responded immediately with medical help, comfort for the bereaved and medical support. Fundraising efforts to assist families totaled more than \$50,000, equivalent to more than \$1 million in today's terms.

In addition to being a popular American true crime author, James Badal is also an assistant professor of English and journalism at Cuyahoga Community College. His previous works include *In the Wake of the Butcher: Cleveland's Torso Murders*, *Twilight of Innocence: The Disappearance of Beverly Potts*, *Though Murder Has No Tongue: The lost Victim of Cleveland's Mad Butcher*, and *Hell's Wasteland: The Pennsylvania Torso Murder*.



James Badal Beside Cover of New Book

We hope you will take this opportunity to come down and join us as well travel back in time to remember this tragic event through the eyes of this award winning author.

2022 CLEVELAND FD MEMORIAL MOTORCYCLE RALLY

BY JIM BELL

The organizing committee for the Firefighters Memorial Ride has announced the plans for their upcoming 2022 event. The rally will return to its previous form of an escorted ride through the streets of Northeast Ohio and conclude at Western Reserve Harley-Davidson in Mentor. The ride and ceremony will be held on Sunday, May 29, 2022 at the Cleveland Firefighters Memorial next to First Energy Stadium at 10:00 AM. Tickets can be purchased starting March 1st at participating Harley-Davidson dealers or on-line at www.firefightersmemorialride.com. Proceeds go to the repair and maintenance of the memorial, educational scholarships and to support the Western Reserve Fire Museum. Come out and join us for a day of fun and biking through beautiful Ohio.

A VISIT WITH SANTA

BY JOAN OLIVER

December 18th was a dreary rainy day, but that didn't stop Santa & Mrs. Claus from coming to the Museum and bringing smiles to the faces of anxiously awaiting children. Each family lined up for their visit and the chance to talk to Santa and give him all their special Christmas wishes. Mrs. Claus was on hand with the official naughty and nice list to make that they had been good this past year.

Each child was given a little gift and the opportunity to have their picture taken Santa and Mrs. Claus. There was popcorn, cookies, and other scrumptious treats available for families to enjoy.

Museum volunteer, Bob Szabo was on hand to hand out holiday fire safety materials and answer any questions families may have. In the children's play area kids could dress up in turn out gear, sit behind the wheel of a miniature fire truck, and play with toys or color pictures. The exhibit gallery was open for the parents and older children so they could walk around and explore apparatus and displays on firefighting history.

Everyone had a great time and the visit was over all too soon. As Santa was leaving he said he would definitely stop by again next year to visit with all the wonderful children.



Joan Oliver photos



Chief Santa Claus to the rescue

Kids Having Fun with Santa

DANGER! THERE COULD BE A KILLER IN YOUR HOUSE

BY BOB SZABO

Every winter the Western Reserve Fire Museum tries to educate the public about fire safety concerns during the winter months. One danger that cannot be emphasized enough is that the use of space heaters inside your home can be dangerous.

A malfunctioning electric space heater in a bedroom was the source of an apartment building fire in the Bronx on January 9th. The blaze killed 17 people, including 8 children, making it one of the worst fires in the city's history.

Even though there were problems with the fire alarm system and potential issues with self-closing doors designed to contain fire smoke, the cause of this fire was determined to be a malfunctioning electric space heater in a bedroom. If not for the malfunctioning space heater this fire would not have started and it would not have resulted in this horrific outcome.

Be aware that heating is the second leading cause of home fires and home injuries. Fire Departments responded to an average of 48,530 fires involving heating equipment per year resulting in 500 civilian deaths, 1,350 injuries and \$1.1 billion in property damage.

The Western Reserve Fire Museum's Education Center provides information sheets on Home Heating Safety.



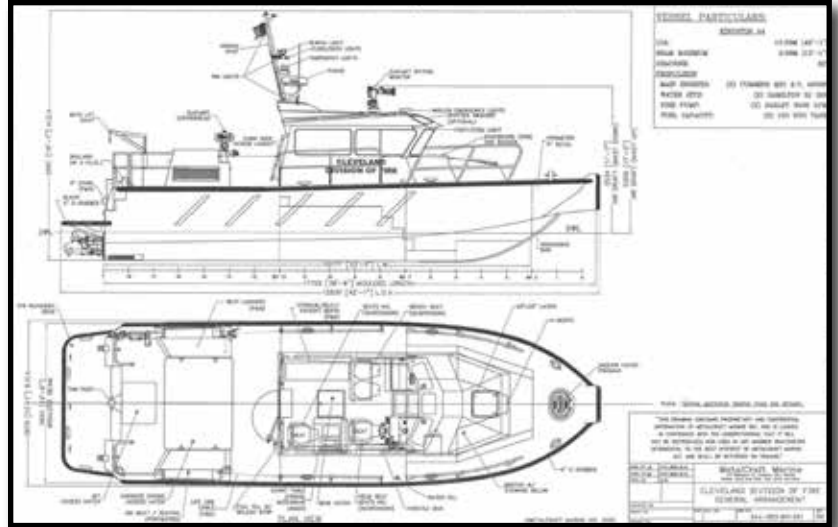
NEW FIREBOAT TO ARRIVE IN AUGUST

BY JOHN ZANGERLE



AnneArundel Co. FD

Sister Ship to Cleveland's New Marine 21
AnneArundel Co. MD FD



MetalCraft Marine

MetalCraft Marine Blueprint for Marine 21

The Cleveland Fire Department will be launching a new high speed 43 foot aluminum fireboat with a 6,000 gpm pump capacity this August. The boat is being manufactured by MetalCraft Marine of Watertown, NY, and is being built in its Kingston, Ontario, plant. The boat will be their "FireStorm 40" model.

MetalCraft is a specialty boat builder that builds fireboats, patrol boats, and work boats. Its FireStorm series ranges from 27' up to 70' and represents a new generation of fireboat technology. The Cleveland boat will be identified as "Marine 21" and the City has not yet designated her name. She will replace the venerable "Anthony J. Celebrezze" which has been in service since 1961. The disposition of the Celebrezze has not yet been determined.

The new boat will be docked at Station 21 & 2 all year. Marine 21 will be white over red and is powered by two Cummins 6.7L diesel engines that will also power twin Darley 3,000 gpm fire pumps. The boat is propelled by a Hamilton marine jet drive and

can pump and cruise at the same time. She will have 2,000 gpm remote control monitors on the bow and the cabin roof. A 1250 gpm manual monitor nozzle will be on each rear quarter of the stern. She can also supply four 4" handlines from the stern.

In addition to her firefighting capacity, she is set up for search and rescue and will have special cameras and side scan sonar. She will also have the ability to treat a victim inside the cabin.

This boat is fast! At full throttle she can run 35 knots or approximately 40 mph. In comparison, the Celebrezze could make 17 knots on a good day. Marine 21 will cost \$1.2 million. The boat is paid for in part by a Port Security Grant of \$900,000.00 with the remainder paid by the City of Cleveland. I would like to give special thanks to Battalion Chief James Stuhm who is leading the design/construction of the new boat for the CFD for his help in providing information for this article.



MetalCraft Marine

Sister Ship in Service with Nashville FD



CFD Archives

The Celebrezze '61 Paasch Fireboat 6000gpm

THE ELECTRICITY AND WATER STOPPED FLOWING NORTHEAST OHIO FACED A FIRE FIGHTING CHALLENGE

BY PAUL NELSON

The Blackout of August 14, 2003 posed an unusual fire fighting challenge. A failure of the electrical grid left the Cleveland Water System inoperable. The system that served the City and 69 surrounding communities had only 2-hours of normal consumption in storage without pumped-in replacement. The four pumping stations lacked back-up power as replacement diesel generators had yet to be installed. The gravity of the situation was communicated over the CFD radio system at 1715hrs:

Due to a power failure at the water system, the domestic water supply is in danger of running short. All companies are advised to conserve water at all alarms.

At 1610hrs a massive power failure unfolded as the electric power grid began to collapse. In the following four minutes a total of 265 standard power plants and 10 nuclear power plants began shutting down losing 62,000 megawatts of power. More than 50 million people in parts of eight states and parts of Canada were affected.

Suddenly the afternoon rush hour became a nightmare with multiple accidents. Elevators in buildings became stuck between floors. Private alarms were set off by the power failure. Medical emergencies occurred when life-saving devices could not operate.

CFD responded to 18 incidents in the first 20 minutes of the crisis that included a fire in a Cleveland Clinic building that elevated to a 2-2-2 alarm. Immediate action was taken by CFD. All daytime members were held over for assignments to operate spare apparatus. Hopkins Airport sent AARF 21 pumper tanker and AARF 16 crash truck into the City with their large water supply. The A Shift due to report on the 15th was recalled and by 2000hrs, 241 off-duty members had responded.



Steven Nedrich photos

Hopkins AARF 16 (3000gal) at BEARS awaiting deployment to Station 41

The extra manning allowed 12 additional companies to go into service (7 pumpers, 2 ladders, 3 rescue squads and manning the fire boat to possibly pump into the water system). Over the span of the emergency that lasted until about 0800hrs the following morning, CFD responded to 489 incidents that included 12 structure fires. Average 24-hr incident response was 150. CFD dispatch never lost power and the radio system never failed.

With limited water available, a mutual aid plan created by the Ohio Fire Chiefs Association was implemented. Pumper tankers of 3000-gallons or more from northeast Ohio were summoned to the parking lot adjacent to the Holiday Inn in Independence. Independence Chief Peter Nelson and Solon Chief Ed Snow

dispatched units to the suburbs. CFD Capt. John McKenna sent units to CFD fire stations. Deployment in suburbs and Cleveland included:

CITY	APPARATUS
Parma Sta 2	Chatham Unit 93 Suffield 2718
Shaker Heights HQ	Spencer Unit 83
Maple Heights HQ	Perrysville A3525
East Cleveland HQ	Garrettsville 1618
Lakewood HQ	Cuyahoga Falls 224 Champion T 21
Warrensville Heights HQ	Braceville T 16
Brookpark HQ	Mecca T 15
North Royalton HQ	Bloomfield T 15
Bedford	Bristolville E 15
Middleburgh Heights	Orville Unit 64
South Euclid	Wooster T 143
Strongsville Sta 5	Town & Country T 152
Pepper Pike	Perry T 24
North Olmsted HQ	Bethlehem Twp T 3
Solon HQ	Ellsworth Unit 46
Beachwood HQ	Bristolville E 15



Bath 1218 (3000gal) at Station 20

CFD STATION	APPARATUS
BN 1 STA 10	Smithville Central Unit 92
STA 7	Jackson TWP T 3
BN 2 STA 5	Hopkins AARF 21 Jackson Twp 69 Granger Twp Unit 72
STA 13	Mantua Shalersville Unit 5
BN 3 STA 23	Sullivan Twp A 2722
STA 38	Plain Twp Unit 54
STA 39	Farmington Twp T 22
STA 43	Ashland A 2921
BN 4 STA 20	Bath Twp 1218
STA 42	Jeromesville A 3022
BN 5 STA 11	Erhart/York Twp Unit 531
STA 36	Valley City/Liverpool Twp Unit 13
STA 41	Hopkins AARF 16
BN 6 STA 22	Greentown 5418
STA 30	Southington Unit 45
STA 40	Rootstown 2518



Sullivan A2722 (3000gal) at work with Engine 23

NEW FIREFIGHTERS TAKE TO THE STREETS

BY JIM BELL

Over the last several months, fire departments across the lands of the Western Reserve have hired new cadets into their ranks.

Cleveland Fire Department

Cleveland Fire recently graduated a class of 84 cadets, including 8 women, to bolster their ranks. The training program started in 2021 and the new members were graduated and assigned to stations just after the start of the new year. This class was an extra-large group as there was no cadet class in 2020 due to COVID. The class of 2021 was the thirty-sixth class to graduate from the CFD Fire Training Academy.

This class has the distinction of having a fifth generation firefighter as one of the graduates. Matt Andrews comes from a long line of firefighters in his family. Some of our readers may recognize the Andrews name. Matt's uncle, Jim Andrews, was a well-regarded member and longtime President of Firefighters Local 93. Look for a follow-up story about the Andrews family in the next issue of The Bugle.

All Photos Justina Saxby



2021 CFD Cadet Class Graduation 12/21/21



Chief Schloemer with 2021 Women Cadets



2021 CFD Cadet Glass as Training Exercise

Shaker Heights Fire Department

Shaker Heights Fire Department has also recently added new members. The Shaker Heights Firefighters Association-Local 516 announced the hiring of three new firefighter/paramedics in early January 2022. The department welcomed Nick Heintz, Jacob Scott and Brittany Isom to the force. All three have completed their two week orientation period and have been placed on shift.

Twinsburg Fire Department

Twinsburg Fire Department hired five new members in the fall of 2021. TFD is known as a 'combination department' as they utilize a staff of both full time and part-time members. Twinsburg FD hired two full time, one part-time and two fire cadets. Fire Cadets are young/high school age people who are interested in becoming firefighter/paramedics. TFD gets them trained and allows them to work alongside members to gain knowledge and experience as they move towards becoming full-time personnel. With these new hires Twinsburg will achieve their goal of expanding their staffing to ten on-duty members per each shift.

By the way... Twinsburg Fire Department is part of the current exhibit at the museum. Come visit us and learn more interesting facts about this department.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Tuesday, Feb. 22 - Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022** – Kissimmee, Florida. SPAAMFAA National Winter Convention hosted by the Florida Antique Bucket Brigade. Host hotel Orlando Resort & Conference Center, 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, Feb. 26, 2022** – Cleveland, OH. The Collinwood Tragedy: The Story of the Worst School Fire in American History, Award-Winning author James Jessen Badal will read excerpts from his book and talk about the Collinwood School Fire. Program begins at 1:00pm and will be held in the Education Wing at the Museum. Standard admission rates apply. See website at www.wrfmc.com or call 216.664.6312 for more information.
- **Saturday, March 5, 2022** – Cleveland, OH. Annual Firematic Flea Market, held at the Cleveland Fire Training Academy, 3101 Lakeside Ave, Cleveland, OH. 8am – 1pm. Admission \$5.00 with children 12 and under free. For more information visit the Museum website at www.wrfmc.com.
- **Saturday, April 24 and Sunday, April 25, 2022** – Allentown, PA. Union Historical Society Spring Melt Flea Market and Auction. Auction Saturday, Flea Market Saturday afternoon and Sunday. Agri-Plex at Allentown Fairgrounds. Info at www.unionhistoricalsociety.com.
- **Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14, 2022** – Goodells, Michigan. Great Lakes Chapter Flea Market (formerly Jackson, MI Flea Market), St. Clair County Park, Goodells, Michigan. Info at www.gliafaa.org.
- **Sunday, May 29, 2022** – Cleveland, Ohio. 2022 Firefighters Memorial Ride at the Cleveland Firefighters Memorial next to First Energy Stadium. Ceremony will begin at 10am followed by an escorted ride to Western Reserve Harley Davidson in Mentor. For the most up-to-date info go to www.firefightersmemorialride.com or check Museum website at www.wrfmc.com.

<https://www.unionhistoricalsociety.com>

<https://www.gliafaa.org>

<https://www.firefightersmemorialride.com>



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



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



<https://www.wrfmc.com>



CFD TRIVIA

BY PAUL NELSON

Q: When did CFD first use rear-mount aerial ladders?

A: In 1971 with the delivery of two Pirsch 100-ft ladder trucks.



1971 Pirsch/Ford 100-ft rear-mount as Ladder 4

Rear-mount aerial ladders became an accredited aerial device for the fire service in the mid 60's. Seagrave introduced their cab-forward "Rear Admiral" in 1966 that also included a rear steer option. ALF had produced a prototype rear-mount in 1947 but never took it to production.

Pirsch introduced their rear-mount, aluminum aerial in 1971. CFD already had some experience with aluminum ladders on the 1969 Pirsch TDA's with GMC tractors. Chief William Barry decided the time was right to change over to rear-mounts. The 100-ft aerials were built on Ford-C cab-forward chassis in the same format as the CFD Sutphen/Ford pumpers of the 60's. The two trucks went to Ladder 8 (Sta. 10) and Ladder 11 (Sta. 22). The rig at Ladder 8 went to Ladder 4 (Sta. 11) in 1973.

Other bits of ladder trivia. Sutphen did not build aerial ladders and was a dealer for Pirsch ladder trucks. They had delivered two TDA's in 1969. Since 1965 Sutphen was Cleveland's only supplier of fire apparatus (pumpers, ladders and rescue squads all on commercial chassis). The last mid-mount straight chassis aerial ladder was a 100-ft from Seagrave in 1962 that went to Ladder 6 (Sta. 17).



1962 Seagrave 100ft mid-mount in a drill at old FTA Drill Tower



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

310 Carnegie Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2816

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**PLAN TO ATTEND
THE COLLINWOOD TRAGEDY WITH
AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR JAMES BADAL**
Saturday, February 26th at the Museum

**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.



Museum Annual Flea Market

The 37th Annual Fire Museum Flea Market will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2022 at the Cleveland Fire Training Academy located at 3101 Lakeside Ave E, Cleveland, OH 44114 just off the Inner Belt. Doors open at 8:00 am with a \$5.00 donation at entry. Hope to see you there.

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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