



NJ FIRE MUSEUM NEWS & FALLEN FIREFIGHTER



Organizational Notice – The NJ Fire Engine & Equipment Museum at Allaire Inc, is a 501C (3) non-profit corporation originally chartered by the state of New Jersey to establish and operate a fire museum and fire safety education center at Allaire State Park . The organization is comprised of the NJ Fire Museum and the New Jersey Fallen Firefighter's Memorial . NJ Fire Museum & Memorial News is our newsletter to museum patrons. Comments and newsworthy articles are invited. Please contact the editor by mail, email or fax at the address listed in the "How to Contact Us" box in this issue.

Issue 7 Volume 3

Visit the website at: www.njfiremuseum.org

Summer 2009

Motorcycle Event and Ball Games Benefit the NJ Fallen Firefighter's Memorial

Hello Friends and Patrons!

Fund-raising for the New Jersey Fallen Firefighters memorial is going well. Recent events brought in over \$7,000 for the memorial. 148 folks attended the Somerset Patriot game, 200 attended the Philadelphia Phillies game and over 300 rode in the event sponsored by the Knights of the Inferno motorcycle club.

The Board of Directors appreciates the work that goes into organizing and running each of these events.

Cathy Coursen ran the sports events while Rob Laberta and members of the motorcycle club ran the poker run and bike show. Please check our website for announcements of future events to benefit the museum and memorial!

I am pleased to welcome our newest Board Member, Rich Skinner of Ocean County. Rich has a Facebook group at www.njfirefighting.com. If you are into social networks, please take a look, join the group and participate in the fire service related events posted there.

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(Above) Members of North Plainfield Fire Dept attending a recent memorial fund-raiser at the Somerset Patriots ball park! The memorial fund received over \$1,100 on ticket sales, 50/50 and T-shirt orders from the game. 148 tickets were sold. A special thanks goes to North Plainfield FD, Montgomery Volunteer Fire Company #1 and River Road Fire Company for their support.



(Left) The logo of the Knights of the Inferno, a NJ motorcycle club that recently sponsored a fund-raiser to benefit the memorial! See inside for photos of the event which raised over \$4,000 for the memorial fund!

Please see the articles inside for more information on How you can help!

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HOW TO CONTACT US!

Write to us at

NJ Fire Museum

PO Box 241

Piscataway NJ 08855-0241

Or send email via our website

www.njfiremuseum.org

Please check out the

“How You Can Help”

memo posted to both the museum and memorial websites for more ideas on how you can participate.

**And contact us for
promo cards today!**

Continued from Page one

We continue to distribute the glossy card brochures to promote the fire museum and memorial.

Thank you to several folks who took up our offer in the last newsletter by asking for brochures so they could distribute them in their local area. We need more of you to do the same! Please contact us via email, mail or telephone as noted in the box at the bottom of this page!

Help us generate interest and support among the citizens of the state to “get it done” sooner not later.

If you can make a brief public address to a local group, ask your audience to take a few brochures along and to visit the website for the most current information on both projects.

I would also appreciate your help to increase the sales of Memorial pavers. These are being made from polished granite and will become the main plaza of the memorial. They will last indefinitely.

I recently looked over the personal inscriptions on the 130 pavers that have been sold to date, I see names of fire companies, fire departments, families and individuals.

The inscriptions can be “in memory of” any individual to include a firefighter, family member or friend. I am anxious to begin installing pavers at the memorial plaza; we will get to that point sooner if you help me to increase total sales.

To help reach that objective, we have developed a new twist on how we offer the pavers which I hope will make the purchase more appealing. Details will be posted at the website shortly!

We continue to look for people to join the Board of Directors or the Volunteer Committee. If you have

some free time and would like to get involved, please don't hesitate to contact us. It can be a few hours a month or a lot more. You decide and we will work out a way for you to contribute to the cause!

What does a Board member do? Today, our primary function is fund-raising; We need help to get to our politicians to encourage them to honor their commitments to the fire museum with action not words. We need help to reach out for corporate and business support. Its been a tough year of course but every dollar counts and we need to reach out to companies large and small to ask them to support the project.

Take a look around your daily life: How many times are you asked for a contribution to a good cause each week? How many articles do you see on cable TV or how much direct mail do you get with requests for support for some good cause that deserves your support?

We need Board Members who can help get those kinds of promotions up and running to reach the mass audience of New Jersey citizens to increase the visibility and support for our project state-wide.

Personal experience as a firefighter is not required to be a Board member. What counts is a friendly personality and a willingness to spend some time promoting the museum and memorial project.

Please look at the ideas listed in the “How You Can Help” article elsewhere in this newsletter. A complete version of the memo is available at the website.

Sincerely,

Don Mulligan

Newsletter Editor

An Old Rig Returns to the Muster Circuit

Newark Floodlight Rig Comes out of Retirement

This year's Newark Fire Dept's Antique Fire Apparatus Parade and Muster on June 7th featured a special guest: The 1936 Ford flood light truck, on display inside the museum for some 25-years, came out of retirement to join the visiting vintage rigs!

The little rig was removed from the museum over a year ago and came into the custody of Newark Battalion Chief John Sigano and Richard Mackey, a Newark firefighter. Richards father Andy is a Rockaway Borough firefighter, a union plumber by trade who rebuilds antique engines as a hobby.

When Andy first saw the truck, one tire was flat, the battery was missing, the flat-head engine was seized and the fuel tank was severely gummed. The body appeared to be in good shape with some minor damage and the interior was in fair condition but some parts missing. Fortunately most of the original lights were still in place.

Andy gave the chief a list of parts needed to begin the project. On May 18th Andy was given the go-ahead to work on the truck with one special request—could he get it running for the June 7th muster? Andy said it was “a long shot,” but he would try.

The crew worked on the ignition and points, acquired a battery, sent the fuel tank out



1936 Ford Floodlight rig with body built by Wendel Body Co of Newark NJ. Purpose built to bring ‘daylight’ to fire scenes, this rig was eventually retired from service as new apparatus were delivered with their own more powerful lighting equipment. Photo courtesy Ron Jeffers)

for a cleaning, installed a temporary fuel tank and eventually got to the point where they were ready to test the rig. Some gas in the carb and the temporary fuel tank, switch on and the little Ford came back to life! Andy called his son on the phone and let him hear the engine. “It’s alive!” Richard shouted.

Next Andy drove the truck out of the storage building, tested the brakes and hit the siren.

There is nothing quite like the sound of a mechanical siren winding up and down,” Andy said.

On the morning of the muster, Andy and Richard did some additional work on the rig, drove it to Ladder 1's quarters where some water was added to the radiator and the Ford was washed down. At the muster, Andy had the honor of leading the parade

down Broad Street ahead of the front-line N.F.D. units and the antique apparatus.

There’s a lot more work to do. The fuel tank needs to be reinstalled and the electrical system and the generator for the lighting system need a good cleaning. Chief Sigano hopes to repaint the rig in glossy white with gold leaf lettering and pinstripes to restore the rig to its original appearance. The truck body was assembled by Wendel Body Company of Newark and the flood light equipment was installed by John Clendenin Lighting of New York City.

Chief Sigano and his muster committee look forward to seeing the little Ford join them again at next year’s muster!

Story— Ron Jeffers

Scenes from the Motorcycle Benefit for Fallen Firefighter's Memorial



(top row) Motorcycles roll into the destination at Robertsville after a 50+ mile ride through central New Jersey. (center row) Over 300 motorcycles filled the parking lot at the Robertsville Fire Company.

(bottom left) Rob Laberta, President of the Knights of the Inferno motorcycle club presents a check for over \$4,000 to Don Mulligan, President of the New Jersey Fire Museum & Fallen Firefighters Memorial. The Poker Run

and Bike Show was held this past June to raise funds for the Fallen Firefighter's Memorial. Participating as stops along the route of the bike run were the Union Beach Fire Company #1, Adelpia Fire Company of Howell, Hope Fire Company of Allentown, Manasquan Fire Co. No. 1 and the Robertsville Fire Company.

(bottom right) That's Mama Nuche, Doc, Pete and Kelly worked the grilles at Robertsville!

Shop For Museum
A Way to Help The Project
When you Shop Online!

If you shop online, and who doesn't these days, did you realize that with a few extra keystrokes, you can benefit the fire museum and memorial project?

Its true. At Shop For Museums, participating companies donate a portion of their proceeds to the museum of your choice at no additional cost to you! Go To:

www.ShopforMuseums.com.

Under 'Museum Partners' select:

New Jersey Fire Engine and Equipment Museum
 (our official name).

Scroll through the list of stores to click where you want to shop!

Its that easy.

Please make a habit of using **ShopforMuseums.com** often and spread the word to your family, friends and co-workers.

Muster Dates for 2009

- Sep 26th Boonton (Northern New Jersey)
- Oct 11th Newton, Sussex County (North Jersey)
- Oct 17th Allaire State Park, (Central New Jersey)

Each of these events provides the opportunity to see a variety of old fire apparatus and to pick up some unique fire related items from the participating vendors.

Please visit the museum website for all the details!



Photographed as it passed by in a summer parade many years ago is the 1930s vintage Ford pumper of Lakehurst, NJ. You've probably seen this rig before and didn't know it! She is seen in the newsreel coverage of the 1937 crash of the German zeppelin Hindenburg at Lakehurst NJ. It is said the rig carried a small zeppelin shaped marker to commemorate the event but the truck has since vanished into New Jersey history.
 Photo courtesy of Ron Jeffers.



Some of the retailers that participate at ShopForMuseums.com. Please visit their website today and make your first purchase to benefit the museum and memorial!

The New Jersey Fallen Firefighter's Memorial lapel pin is now available. We offer this cloisonné pin at public events including the Wildwood Convention. You can also order them by contacting Cathy Coursen. Go to the fire museum site to click on the link to the memorial website to send an email or for her phone number.

Volunteer Committee News

Museum Apparatus Updates

The Volunteer Committee has a series of activities in-process or being planned.

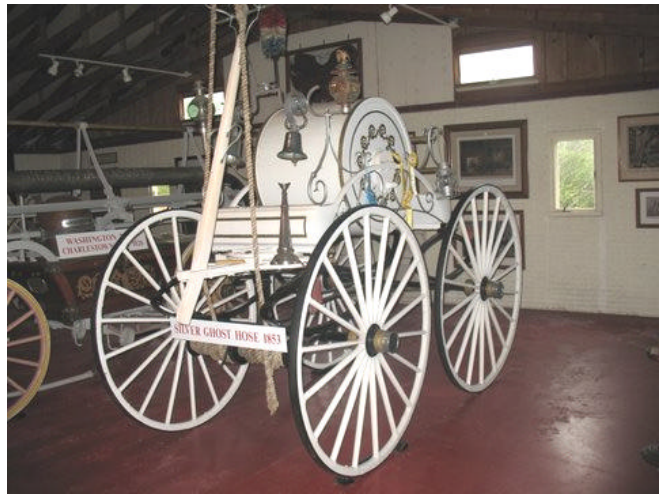
Participating can be both enjoyable for you and very beneficial to the museum. Please consider joining us. Here is an update on our current Volunteer Committee projects and events!

Ongoing activities you can pursue on your own as time permits include:

- Serve as our **Agent** in your hometown to distribute our **brochures** to firefighters, the public and your business community.
- Help us **Research** information on Fallen Firefighters; ask other websites to provide links to our website.

Ongoing projects that need your hands-on participation with others:

- **Construct** a replica hand-engine and a House-a-Fire as our 'fun factor' to encourage children to appreciate fire safety.
- **Produce** and distribute a DVD about the project.
- Perform **Maintenance** on museum equipment and apparatus.
- **Recruit teams** for firefighter competitions at our annual muster.
- Set up and **Man our Displays** at indoor exhibits and outdoor events.
- **Lend a hand** to Cathy and the Memorial Committee.
- Join the **Operating Crew** for our 1960 Mack triple combination pumper.
- Help run the **Family Fire Safety Muster** at Allaire each October.



(Above) A parade carriage that once served Irvington is coming home to the museum collection this Fall. (below) the 1960 Mack that now serves as our primary museum operating apparatus. She needs a crew!



(above) a 1968 Hahn engine that served in NJ was rescued from a Pennsylvania wrecking yard and donated to the museum by former Museum President Don Mulligan.

Scenes at Summer Fire Engine Musters!

Fire Engine Musters are a lot of fun! Most New Jersey musters are hosted by local chapters of the national vintage fire apparatus society known as SPAAMFAA.

Musters recently held at Thompson Park in Jamesburg and at Wheaton Village in Millville featured a lot of vintage apparatus and lots of visitors. You have a few more opportunities to attend a genuine fire engine muster this year!

See the details at the website!



A perennial favorite, the 1930 Seagrave pumper from Spring Lake blasting away at draft.



Among the apparatus at Jamesburg were from the left a Ward-La France, Mack, GMC and Ford.



(above left) More of the rigs on display at Jamesburg. (above right) David Napier, President, Tri-Counties Fire Association, host of the muster, presents the award for Best of Show to Bruce Miller, 2LT of the Toms River Fire Company for their 1940 Mack L Series pumper. A total of 23 awards were presented at the event!

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Buying and Selling Fire Trucks!

Below and on the facing page are extracts from the Ernie Day archives showing the records of used apparatus sold by Ernie's New Jersey Fire Equipment Company in 1952 and 1962. Bear in mind that was a 22-year old Ahrens Fox being

sold for fire duty in Woodbury not as a parade piece! Likewise a decade later another 22-year old engine went to Fieldsboro. Note the little Ford van that Ernie took in trade from Palmyra. That rig was photographed serving Oceanic in Long Branch in our last newsletter! We know at least one of the rigs listed here is still alive and well (the 1929 Ahrens Fox from Ocean City).

<u>USED APPARATUS DELIVERIES</u>						
<u>1952</u>						
<u>CUSTOMER</u>	<u>INV. DATE</u>	<u>ORDER NO.</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MAKE</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>TRADED FROM</u>
Community (Woodbury)	2/19/52	20491	1930	Ahrens Fox	Pumping Engine	Hatboro
Paterson Oil (Paulsboro)	2/26/52	20465	1926	LaFrance	500-Gal. Pumping Engine	East Pennsauken
Scullville	7/1/52	21212	1944	Chev.	Pumper	East Merchantville
Elton Vail Pitman Race Track	9/16/52	21605	1926	LaFrance	Pumper	Woodland
East Dover	9/23/52	21642	1931	LaFrance	500-Gal. Pumping Engine	Manville
Jericho	10/10/52	21702	1936	Chev.	Booster App.	Swedesboro

Used Apparatus Delivery Schedule

1962

<u>Customer</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Make & Type</u>	<u>Traded From</u>	<u>Del. Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fieldsboro	1940	Amer.LaFrance	Long Branch	2/26/62	\$ 686.00
Fieldsboro	1942	Ford	Barnegat City	2/28/62	2,500.00
P.O.L.	1932	Ahrens-Fox	Harrison	6/21/62	1,250.00
Proctor, Vt.	1947	Dia.T-500 Gal.	Pleasantville	6/26/62	5,850.00
Bachelor's Hall Dumville, Va.	1942	Dia.T-500 Gal.	Delair		2,000.00
West Wildwood	1936	Mack -750 Gal.	Scotch Plains	6/6/62	1,400.00
Oceanic Salvage & Rescue Squad	1940	Ford-Emergency	Palmyra	9/12/62	900.00
Hubert, N.C.	1936	Pirsch-600 Gal.	Glendola	10/4/62	2,265.00
Hargetts Cross Roads, N.C.	1941	Mack -500 Gal.	Adelphia	10/20/62	2,750.00
L. Williams	1929	Ahrens-Fox	Ocean City	10/30/62	1,250.00

More Ways You can Help the Museum and Memorial Projects!

• **Membership.**

The membership application form offers a range of annual support for individual, family or corporate/Fire Dept.

• **Cash contributions.**

Cash donations of any amount are welcomed and are tax-deductible.

• **Personalized granite pavers**

Offered in standard and double sizes. Contributions for pavers are allocated specifically to the Memorial.

• **Lapel pin, T shirt**

(and other clothing items) are available so you can wear the logo and show your support. Ball caps and a new Museum T shirt will be available shortly!

• **Join the Volunteer or Memorial Committee**

Be part of the team! See the activities listed on page 6.

• **Support from home.**

You can support an ongoing function by working from home or by helping to man our display at public events.

• **Offer your particular skills.**

You may have special skills we need! We are looking for folks with carpentry, mechanical and or computer skills!

Join the Board.

We also welcome any interested persons to consider joining the Board of Directors.

The Board meets quarterly. The Executive and Finance Committees of the Board meet additionally during the year.

We could use your help!

**EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN, PRESERVING FIRE SERVICE
HERITAGE, HONORING OUR FALLEN HEROES**



New Jersey Fire Museum & Fallen Firefighter's Memorial
P O Box 241
Piscataway NJ 08855-0241



A brass hand tool measuring about 10" long and spring loaded like a clothes pin. What is it?

Summer 2009

Museum Membership Application Form

Regular (Please circle dollar value)

	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum	Other
Individual	\$20	\$40	\$60	\$75	\$____
Family	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	\$____

Corporate/Fire Co/Dept (Please circle dollar value)

	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum	Other
	\$75	\$150	\$300	\$500	\$____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Email Address:

_____ @ _____

(please be sure it is readable! Thanks!)

Tel Number (optional) (____) _____

NOTE: We would appreciate your email address so we can send you the full-color newsletter electronically.

The newsletter is transmitted as a PDF format file (up to 3MB).

**Please mail form and your check made payable to:
NJFM
P O Box 241
Piscataway NJ 08855-0241**