

THE JOKER
NEWSLETTER OF THE
MILES GREENWOOD HISTORICAL FIRE APPARATUS SOCIETY

February 2015

DUES for 2015 are PAST DUE!

Howard Kuhnell, Editor

The next meeting will be held at The Cincinnati Air Conditioning Co., 2080 Northwest Dr., Cincinnati., OH 45231 Tuesday Feb. 17, with our gracious host providing refreshments prior to the 7:30 PM business.

January Meeting Recap: The January meeting highlight of course was the nomination and election of trustees. The Society's trustees consist of returnees: Monica Janning and Joe Eggemeir, joined by newly elected Mark Radtke.

The passing of former fire museum director Barbara Hammond was noted. Two new members were in attendance: Larry Flynn and his son Kyle Flynn were both present. They live in Loveland and were recruited to the society by Monica Janning. We welcome them!

Holiday party at the museum was very successful with thirty-seven folks in attendance. We benefited from a fine presentation on the history of the Cincinnati Fire Department by Firefighter Justin Peter of Engine 12, who is busily digitizing records, photos and information pertaining to the department and is hoping to lead an effort to publish a new history of the department.

RE-PLANNING 2015 Events:

March 11- 14, SPAAMFAA Winter Convention by the Chesapeake Chapter in Baltimore
March 27, Howard Kuhnell's Fire Memorabilia Auction, Cincinnati, OH
March 27 & 28 Miles Greenwood Historical Fire Apparatus Society Flea Market, Cinti., OH
April 18-19, Spring Melt Auction & Flea Market, Allentown, PA
April 25, Jackson Fire Swap Meet, Mich.
May 2, MABAS 7 Fire Swap Meet, Peotone, IL
May 15-17, Fire Expo, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, PA
June 6, National Fire Heritage Muster, Spring Grove Cemetery, Cincinnati, OH
June 27, Central Ohio Chapter Muster, Columbus OH, expanded this year to include antique police and funeral vehicles
July 11, Miami Valley Antique Fire Apparatus Assn. Muster, Germantown, OH
July 16 – 19, Firehouse Expo, Baltimore MD., sponsored by FIREHOUSE Magazine
July 24 -25, Great Lakes Chapter Muster, Frankenmuth, MI.
Aug. 15, Jeff Rider's muster, Crothersville – Uniontown, IN
Sept. 15, Kokomo IN. Muster & 100th Anniversary of their Ahrens-Fox, Foster Park, Kokomo

RALPH STELTER: We are all deeply saddened by the passing of our patriarch Ralph Stelter. Ralph was born on the Fourth of July in 1926 and died the 21st of January. He was the last of the "Brothers Three Museum", which was located on his Sicily Road farm outside of the small hamlet of Buford.

CFD fire department artifacts, equipment and memorabilia had been lovingly preserved by John, Carl and Ralph; together with their specialty, hand and horse drawn fire equipment. Ralph was especially pleased with his last restoration project; his 1863 piano style Village hand pumper built by Rumsey, done last year, which he had so appropriately christened "Sicily" and showed off every place he could; including the National SPAAMFAA convention in Columbus.



Ralph @ Frankenmuth riding with Mark Radtke
Trina Falk Photo



Ralph dickering with Bill, Bryan & Brodie
Dave Jones Photo

Member Mark Rembis, our Registered Emergency Vehicle Tech member and apparatus owner, advises all members it's not too early to get ready for the upcoming muster and show season. Mark advises to check all of your belts, reservoir fluid levels, brakes, lights and safety equipment. Be certain that you have a current operational fire extinguisher and a proper chock block; "not a rolled up piece of hose or a splinter of 2"x4". Also be certain that your insurance is current and remember don't "over speed" your vehicle. These relics require love and tenderness.



1928 "Southern" of Dallas TX
Northern pump x-Seminole OK.
at Oklahoma State Fire Museum.
Not many Southern's around here.

Editor's Note: Remember if at any time you are offended by anything that I include in this news letter; I subscribe to the wisdom of the editors of the former Cincinnati Fire Department Union newsletter, "The Relay Line"; bring the newsletter to me and I will gladly cut out the offending piece and dispose of it.