



a chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motorized Fire Apparatus in America
February, 2016 2 Pages _____ Howard Kuhnell, Editor

Dues are Due!

The next meeting will be held at Cincinnati Air, 2080 Northwest Dr., Cinti., OH 45231 on Tuesday, February 16, at 7:30 PM. Mr. Radtke might just have some food available if you arrive a little early.

December Meeting Recap: The organization remains solvent with all members urged to get their dues to the treasurer for the coming year. Our dues have not changed in many years and are less than most other chapters. Arrangements for the holiday party are done. A reminder: the party will begin at 6:00 PM and the charge will be \$18.00 per person and must be paid in advance. The clothing order was finalized with hope that the order would be in in time for distribution at the holiday party. The society decide to send Rick Knife a \$100.00 donation to help with his medical/insurance expenses.

January Holiday Party: We had a very nice turnout, with some of our less frequently seen members able to attend. Your editor presented a program on fire related toy collecting and had some examples of several of the categories available for viewing. Steve Siereveld presented a very informative synopsis on the fire museum's current status and planning endeavors for the museum's renovation and updating.

Pre-Planning:

- February 17 – 20, 2016, SPAAMFAA Winter Convention hosted by the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter. (See the recent ENJINE-ENJINE mailing for details.)
- March 25 & 26 Miles Greenwood Society Flea Market & Kuhnell's Fire Memorabilia Auction, both to be held at Cincinnati Air Conditioning Co. 2080 Northwest Dr. Cinti., OH. 4523
- April 23 -24, 2016 Spring Melt Flea Market & Auction, Allentown, PA. by the Union Historical Fire Society.
- April 30, 2016 Jackson Flea Market, Jackson MI. 200 W. Ganson St. 49202

- June 5, 2016 Miles Greenwood Society 7th. Annual Fire Heritage Muster, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Spring Grove Cemetery, 4389 Spring Grove Ave. 45223
- July 9, 2016 20th Annual Antique Fire Apparatus Show 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Veterans Memorial Park, 75 N. Walnut St., Germantown, OH. By the Miami Valley Antique Fire Apparatus Association

Fire Memorabilia:

As a collector and auctioneer of fire department related items I have been asked many times to display items that I feel are unique or unknown to the average collector. Most fire department related collectors have the items that one would expect, extinguishers, helmets, lanterns, badges, buckets, nozzles and so forth.

But occasionally I come across something that catches my eye, you probably know the feeling...you see it, and bells ring & lights flash in your head, and...you have to have it! Well that happened one Sunday afternoon at a flea market in Kentucky. While looking over some display cases full of assorted junk I spied a small object with an embossed Maltese cross. Asking to see the thing I was presently surprised to discover an advertising match safe; made of gutta percha material, for Maltese Cross & Baker Fabric Fire Hose.

Now many folks collect match safes, and I believe that they could certainly be considered “fire related”; as they pertain to early efforts directed toward fire safety by preventing the matches of the day from bursting into flame while be carried on one’s person. A noble endeavor in itself. But this one...wow!

Gutta percha was made from the sap of the Palaquium tree when in 1843 it was found to be a natural thermoplastic and used in the manufacture of many goods in the second half of the 19^m. Century from wire insulation to walking sticks.

The match safe measures 2 ¾” x 1 ¼”

