

THE OLDE



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SPAAMFAA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION & MUSTER

2008

NATIONAL SPAAMFAA CONVENTION & MUSTER
 JULY 30, 31, AUGUST 1 AND 2, 2008
 SPONSORED BY THE CENTRAL NEW YORK CHAPTER
 THE BELLE ISLE RESERVE FIRE COMPANY



DEDICATED TO OUR FOUNDER, DICK HORSTMANN

29TH EDITION NORTHEAST
 ANTIQUE FIRE APPARATUS SHOW AND MUSTER
 LONG BRANCH PARK - LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK

SATURDAY AUGUST 2, 2008 10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM
 FREE ADMISSION

9:00 AM PARADE THRU LIVERPOOL TO MUSTER SITE
 HAND PUMPERS, MOTORIZED APPARATUS, FLEA MARKET, DEMONSTRATIONS &
 MORE

WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE COUNTY OF ONONDAGA PARKS & RECREATION

SPAAMFAA'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Central New York Chapter cordially invites you to Syracuse NY, the birthplace of SPAAMFAA. The Central New York Chapter will host the 2008 National Convention and Muster on July 30, 31, August 1, and 2. It will be held at Long Branch Park on the edge of beautiful Onondaga Lake. This year's exciting field trip will take place on Thursday, to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. The hall of fame is one of most popular destinations in

America.

On Friday, there will be tours of Syracuse Fire Department Stations, and some that have been converted to other uses. On Friday night, there will be a wreath laying ceremony at the Firefighter's Park in Downtowns Syracuse, and great barbeque dinner sponsored by both the Central New York Chapter and the Thurston Family.

Our headquarters hotel for the event will once again be the Holiday Inn on 7th

North Street and Electronics Parkway. It is convenient to Syracuse's Hancock Airport, Amtrak, Greyhound, and Trailways. Be sure to mention SPAAMFAA when making reservations.

There will be numerous apparatus awards including pre-WWII motorized categories: oldest ALF, Seagrave, Ahrens Fox, Mack, and Independent make. The same categories for post-WWII motorized apparatus. Special awards will be given for furthest distance under own power, farthest distance trailered, broken hose award, best original condition (first and second place), judges choice award, and contestant's favorite. For Hand and Horse Drawn, there will be awards for oldest pumper, best appearing pumper, oldest steamer, best appearing steamer, and oldest hose cart, ladder tack, or hose carriage. Flea market space is available for those interested.

Contact Gary or Mary Thurston at 315-487-1137 or garythurston.com for more details. Or log on to www.cnyspaamfaa.com. Hope to see you all there - **Where it all began!**

Many thanks to CNYSPAAMFAA for permission to reprint this article.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Future meeting dates Monday evenings on July 21, Aug 18, and Sept 15 at the Community National Bank on Bellaire. Mark your calendars
- SPAAMFAA's 50th Anniversary Summer Convention and Muster July 30th—Aug 3rd hosted by Central New York Chapter
- Keith Franz from Slinger WI is the newly elected SPAAMFAA National President, member of the Great Lakes Chapter and of SPAAMFAA since 1967

CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES IN SUMMARY

BY CHERYL MCGEE

The following is a summary of the Spring quarterly meetings:

April meeting: Clinton announced the 5th Annual Pumpnic on Saturday, May 10. Copies of Winter 2008 Newsletter were distributed. Bill Wilcox displayed assortment of helmet material. Jim re-

ceived request from National for 50th Anniversary photos for SPAAMFA souvenir book.

May meeting: Six members went to Jackson Michigan annual flea market. Clinton mentioned there would be Fire/Police/Soldier recognition ceremony over Memorial weekend.

June meeting: Discussed weekend trip to New Orleans in November, and a one day trip to Brenham museum. Membership roster was circulated for updates; please send your current email and home address to webmaster.



Bill holding helmet shield

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

BY STEVE DALPE



Photos: 1. Raleigh Johnson decorating his 1921 ALF Type 40 Chemical. 2. A spry Chuck Buschardt decorating the 1951 Mack Quint for the crowd. 3. Loaded down with parade goers midway through the event. 4. Parade youth working the 1921 ALF wood steering wheel prior to the festivities. Photos—Steve Dalpe

As best Chuck and Marla Buschardt could recollect, Texas Gulf Coast SPAAMFAA - and it's predecessor *America '76 Hose Company* - members have now participated in 32 consecutive Houston St. Patrick's Day Parades, with Chuck & Marla seeing the lion's share. They drove Tim Treadway's 1950 Mack Quint 65' ladder truck, ex-Buchanan MI. Raleigh Johnson (welcome back to Houston, briefly!) brought his Type 40, 1921 ALF Chemical Pumper, ex-Denver CO. He and Chuck restored this vehicle in 1976, and it's been in Raleigh's family ever since. Two other trucks were present: a green International chassis from Irish Town FD, and 1953 Seagrave from Silver Eagle Distributors Budweiser Volunteer FD. Despite overheating, the '21 ALF completed the parade utilizing a Mack chain tow. Honorable mention goes to Tom McDonald to help organize the event, and Eric Lundstrom for taking photos of the event. More pictures can be seen on the TGCC web site. Thanks to all who participated. Hope to see you at #33!

HFD PROCURES SIX MORE FERRARAS

BY KEN PARADOWSKI

The Houston Fire Department recently added to its collection of Ferraras. The group shown in the photo brings the total count of Ferraras in Houston to 33. These vehicles are praised for their handling, agility, and responsiveness.

The specs on the Ferraras are as follows: Cummins Diesel engine, Hale 1500 gpm pump, and most (not all) have 500 gallon water tanks, and LED lighting. Perhaps these trucks will belong in the collection of a future SPAAMFAA Texas Gulf Coast Chapter member.



EDITOR'S NOTES

Time does pass quickly. Seems like just yesterday we were preparing the Winter Newsletter. Feedback was positive, and thanks to everyone that helped "get it to the news stands." We hope you enjoy the Spring edition to

the same extent.

This was a busy period for the TGCC, trying to beat the sweltering summer heat. We set a record 32 years straight attendance the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Very

nice to see Raleigh Johnson again. We had several TGCC representatives travel to the Jackson Michigan Flea Market. The Pumpnic was a smashing, all-Mack review. Thanks, Clinton for sponsoring. Past and present fire and

law enforcement personnel were honored on Memorial Day. We feature photos from Chip Lytle's collection, and Chuck overhauling Waterous pump. We extended the newsletter to six pages to cover all the club events.

A DAY WITH THE EDITOR

BY STEVE DALPE

.... of Engine!~Engine! that is. Member Steve Dalpe had the wonderful opportunity to spend a day with Steve Hagy of Edgewood, Kentucky. Steve has been an avid fire buff his entire life, specializing in Cincinnati vehicles.

Steve has a "basement" collection that would make even the experienced collector envious. From lanterns to badges to fire extinguishers to photographs to bottle caps, Steve has it all. Obviously

being so close to Cincinnati and a close friend of the late Richard "Curt" Nepper, Steve's collection has a slant towards Ahrens Fox memorabilia. Note the unique wall hanging in the photo. Steve probably has one of the largest collections of photographs of fire engines in the US, and is always willing to share at request.

We passed some time by traveling to Chip Lytle's estate, located north of Cincinnati.

Chip has assembled a priceless truck collection spanning 4 decades. See page 4 for a separate article.

While not a truck owner, Steve is extremely versed in truck history, makes, models, etc. He literally can't pass up photographing any neighborhood fire department's truck. And he is very active on web. See for example CFDHISTORY.COM. He is an active member of the Miles Greenwood Society. Many thanks!



E!~E! Editor Steve Hagy proudly displays prized pieces of his life-long fire collection

CHRONICLES 9056: A CASE OF DOUBLE IDENTITY

BY STEVE DALPE

At first glance, the two delivery photos look identical, until closer examination reveals different pump panels. But which is correct? Why would an Ahrens Fox vehicle have Seagrave connections (top photo)? This is the question owner and TGCC member Steve Dalpe set out to understand. And thanks to Steve Hagy of KY and Jim Murray of NJ, a plausible explanation is presented here.

It was the early 30's, tension between Ahrens Fox and Barney Houston, Cincinnati Fire Chief, was at an all-time high. It appears that a relative needed financial help and Barney petitioned AF for some support. Ahrens



Will the true Ahrens Fox Registration 9056 please step forward! Plate 1030 (top) or 1035?

Fox politely declined, and was subsequently excluded from Cincinnati bids in the mid-30's in response. Until 1938! The quote for three trucks was solicited with a spec that was written around centrifugal pump. AF turned to Seagrave in Columbus OH for three pumps. Understanding their predicament, Seagrave complied with the request. Ahrens Fox was the lowest bidder, and Cincinnati got three new trucks from Ahrens Fox with Seagrave pumps.

However, AF didn't want to publicize that they had used a competitor's pump, so they altered the true delivery photo 1030 and pasted their own rotary gear pump to form plate 1035. Thus the history of two delivery photos!

HONORING OUR NATION'S BRAVEST

BY JIM & CHERYL MCGEE

On Sunday, May 25, Memorial Day, a special service was held for Fire Fighters, Police Officers, and Armed Services personnel at the Hickory Temple Church at 14203 Wallisville Rd. Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. It was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873.

Starting at 10:00 am, Jim and Cheryl McGee ('51 Mack Ladder), Chuck and Marla Buschardt ('48 American LaFrance pumper), and Clinton Johnson ('65 American LaFrance ladder) arrived to demonstrate their support and partake in the ceremonies. Service, parade, and lunch at the Community Center were well attended for a local area event. Meals were provided by Trigg Catering (Harvey and Mary). They did an exceptional job. Many thanks to all who attended to honor our bravest.



Tim Treadway's 1951 Mack Quint awaits further instructions at the Memorial Day Services

CHIP LYTLE'S COLLETION

BY STEVE DALPE



If you're ever passing through the Cincinnati area, be sure to contact Chip Lytle for a tour of his wonderful collection. Spanning nearly 4 decades of collecting, Chip Lytle has one of the finest fire engine assemblies in North America, boasting approximately 60 vehicles. Being so close to Ahrens-Fox manufacturing, his collection features a variety of Fox's from several generations. A real gem is his 1918 ex-Bellevue KY front-mount rotary gear pump (one of a kind!) and some newer ones from the 30's like the ex-New Boston. His is currently in pursuit

of Ahrens Fox Type AA components.

He has other manufacturers like REO, ALF, Seagrave, as well as ex-military, mostly front adjacent communities.

Be sure to allow a full day as the collection is spread out over his property, both outdoors and inside multiple buildings.

Chip is a member of the Miles Greenwood Society and can be reached through the organization's website.



SHOP WORK — WATEROUS OVERHAUL

BY CHUCK BUSCHARDT

Nothing more relaxing to pass the time than overhauling a Waterous pump! The latest Chuck Buschardt shop adventure includes diagnosing and overhauling a Waterous 1500 GPM pump on his recently-acquired December 1976 Mack CF 686F15 #1156. With it's 500 gallon tank, it served in Blue Hill CT, and most recently at Bradley International Airport, Connecticut Dept of Transportation.

When purchased, it came with the usual guarantee — AS IS! No problem for Chuck who has been in the fire truck “as-is” business for his entire life. In this case, it was a non-operating pump. Chuck dropped the pump and opened the case to learn the impeller blades were severely damaged from “ingesting” something, most likely the flapper on the suction check valve. Other damage was noted. Networking, Chuck was able

to obtain gently-used replacement parts from a fire department in Massachusetts. They came out of a 1995 Pierce. Good things these pumps hang around for many years! Plus Chuck pulled parts from his personal inventory. With the pump in multiple pieces, it would get new wear rings, new lip seals, packing, and an overhauled transmission. For those that enjoy details, the pump has the model no. CMUYBS1500: C for centrifugal, M multi stage, U heavy duty, Y chain drive (vs. gear). Photo below shows



the impeller damage on the leading edges. Chuck is shown polishing the main shaft to remove build-up prior to installing new lip seal. Photos were taken at the shop adjacent to Hobby Airport.



MACK'S DOMINATE 5TH ANNUAL PUMPNIC

BY CLINTON JOHNSON

Thanks to everyone for a successful Pumpnic. Mack's definitely ruled this year! We had one of them nationally famous apparatuses there that was in ENGINE!~ENGINE! Yes, the infamous nationally recognized long-time fire service hack, the ayatollah of hazardous material, and former Houston Fire Museum Curator/Janitor, Captain William “Bill” Wilcox and his famous 1941 army Mack Engine showed up for a cameo performance. The crowd was not disappointed as the steadfast apparatus gamely sent a master stream toward the stratosphere. Thanks to Tim Treadwell, the Atascocita Fire Department, while admiring the cutting edge technology demonstrated by the intrepid Moonshine Hill Fire Department, learned that them fire trucks could suck water out of ponds and ditches.

Prior to this experience, they spent many hours pondering what them big black hoses on the side of the engines was for. Their internal argument as to their use as counterweights for the ladders on the other side of the truck finally settled, AFD Fire Fighters returned home with a real sense of accomplishment. Safety always being of prime concern at these events we are happy to report no one was snake bit, drowned, ate by alligators, or food poisoned. More importantly, no apparatus had to be fished out of the brine tank. Everybody seemed to have a good time and I know I really enjoyed the day. So ‘til next year keep your batteries charged, rags dry under the seat, and anticipation high for the 6th annual invitational Moonshine Hill Pumpnic and Aquatic revue.



Left: Pair of Macks pumping at the 5th Annual Pumpnic. Right: Tom Morrison's 1935 Chevy Waterous 250 GPM pump. Contact Tom via Website Master for b-day parties, etc.

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HALL OF FLAME: CHUCK'S PRIDE — 1931 AHRENS FOX



Chuck Buschardt owns this well-preserved and very original 1931 Ahrens Fox Model M-S-4 formerly of Arlington New York. Records indicate the delivery date was April 11, 1931. It holds registration number 1778. It was one of the last years Ahrens Fox utilized the gable hood design. Contact Chuck via TGCC Website for more details.