

The *Oldde Fire Bell*

Summer 2014

Quarterly Newsletter of The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of SPAAMFAA

TGCC Celebrates 29 Years with ETHFS



"The Pictorial History of the Houston Fire Department 1980 to 2014"
by F. Scott Mellett
Now Available!

This book is a continuation of Scott's first book published in 2012, which covered the history of the Houston Fire Department from 1890 to 1980.

To order your copy for \$43.25 (sales tax included) go to: www.sfmellett.com

Shipping charges apply.
US Mail for the continental US \$8.50
Free delivery to fire houses.

Questions? Please call Scott Mellett at 713-598-6125 or email at scottmellett@att.net



Tool Box - Miscellaneous Happenings Around the Chapter

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PA Pump Primers Muster Draws TGCC Members for Consecutive Years

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East Texas Historical Fire Society 29 Years and Going Strong

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Selection of Photos from Columbus Ohio Summer National

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Deer Park Fire Prevention Parade Attracts Local Antiques

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A letter from the Chapter President



Well, another quarter has passed. And it was a great one. Not only did we fulfill local obligations by attending numerous 4th July parades, musters, and the

like, we attended events and activities outside the immediate Houston area. We were present at the SPAAMFAA Summer National in Columbus, and of course, the East Texas Historical Fire Society's muster in Tyler. We feature a selection of photos from both events for those that were not able to attend. We are fortunate to have such committed group of people to make all this a reality. It makes me proud to be a member of this Texas Gulf Coast Chapter.

SPAAMFAA National has accepted our offer to host the Winter 2016 National. Needless to say, we have a lot of work ahead of us. We have experience hosting a past National, and we have had many attendees at recent Nationals to help guide us in the planning of the site selection, daily events, etc. It will take the effort of a lot of dedicated personnel. We have already started forming subcommittees to address many of the early aspects of the Muster.

Speaking of personnel, we welcome several new members and vehicles. New membership is the lifeblood of the chapter. We have elections coming up in early 2015, and we hope some of the new members will step forward and help fill the officers' positions.

Keep it up and above all enjoy doing it!

Your President, Clinton Johnson

Upfront Newsline

Welcome to the Summer edition of *The Olde Fire Bell*. Where did the summer go? In this edition, we report on Chapter activities that occurred in the dead heat of the summer. Although, many headed North for cooler conditions. We had a great turnout at the Summer National in Columbus, attended Tyler's annual Muster, and the Stelhorn's had another fantastic trip to Pennsylvania. We also celebrated the addition of new trucks to the Chapter. We look forward to seeing Jackie's Seagrave at future events (see back page).

Congratulations to the East Texas Historical Society for hosting yet another wonderful Muster. 29 consecutive years. It takes the work of a lot of individuals to accomplish this successful streak. Way to go! We have to report that there were no marriage proposals this year!

We lost some close friends and family. Chief V. E. Rogers passed away on June 3rd. He served HFD from 1955 through 1984. He was a huge friend of the Houston Fire Museum. Fire Fighter Daniel Groover passed away in early July responding to a fire in the Woodlands. Tom McDonald's mother, Beverly Turner McDonald, passed away in August.

Chapter Meeting Summary

July: There was no meeting.

August: There was discussion about the 2016 Winter Convention planning activities. A committee was formed to select a principle location. Nassau Bay is leading candidate due to access to hotels, restaurants, and events. Preliminary dates include either of the last two weekends of February. Cost structures (flat fee or pay-per-event) were discussed. Clinton Johnson described some of the events at the Summer National. Jason Barnett attended the 1940 Air Terminal Museum's Wings and Wheels. Chapter banners, magnetic decals, and business cards are available for anyone attending future events. Deer Park Fire Prevention and HFM's Fire Fest occur on the same day, October 4th. No word has been received from the Mayor's office about Thanksgiving Day Parade. Clinton will make contact with the office.

September: To be included in Fall edition of *The Olde Fire Bell*.






Tool Box Topics

HFD Pictorial History

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Shipping charges apply.
US Mail for the continental US \$8.50
Free Delivery to Fire Houses

Questions? Please call Scott Mellott at 713-598-6125 or email at scottmell@att.net

This book is a continuation of the first book that was published in 2012, which covered the history of the HFD from 1895 to 1980. The sequel has pre-sold almost 600 books. Sales have been great and the reviews have been great as well. You can order your copy on web site (<http://www.hfdbook.com/>). The cost of the book is \$43.25 (sales tax included) and shipping cost apply - \$8.50 continental US. (usually sent out same day you place your order). Free delivery to Fire houses and fire department related areas (Shop, Arson and Fire Prevention offices, 600 Jefferson, and the pension office). Get your copy today while supplies last!

Thank You, Cheryl McGee

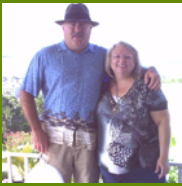


Cheryl McGee, a member of the Texas Gulf Coast of SPAAMFAA, created a Quilted Market Tote using novelty fire related fabrics. She then filled her Tote with a lb. of Coffee, Travel Mug, Fire Hydrant Christmas Tree Decoration, and a quilted Mug Rug. Cheryl then proceeded to sell raffle tickets, pulling the winning ticket on Oct. 31st, Halloween night! The winner was Deborah Smith from League City, Texas. Cheryl collected \$147 to put into our Treasury to help host the SPAAMFAA Winter National Conference in 2016, which will be held in the Clear Lake area.

Seagrave Barn Find



Members Harry Darr and Clinton Johnson came across this well-weathered Seagrave Suburbanite in Cold Springs. No identification of past service was available during the inspection. If anyone is interested, contact the Chapter. We have the owners's contact information.



Harrisburg Musters

By Kim & Cindy Stellhorn

Members Cindy and Kim Stellhorn have been regulars at Harrisburg PA Pump Primers Musters since purchasing their 1975 Mack. This year was no exception. Below are a collection of various photos from the 2014 muster. Photos were taken at both the Locust & Front Streets location, and the set-up on the river.



Harrisburg Musters (continued)

By Kim & Cindy Stellhorn



All good things come to a temporary end... we had a great week in Harrisburg, visiting with friends from local and a far. We always enjoy the muster kickoff at the museum, run down 2nd street on Friday night, PP muster and flea market on Saturday. We journeyed to Elizabethtown, Lancaster, and Paradise Pa. Helped celebrate the promotions of Capt. Jason Lloyd and Lt. Will Skinner with HBF. We're not getting to take any fire truck or flea market items home this time, but I have a few more fire pictures of Engine 8 (above) and a Pennsylvania state flag provided by Mark Grubb to fly proud off Engine 8. Great to see so many people who are Facebook friends and to meet Mr. Moyer, photographer of many of the pictures taken of E-8.





East Texas Historical Fire Society's 'Big 29'

Photos by Jim McGee

The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter attended East Texas Historical Fire Society's Annual Muster from October 24 - 25, 2014. This year marked the 29th anniversary of this annual muster at the Brookshire Grocery Company's Lake Palestine Recreation Facility.





SPAAMFAA Summer National

Photos by Clinton Johnson

Several members from The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter attended 2014 SPAAMFAA National Summer Convention and Muster in Columbus, Ohio, hosted by the Central Ohio Antique Fire Apparatus. Columbus boasts the home of Sutphen Corporation, the oldest fire apparatus manufacturer in the US with over 120 years of operation. Seagrave settled in Columbus in 1891.



The Texas Gulf Coast



Chapter SPAAMFAA

SPAAMFAA Summer National (continued)

Photos by Clinton Johnson



SPAAMFAA Summer National (continued)

Photos by Clinton Johnson



The Texas Gulf Coast



Chapter SPAAMFAA



Deer Park Fire Prevention Parade

Photos by Jim McGee



Deer Park Fire Prevention Parade always brings out the best departmental, industrial, and antique fire apparatus. The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter thanks the City of Deer Park for their continued sponsorship of this wonderful parade!



Application for Membership

Texas Gulf Coast Chapter
Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire
Apparatus in America
(SPAAMFAA)

Please mail this application with \$20 dues made payable to:
Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of SPAAMFAA
PO Box 697
Bellaire, TX 77402

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Signature: _____

Street or Box No.: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: Home: _____ Cell: _____

Work: _____ Other: _____

How did you hear about us? Web Page ☐ Friend ☐ Publication ☐ Muster ☐ Newsletter ☐

Other (please specify) _____

Interests: Collecting Fire Equipment ☐ Photography ☐ Attending Musters ☐ Parades ☐

Restoration Activities ☐ Helmets/Patches ☐ Other (please specify) _____

Fire Department or SPAAMFAA Affiliation: _____

If you own a piece of firefighting apparatus that is at least 25 years old, please provide the following information. Attach a separate sheet if multiple vehicles. Ownership of apparatus is not required to join the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter

Year: _____ Make: _____ Type (pumper, aerial, etc.): _____

Mfg. Model: _____ Mfg. Serial #: _____

Pump Make: _____ Pump Size GPM: _____ Water Tank Size: _____

Previous Owner and History of Rig: _____

Membership in the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter is open to all upon application to the Board of Directors and payment of annual dues. Join today and share in the preservation and appreciation of fire fighting and antique fire apparatus.

All new members are encouraged to join National SPAAMFAA Chapter. National SPAAMFAA provides additional resources for restoration and insurance for all sponsored events. National membership is mandatory for Officers of the Texas Gulf Coast Chapter.



Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of
SPAAMFAA
P.O. Box 697
Bellaire, TX 77402



President - Clinton Johnson
Vice President - Ken
Paradowski
Treasurer - Tom McDonald
Secretary - Jim McGee
Newsletter & Website - Steve
Dalpe

1947 Seagrave ex-Billings Columbus Montana



1947 Seagrave Waterfall from Billings, Montana
acquired in 2014 by Jackie Henson

