

Minutes from 04/26/2014 Meeting of the Old Fire Farts

The meeting was held at member Ed Schwartz's Fire Museum. I want to take this opportunity to thank Ed and the family for being such a great host to such a noisy group of Old Farts. There were 18 members and about 5 guests at the Picnic and Meeting. Introductions were done with some amazing backgrounds among the group. If we added together all the Fire Service time that was there, we would have had easily over 500 years of service. We started with the tour of Ed's museum and fire collection. As the members post their photos you can see that this is a one of a kind collection. Everyone seemed to have a great time and there was a lot of Bell Ringing and Siren Blasting going on. Just watch the posted video of Ed and Jim on the Mini-Maxim. The food was ready so we gathered to fill ourselves with Hot Dogs with all the trimmings, Firehouse Chili, Banana Pudding and snacks and beverages. I just hope the chili didn't have any bad effects on anyone.

The first item discussed was our proposed Fire Muster in October. A sample flyer was shared with the group showing some ideas. **Location:** There was some discussion about four possible sites; Memorial Stadium and Kiwanis Lake in York City, Cousler Park in Manchester Twp., and York County Rudy Park in East Manchester Twp. We will be looking into these locations as possible sites for the October 5th date. Greg Halpin will check with the City Recreation, Bob Straw and Rick Shank will check with Manchester Twp. Recreation and Rob Green and Bob Straw will check with County Parks. If we get a location without a lake or pond we will need a folding tank and tanker to refill. **Sponsors:** We will need about five sponsors to give \$500 to \$1,000. We will need as many \$100 sponsors we can get. These sponsor fees will cover administrative cost such as insurance, rentals, printing of materials, participation plaques, awards and prizes. The group will earn money by selling fire flea market spaces at \$20 each for a 10 X 10, apparatus registrations at \$15 each, and a \$30 registration fee plus 15% of profits from our food vendors. **Three Special Awards** will be given out: **Chief Robert Little Award** for the Best in Show (Trophy & Cash), **Chief Glenn Kline Award** for the Best Antique (Trophy & Cash), and the **People's Choice Award** (Trophy & Cash). For every dollar donated towards the Fire Museums the person will be given a vote towards their favorite apparatus. The apparatus with the most votes gets the People's Choice Award. There will be a special area set aside for kids, called **Kids-Korner**. There we will have a smoke trailer, fire safety demonstrations, and kid's games related to fire fighting. The whole purpose is to raise money for the up keep and repair of the items in our two fire museums. We also want to educate the public, especially the youth about our deep fire history. This will be "**A Family Friendly Event**".

In July we plan to visit PA Pump Primers in Harrisburg where several members will be taking their apparatus and/or have stands for the flea market. Ed will have 2 flea market spaces and at 11:30 AM we will hold a brief meeting at this location. We will give the exact location as we get closer to the event. If you never been there take the time to go and bring your camera.

In May we will hold a breakfast meeting at Lyndon Diner on May 10th at 08:00 hours. Discussion will be held on future membership, Pump Primers and the Fire Muster up dates. We should be done by 10 am so you can go buy something nice for Mother's Day.

You asked to join our group and we try to share some fire history with each other. With our Muster we hope to share that history with the youth in our community. Become more active and sign up and attend our functions. The stories and the memories shared are worth every minute you attend.