

THE SMOKE EATER

Old Fire Farts of York County, PA

2nd Quarter Meeting Held

On Wednesday, April 8, 2015 the 2nd Quarter Meeting was held at the Dover Township Fire Department, Station # 9. The meeting was called to order by President Straw followed by the pledge to the flag and a moment of silence for our brothers and sisters who have passed since our last meeting.

The Officers reports follow:

Treasurer Green pasted out our first quarter financial report ending March 31, 2015. We started with no money at all and we had an income of \$1,667.95 and expenses of \$748.00 leaving us a balance of \$919.95.

Secretary Hoover read the minutes of the Annual Meeting in January and with a correction the minutes were approved by the body.

Pres.-Elec t. Stauffer reported of the promotional efforts of the group at the SPAAMFAA Winter Meeting in Baltimore and the Mt. Airy Maryland Fire Flea Market.

Members-At-Large had no report.

President Straw reported on his appears before the SPAAMFAA Board concerning our application to become a SPAAMFAA Chapter. Our paperwork for application is in place but the new rule that all our members must all be SPAAMFAA members is a stumbling block.

Committees had no reports. We still need to hold meetings and we have two openings remaining on our Public Relation/Communication Committee. All other Committee positions are filled. If you are an Active Member and would like to serve on the PR/Comm. Committee let President Straw or Secretary Hoover know.

Meeting with SPAAMFAA went well. They recommended that we change our Social Members to Social Associates. That way they are not counted as members and do no need to be SPAAMFAA Members towards our chapter application with them. More discussion by our Board needs to take place on this subject.

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Special points of interest:

1. A change in membership status may need to take place if we want to become a SPAAMFAA Chapter.
2. We met with the York County Community Foundation concerning funds for our Scholarship Grant Program to provide Grants to those first responders needing help to future their education opportunities.
3. We need two people to Serve on our PR/Com. Committee.
4. Need help to work on the 2015 York Fire Muster.

2015 York Fire Muster Taking Shape

On October 11th the 2nd York Fire Muster will take place. We plan to hold it at Cousler Park again this year.



Our featured apparatus for 2015 will be the **Ahrens-Fox**. Efforts are underway to get as many Ahrens-Fox to the Muster as possible. We hope to have 10 Foxes with Special prizes offered for the three types of Foxes built.

All makes of apparatus will also compete for trophies and there will be a Pumping Contest for anyone who wants to pump with prizes for 1st and 2nd place

The **Fire Flea Market** will be held again and at a location closer to the apparatus staging. We already have three vendors interested in spots.

The **Food Court** this year will be filled with Food Trucks and they will be located closer to the stage area in 2015.

The **Kids Korner and Fire Safety Education** demonstrations will be back with more fun and games.

The **Registration Form** can be downloaded from of Face Book page now. Flyers for the event are available.

Fundraising Committee has been formed

- * April -Oyster Feed
- * May & Nov. - Two 250 Clubs
- * June -Chicken Bar-B-Q
- *August – Crab Feed
- *Sept. - Sandwich Sale
- * Oct .- Sugar Cakes & Whoopie Pies
- *Nov. -Wreaths & Poinsettias Sales

The Old Fire Farts of York County, PA is a fun group to belong to. It doesn't matter if you are an Active or Social member you still need to get involved in our fundraising. We were able to bring a Fire Muster back to York County after a 50 year absence. We gave funds to both Fire Museums in York County. We helped to make the Christmas a little brighter for three first responder families in 2014. All of this took funding and we made it through our first year with help from individuals and businesses within the community.

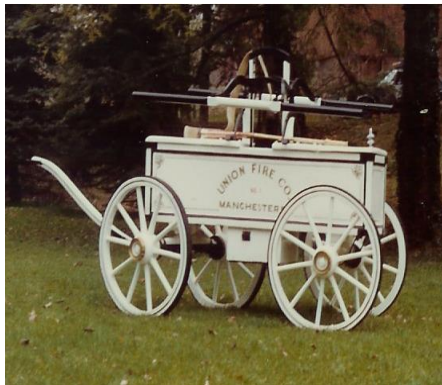
In order to continue this effort and to expand on it, we organized as an official non-profit organization and can now sponsor our Fire Muster on our own and don't have to beg for support from others to make it happen. Everyone weather Active or Social needs to participate in the events listed to the left.

We formed a Fundraising Committee to help with our Fire Muster and Scholarship Fund. Our Fire Muster costs last year were over \$4,000 to hold our event. There were a lot of donations which helped us to achieve our goal of giving money to the two Fire Museums. In 2015 it will be up to us to support our fundraisers to make it happen. We also added our Scholarship Grant which also is supported by our fundraising events.

With that said, when we post an event, please help promote it. Buy a bag of sugar cakes or a couple of sandwiches for the family. Attend the Oyster Feed or sell a few 250 Club tickets to friends. **What we do depends on you.**

Station of the Month

We select **Station #23 Union Fire Co. #1 of Manchester Borough** for their preservation of fire history and their work within the community helping others.



2nd Quarter Meeting Held --continued

With a fundraiser being held every month and with some new fund raising project being proposed the Treasure and the President have requested that a Committee be formed to help with all the activities. Paul Hoover was appointed to be Fundraising Committee Chair. Paul is currently working on an Old Fire Fart Shirt which will be sold to those who are active or social participant with the group. If you would like to help our group earn some money for the Muster or Scholarship funds let either President Straw or Chairman Hoover know. Our current Fundraisers for April and May are our Oyster Feed April 26th at Reliance Sta.

1 to support our Scholarship Fund and our 250 Club on May 31st at 7 Valley's Fire Hall Sta.

#62 to support our Fire Muster.

We opened the floor for comments and there was none.

Our 50/50 drawing winner was Robb Green.

Next meeting will be on Sunday July 12th at 10 AM at Rudy Park, Blue Bird Pavilion followed by our Family Picnic.

Collaboration Has Begun

Your Officers have met with both the **York Heritage Trust** concerning the York Fire Museum and its equipment and **York County Community Foundation** to discuss funding help with the Scholarship Grant Program. *Stay tune for more.*