



The Smoke Eater

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SPAAMFAA Chapter - White Rose Fire Preservation of York, Pa.

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alwaysready1853@outlook.com

Member At Large – Roy Gentzler wysim@yahoo.com

Member At Large – Dave Maletz dpmaletz@outlook.com

Editors Comments:

I hope everyone enjoys the new look of “The Smoke Eater”! It is still a work in progress. My hopes are to make look a bit more professionally done. Articles are always welcomed and can be emailed to me at alwaysready1853@outlook.com

Ideas of things to add or feature are also always welcomed! - Kraig

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT.....

Our 2022 Annual Meeting was scheduled for January 16, 2022, but Old Man Winter had other ideas. The meeting was rescheduled for January 30, 2022. About 20 members and guests were in attendance. Our thanks once again go out to the folks from the Alert Fire Company of Emigsville, where we held the meeting. Not only did they assist with setting up the hall, they served the food for us, and turned on the TVs so we could watch the Chiefs vs. Bengals playoff game while we were dining. And my personal thanks to the Bengals for ending the game quickly in overtime so we could get the meeting started.

During our meeting, Roy Gentzler was elected to a two-year Director-at-large position, while the rest of the officers are serving the remainder of our two-year terms. We discussed a number of items at the meeting, including our upcoming flea market, the 2022 muster, the annual picnic, and other topics that can be reviewed by reading the meeting minutes.

Speaking of the picnic, Eddie and Darlene are unable to host us this year, and a committee is diligently working on setting up a location for this year's gathering. Watch the Facebook page and the website for updates.

Bob Straw continues to work on the logistics of possibly hosting the 2024 SPAAMFAA summer muster in conjunction with the ATHS gathering in York. Bob will be reporting back at our April meeting on the progress. That meeting is scheduled to be held at the Greater Hanover Fire Museum. That meeting announcement should appear elsewhere in this issue.

February has been teasing us with some pleasant weather, so I suspect it will not be too long until those rigs will be emerging from their winter's slumber.

Stay safe, keep warm, and keep fire service history alive!

Greg Halpin

President

**ATTENTION OLD FIRE
FART MEMBERS.....**

The Quarterly Membership Meeting of the White Rose Fire Preservation of York, Pa. (AKA – The Old Fire Farts of York County, Pa.) will be held on **SUNDAY APRIL 10, 2022** at **GREATER HANOVER AREA FIRE MUSEUM** **IN HANOVER, PA.** Meeting starts at **1:30pm**. Address for the Museum is 134 East Hanover St. Hanover, Pa.



Do not forget the Old Fire Farts
Firematic Flea
Market on Sunday March 20, 2022!

Location is Alert Fire Co. 3118 N.
George St. Emigsville, Pa.

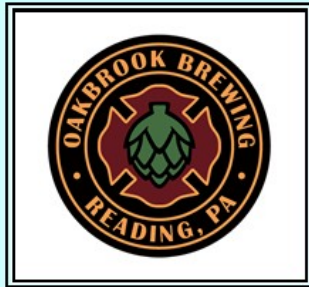
Hours are 8am to 2pm

Food available!



Old Fire Farts Reading Area Fire Museum Trip Update

Your escorted van trip to the Reading Area Fire Museum originally planned for May of 2022 has been cancelled due to our current national economic instability and world events that have influenced the price for this trip. This trip included van transportation from York to Reading and back, admission to the Reading Area Fire Museum and refreshments on the van. Stops were scheduled at the Reading Area Fire Museum, Oakbrook Brewery, the Berks County Training facility and an escorted tour of three Reading Fire Dept. fire stations. Cost for the trip was \$30. We are prepared to offer this trip again if we have your support and the economy stabilizes. First, we need to know how many Old Fire Fart members are interested in rescheduling another trip in September or October. Second, we need to know what the maximum cost you are willing to pay for this trip. Ken Buohl is coordinating this trip and would like to hear from all Old Fire Fart members for their comments, suggestions and commitment for this trip. Please take a moment and call Ken at 717-321-3189 and help him prepare for a successful trip this fall.



The Sister Engine Houses

By Gregory C. Halpin

Several years ago, Harrisburg fire historian Dave Houseal and I had a conversation about the Pleasant View No. 16 engine house in Harrisburg, and the similarity of its design to that of several of the engine houses in the York area. I took some time recently to dig into the newspapers, to see if I could form any sort of connection between the stations in York.

All three engine houses are single-bay stations. They are two-story, constructed primarily with brick exterior walls, with the bottom of the walls constructed from a contrasting material. All three stations have a bell tower located on the right side of the station, which includes a stairway to the second floor. The major difference between the engine houses seems to be the location and number of windows, and location and number of chimneys.

The Eagle engine house is the oldest of the three. Ground was broken by the City of York for the Eagle engine house on June 13, 1912. Hamme & Leber, a prominent York architectural firm at the time, were the architects.



Eagle engine house on West Jackson Street in York City.

They seemed to score a lot of municipal contracts, as well as plenty of non-government work.

Of particular interest to me was that they drew up the plans for the original concept for the Royal engine house in April of 1901. That station was to be three stories, the ground floor facing to be made of granite, and the upper stories to be made of buff brick with terra cotta features and a tile roof. That of course is not what was eventually built by the Royal. It does, however, sound somewhat similar to the 1902 Goodwill engine house, which Hamme & Leber were also the architects for.

The Eagle was one of their last projects, as the firm dissolved in June of 1912 and John E. Hamme and Edward Leber went their separate ways.

Next up comes the Victory engine house. In February of 1922, the officers of the Victory Fire Company decide to visit several of the city engine houses to get ideas for their station. They decide that they liked the layout of the Eagle, and they have one of their members, John Hall, prepare a sketch of the engine house based on the Eagle design. Bert Combs, another member of the fire company, was also involved in the process. John Hall was the contractor for the building. The engine house, on Mount Rose Avenue, was completed in late 1922 but was not dedicated until New Year's Day, 1923.



First Victory engine house on Mount Rose Avenue in Spring Garden Township.



Grantley engine house on Virginia Avenue in Spring Garden Township.

In 1926 the Grantley Fire Company is organized and begins construction of their engine house. Work began in August, but the building was not completed until early in 1927. I could not find any information on who might have been the architect of that station. It almost certainly has to be based on the Victory engine house, as the only visible difference between the two is the size of several windows, and the location and design of the chimneys.

Interestingly, the Grantley and Eagle engine houses are located just several blocks from each other. Another interesting coincidence is that all three of these engine houses received additions during their lives as engine houses. The Eagle was lengthened with a two-story addition in the 1940s to provide room for a second rig behind the first rig, as well as addition fire company space on the second floor. Victory and Grantley both had single-story apparatus bays added on to the side of the original engine houses. Grantley remains the only one of these engine houses still in use as a fire station.

So, there is definitely a connection between the three York stations. The Pleasant View No. 16 in Harrisburg was constructed in 1928, so it is the youngest of these “sister stations” as we have come to refer to them.

I’ve left it up to Dave to try to tie in the Pleasant View engine house with the York engine houses.



Harrisburg’s Pleasant View engine house under construction.

2022 Fire Muster Returning to Fawn Grove

The 9th Annual York Fire Muster will be returning to Fawn Grove's Ole Tyme Days Park on Sunday September 25, 2022. If you have any ideas on ways to improve our Muster or want to be part of the Committee, please reach out to Kraig Herman or Jeff Stauffer. Over the next few weeks, we are planning to have more information pertaining to the Muster. Please stay tuned to the Old Fire Fart Facebook page for more information!



Old Fire Farts of York County



Family Picnic

Load up your car, truck and yes if you have a fire truck, load that up too and bring your family or yourself to the Old Fire Farts of York County Annual Family Picnic on Sunday, July 10, 2022 at 1 pm. We're planning a more family friendly picnic this year, adding some new activities and games along with moving it to a new location, the William H. Kain Park, 274 Hess Farm Rd., York, PA, at Lake Redman, near the village of Jacobus. Our pavilion will be the Blue Gill pavilion. We have plenty of space in this park to display your fire trucks if you feel inspired to bring it and show it off. Horseshoe pits, sand volleyball nets and boat rentals are also available in the park. Fire truck rides for our kids and yes some of you adults will be available. Be sure to bring your hearty appetite for hamburgers, hot dogs, pork barbeque, macaroni salad, barbeque bake beans, soft drinks, iced tea and water. Admission to the picnic will be one small desert or cookies. Your delicious pastry contribution will be distributed with a "Cake and Cookie 5 Alarm Fire Drill" for all adults and children. It's your choice to keep, trade or share your tasty pastry prize you won. You are also welcomed to stay after the picnic activities for the third quarter Old Fire Farts Membership Meeting. Please RSVP Peggy Buohl by July 1 to assure we have adequate amounts of food and drink for the picnic. We look forward to seeing you and your family at William Kane Park on July 10.

Please RSVP
how many adults
and children from
your family will be
attending.

Call
Peggy Jo Buohl
717-253-3264



Blue Gill Pavilion

**General
Questions**
please call:

Ken Buohl
717-321- 3189
or
Kraig Herman
717-324-5700

Area Musters Coming in 2022



Westminster Fire Department 200th Anniversary Muster

October 7, 2023
held at Westminster Fire Department
28 John Street, Westminster, MD 21157

Parade line up: 9:00 AM
60 Monroe Street, Westminster, MD 21157

Parade to begin at 10:00 AM



Scan the QR code or go to www.westminsterfd.org to complete preregistration by September 30, 2023

There is no charge for registration
Multiple food trucks onsite

Questions?
Email muster@westminsterfd.org
or call (410) 848-1800

**Pleasant Hill V.F.C
Antique Fire Muster**

1931 Seagrave **1st Annual!** 1947 IH/Bean
AUGUST 27, 2022 • HANOVER, PA

IFBA-SPAAMFAA
Convention Woburn, MA
June 22-25, 2022

INTERNATIONAL FIRE ASSOCIATES
FOUNDED 1958

SPAA MFAA



200 OUTDOOR SPACES
50 INDOOR SPACES
AVAILABLE

FIRE ANTIQUES,
EQUIPMENT, HELMETS,
COLLECTIBLES, APPAREL

ALL ANTIQUE AND
IN-SERVICE APPARATUS
WELCOME

21 AWARD WINNERS

ALL PROCEEDS
CONTRIBUTE TO THE
OPERATIONAL NEEDS
OF THE 100%
VOLUNTEER GOODWILL
FIRE COMPANY #1

**2nd Annual
Goodwill
Fire Flea Market
and
Static Apparatus
Display**

Saturday, May 14, 2022
8AM-5PM

Vendor/Static Display Set-Up: 530AM-730AM
Apparatus Judging: 9AM-11AM
Presentation of Awards: 4PM

**REGISTRATION
FORMS/QUESTIONS**
Contact Assistant Fire Chief
Dave Smiley Jr.
DaveSmiley412@gmail.com
or
717-866-7023
Registration Deadline May 1,
2022

OLD FIRE FARTS OF YORK COUNTY PA
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW APPLICATION **RENEWAL APPLICATION**
 LIFE MEMBERSHIP

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

PHONE: (____) _____ **Email:** _____

ARE YOU A SPAAMFAA MEMBER: **YES** _____ **NO** _____

IF YES, WHAT CHAPTER? _____

I PREFER MY "SMOKE EATER" NEWSLETTER BY MAIL ___ **DOWNLOAD** ___

TYPES OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP:

ACTIVE MEMBER \$25.00 _____ **LIFE MEMBER \$200.00** _____

MEMBERSHIP ENTITLES YOU TO A FREE SUMMER PICNIC AND CHRISTMAS PARTY AND OTHER BENEFITS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

CORPORATE AND ASSOCIATE FOUNDATION LEVELS:

BOARD LEVEL \$ 1,000.00 _____ **PRESIDENT LEVEL** \$500.00 _____ **COMMITTEE**
LEVEL \$ 400.00 _____ **CHIEF LEVEL** \$300.00 _____ **CAPTAIN LEVEL**
\$ 200.00 _____ **Lt. LEVEL** \$100.00 _____

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MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **OLD FIRE FARTS OF YORK COUNTY, PA**

SEND TO: **Kraig Herman 230 Elizabeth Ln Apt 4 Manchester, Pa. 17345**

CHOOSE PAYMENT: _____ INVOICE ME _____ CASH ENCLOSED _____ CHECK ENCLOSED

RETAIN THIS SECTION AS YOUR RECEIPT AND PROOF OF PAYMENT: DATE: ____/____/____

CHECK #: _____ AMOUNT: \$ _____ CASH AMOUNT: \$ _____