

# THE SMOKE EATER

THE OLD FIRE FARTS OF YORK COUNTY, PA. INC.



## 2023 Pennsylvania Pump Primers Muster

The annual Pennsylvania Pump Primers Muster had over 130 units attending the muster on July 8, 2023, at Riverfront Park in Harrisburg.

The Terry Fix team won Best in Class at Riverside Pumping with their 74 FED/Seagrave, and received the Buskey Memorial Award and Best Appearing at Static with his 1926 American LaFrance formerly of the Victory Fire Company of York, PA. Terry's 1924 American LaFrance will appear on apparel for the 2024 Pennsylvania Pump Primers Muster in July, 2024.

The West Manchester Township Fire Department, represented by Old Fire Farts member Roy Gentzler, won Best Appearing FD Owned Pumper 1979-1995, with their 1982 CF Mack pumper.

In addition, the Old Fire Farts Team took two second place prizes, one in the Barrel Spray, and one in the Bucket Brigade. Not bad for a bunch of Old Fire Farts!

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

—  
Mike Dowling

Steve Lilick

David Napier

Patrick Rose

William Tutton

# From The President



Hello to all our members,

I would first like to thank you for your support and confidence in allowing me the chance to lead "our" organization for the next two years.

Second, I would like to say "thank you" to the previous officers and committee members for all their efforts over the past two years.

As we move forward and continue to grow, I would like to ask each member of this organization to invite a friend, family member, or neighbor to join our organization. We could always use a few more members as we grow. Even if they don't own fire apparatus, we could teach them, and they could help those that do.

I would also like to encourage all the members who are not on the board, not on a committee, or who do not come to the meetings to get more involved. Come to a meeting, help with a fund raiser, help at the muster, or contact an e-board member and see if there is some way you can help.

Last, I would like to remind everyone that we are growing and moving forward. We are trying to plan for the future and are working towards holding the national convention next year. This is a mighty big step for our organization. Everyone's help and involvement will be needed to pull this off.

Please feel free to email, call, or text me with any issues, concerns, or suggestions that you might have. I'm willing to listen and consider anything brought to me.

Respectfully,

Neil Gunnet  
Old Fire Farts President

## Old Fire Farts BINGO!



Mark your calendars now for the following date:

August 27, 2023

at Dover Township Community Room, 3700 Davidsburg Road in Dover, for the Old Fire Farts Bingo to benefit the Old Fire Farts Scholarship Fund. We will need folks to help with the event.

Sponsors are still needed, and we will need to provide runners for the event. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m.

For more info contact  
Bob at 717-819-0924.

## Next Meeting

The Old Fire Farts of York County, Pa., Inc. will hold their next quarterly meeting on Sunday, October 22, 2023, at the Hoss's Steak and Sea House, 3604 East Market Street in east York in the private dining room. Those coming for lunch, will begin eating at 12:00 noon. The meeting will start at about 2:00 p.m.

Watch for the distribution of our Community Day flyers. Bring it along to the meeting, as the Old Fire Farts will get a percentage of the proceeds that day if we meet the threshold. You must present the flyer when ordering for it to be included.

# Scholarships

The Old Fire Farts approved two scholarships for two local emergency responders at our quarterly meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup>. They are:

Frank L. Quintin, III  
West Manchester Township  
Fire Department  
EMT at HACC  
\$925.00

Cadence L. McCandless  
Nashville Volunteer Fire Department  
Nursing at York College  
\$2,500.00

The scholarships will be awarded at the York County Convention in August.

## FIREFIIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION OF YORK COUNTY 111<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION PARADE AUGUST 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2023, 12:00 PM

### Judging, Parade, and Post Parade Rules

1. The parade will be held rain or shine and will start promptly at noon.
2. Apparatus will be judged per NFPA standards.
3. Apparatus registration and judging starts at 8:00 AM at the York Expo Center (enter thru Gate 6). Any apparatus not registered by 10:30 will not be judged. After judging apparatus shall proceed to their staging area at the Church of the Open Door (COD) lower parking lots off Brougher Ln.
4. All other parade participant registration starts at 9:00 AM at COD upper entrance off Loucks Rd. Marching and walking units will be judged during the parade.
5. Apparatus and groups will be assigned and staged by Division. The parade steps off at 12:00 noon.
6. West Manchester Township Fire Dept. will not be eligible for any awards.
7. Food trucks and portable toilets will be available at the COD staging areas for food, drinks, and sanitation. All trash shall be discarded into trash containers located near the food trucks.
8. Distance between units during the parade shall be approximately 50 feet.
9. All animal entries must have necessary items to clean up after their animals.
10. Stopping or spot drilling will not be permitted. Dropping out of line other than for physical disability will disqualify the unit or group.
11. No sounding of sirens and/or air horns is permitted during the event. In the event of an EMERGENCY CALL, responding will be permitted to audibly alert their exit and all other units shall move to the right until the responding equipment has cleared the parade route.
12. Smoking and/or alcoholic beverage consumption during the parade is prohibited.
13. Throwing of items (i.e. candy) to the spectators from apparatus is not permitted. Walking and handing of items is permitted.
14. All participants must display their registration card during the parade: lower left driver's windshield for apparatus, first marcher on left side for marching groups.
15. The number of passengers riding on any apparatus will be limited to the number of SAFE rising positions with seatbelts. Riding of sidesteps or tailboards is prohibited.
16. There will be no alcoholic beverages served after the parade. Any consumption of alcohol on the parade route or York Expo Center will be grounds for removal from the venue and unit disqualification.
17. Parking at York Expo Center will be as directed by attendants at the Gate 6 entrance.
18. The awards will be presented during the concert intermission at approximately 4:15 PM. The decisions of the judges and Convention Parade Committee are final.
19. The 2023 Convention Parade Committee reserves the right to remove any unit or group from the parade route or York Expo Center for acting inappropriately and violation of these rules. Removed units will be disqualified from receiving any awards.

### Parade Route (2.3 miles)

Left from Church of the Open Door upper lot onto Loucks Rd.  
Left from Loucks Rd onto Taxville Rd.  
Left from Taxville Rd. onto Bannister St.

Continue on Bannister St. to disband at West York High School & Middle School  
Fire apparatus continues via normal traffic to York Expo Center Gate 6

# 2023 York County Convention

On August 12, 2023, the West Manchester Township Fire Department will be hosting the Firefighter's Association of York County 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention Parade. The parade will leave the upper parking lot of the Church of the Open Door at 12:00 noon.

After the parade, bring the family back to the York Expo Center to participate in family games, watch the Firefighter Challenges, sing along with the Amish Outlaws and visit the food trucks to grab a cold drink and some delicious food! Here are some of the food trucks that are scheduled to be there:

Bricker's  
Chris's Smokin BBQ  
Emanuel's Italian Ice & Pizza  
Gio's Smokin' Grill  
Johnny's Eats & Treats  
Mac Stack  
Sazon on Wheels  
Shorty's Funnel Cakes

In addition to the individual challenges, there will also be a Team Bucket Brigade.

The individual skills challenges with prizes will include:

**The Victim Drag** - The competitor must pick up a life-size mannequin from the ground, grab it from behind, and drag it backward for a pre-determined distance.

**Ladder Throw** - The competitor must raise and place a ladder onto the side of a structure.

**Keiser Sled** - The competitor stands over a large heavy beam. They must slam a sledgehammer into a weight until the weight moves the length of the sled.

**Hose Line Drag** - The competitor sprints a pre-determined distance with an uncharged hose while going around and through obstacles.

**Hose Hoist** - Using a hand-over-hand motion, the competitor must raise a hose roll and lower it back to the ground.

The online registration form for the firefighter challenge will be posted soon on our website:  
[www.westmanchestertownship.com](http://www.westmanchestertownship.com)



## **SPAAMFAA 2024 Summer Convention and Muster**

The Old Fire Farts of York County, Pa., Inc., the White Rose Fire Preservation Chapter of SPAAMFAA will be hosting the 2024 Summer Convention and Muster in York at the York Fairgrounds.

The American Truck Historical Society National Convention and Truck Show is coming back to York on June 6-8, 2024, and the National Professional Car Collectors Society are bringing their limos, hearses, and ambulances to the fairgrounds. The Old Fire Farts of York County will be hosting The SPAAMFAA Summer Convention at the same time at the fairgrounds.

What a show this will be. ATHS will have over 1,500 trucks, PCCS will have over 70 of their Professional Cars, and SPAMFAA will have over 150 antique Fire Apparatus. Mark your calendars now, you don't want to miss this event.

We will need plenty of help from our members as we host this event, which will be the first time that all three organizations will jointly hold their events at the same location. Please contact Bob Straw if you can help.

## **Old Fire Farts Family Picnic**

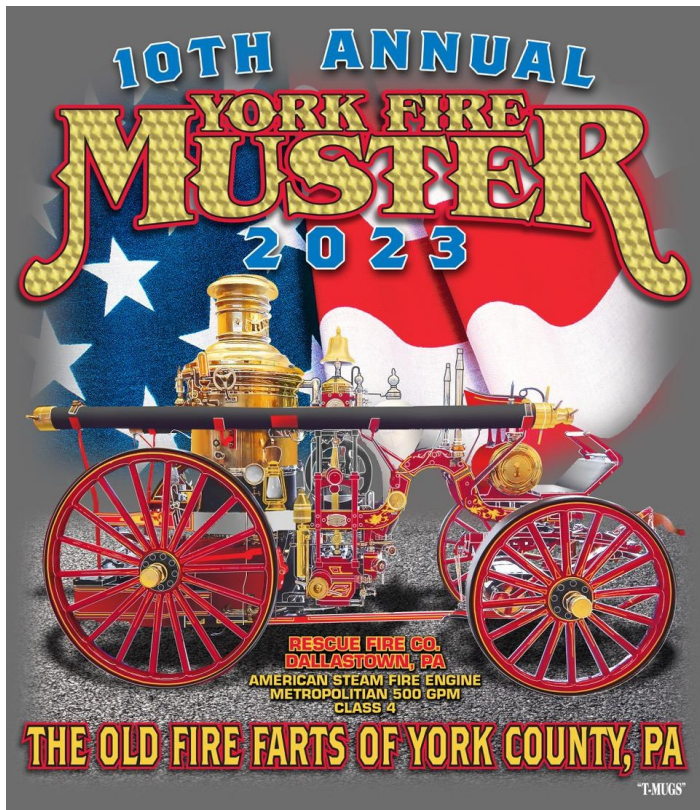


Mother Nature decided to provide some precipitation to the York area on Sunday, July 9, 2023, which was the date for the annual Old Fire Farts family picnic. The picnic crew took the rain in stride, doing a quick pivot and moving the picnic from the pavilion at Cousler Park to the meeting room at the Alert Fire Company in Emigsville.

The Old Fire Farts provided hot dogs, hamburgers, corn on the cob, drinks and we even had a Slushie machine in operation for the kids both young and old. Our members brought side dishes, desserts and fixins for the burgers and hot dogs. Approximately fifty members and guests attended the picnic.

Of course, Bob had a few games planned for the picnic, which were suitable for our indoor venue. Musical chairs were the games for the kids, the adult females, and the adult males.

Our quarterly meeting followed the picnic. Our able Vice President, Dick Staub, did an admirable job filling in for our esteemed President, Nel Gunnet, who was unable to attend the event due to other commitments.



## York Fire Muster

The 10th annual York Fire Muster will be held on Sunday, September 16, 2023, at the Old Tyme Days Park, 110 North Market Street, Fawn Grove, PA 17321. The muster will run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Event Schedule:

9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. - Flea Market, Food and Muster Souvenirs

9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. - Apparatus Registration and Motorcade,

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Kids' Corner

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Pumping Contest

1:00 p.m. - Awarding of Trophies

The Best American LaFrance in Show Award will be presented to honor the late Kraig Herman, past Secretary, and muster Chair, who passed away just after the muster last year.



### Where Can You Find the Old Fire Farts?

Carlisle Truck National Show  
August 4-6, 2023  
Carlisle Fair Grounds

Pleasant Hill VFC  
Muster  
August 26, 2023  
3003 Baltimore Pike  
Hanover PA



# A Peek at the Secretary's Hard Drive

As I continue to gather photos of the local fire service, I've managed to amass quite a collection of images. Sadly, I didn't keep track of where all these images came from. And, in some cases, no other information was available with them.

In this case, I think I may know where these came from, but I'm not 100% sure. These were all together, and I think they were from either a fire incident, or from a training evolution. I'm leaning towards a relay pumping exercise. Either way, they're a great look back at some classic fire apparatus!



Bair Community Fire Co.



Jefferson Fire Co.



Porters Community Fire Co.



Seven Valleys Fire Co.



York New Salem Fire Co.