

Newsletter



Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting

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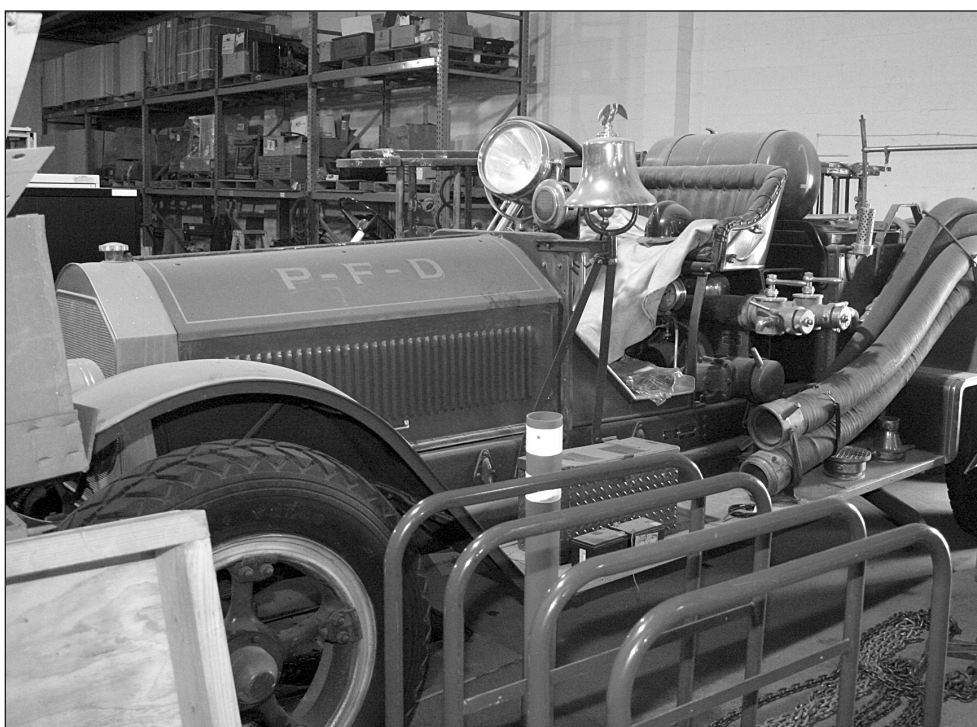
1924 American La France Type 45

Donated to the Hall of Flame



Pullman, Washington purchased American La France Chassis Number 4904 in 1924 and kept in first line service until 1961. A resident of Paradise Valley, Arizona donated the rig to the museum. This picture was taken on the engine's arrival at the museum in January. It joins eight other American La France engines, chemical cars and aerial trucks in the collection.

December was a good month for the museum. Local businessman Jonathan Ornstein donated a 1924 American La France fire engine from Pullman, Washington. Mr. Ornstein, who has a large collection of classic automobiles, bought the rig to provide rides for his son. As his son grew up there were fewer rides, and the rig went into storage. Last year Mr. Ornstein donated the engine to the museum. It was retired from service in Pullman after its pump cracked in 1961. A Pullman firefighter purchased the rig, maintained it well, and drove it in many parades and public events in the Pullman area. Upon his death his widow sold the engine to Mr. Ornstein. It is largely original, with the addition of a siren, the removal of its chemical tank and booster hose basket, and the addition of an after market hose basket. Everything else is original, and the engine is in unusually good running condition. Upon removing the rig from Mr. Ornstein's warehouse we trucked it to a local custom auto and truck builder, who gave the engine, brakes and drive train a thorough tune up. The truck has little if any rust, but the origi-



Above: The rig spent the last five years in storage in a Phoenix warehouse. It took a bit of effort to get it outside and onto a flat bed truck.

Below: The engine has all of its caps, lights, suction hose and ladders. The steel spoke wheels are unusual. Its six cylinder engine has a triple ignition system.



nal paint and decoration have been replaced by an amateurish paint job. As soon as Don Hale completes the restoration of our Chicago Fire Department hose wagon we will drive the engine into his shop for a new paint and striping job. The engine

requires no mechanical work, and its original nickle plating is still in great condition. We will be looking for a standard hose basket and a Champion chemical tank. The rig is now on temporary exhibit in Gallery 2.

In April the Director of the State Park in Jerome, Arizona called and offered to loan the museum a hose wagon that had been in storage at the Park for about thirty years. The wagon had been donated by a retired Phoenix firefighter to the Fort Verde Arizona State Park in about 1950. The donor's name was lost. The wagon was sent to Jerome because it could be stored indoors. The Jerome Park staff refurbished the wagon, but kept it in storage because the museum exhibits mining and milling equipment as well as the beautiful Douglas Mansion. The wagon had the manufacturer's plate of the Anderson Coupling Company of Kansas City, Kansas. This firm's name is also on the Hall of Flame's chemical wagon from

the Phoenix Volunteer Fire Department. In searching the collection of Phoenix FD pictures, we found a picture of a Phoenix hose wagon purchased around 1900 that bore a close resemblance to the Jerome wagon. Its distinctive hose bed sides and unusual railing design leads to the conclusion that the wagon is the same one that appears in the 1900 picture. In early May we picked up the wagon and moved it to the Hall of Flame. It will eventually be restored to its original condition. Few hose wagons survived the switch from horse to motorized engine because hose wagons could readily be sold to local teamsters. This wagon joins three others in the collection.

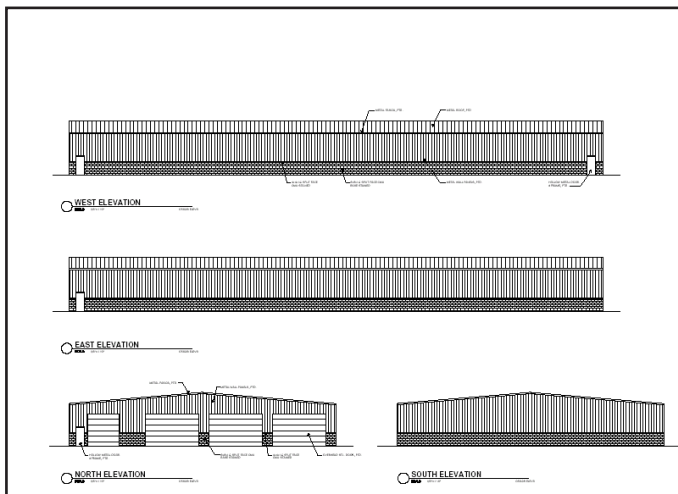
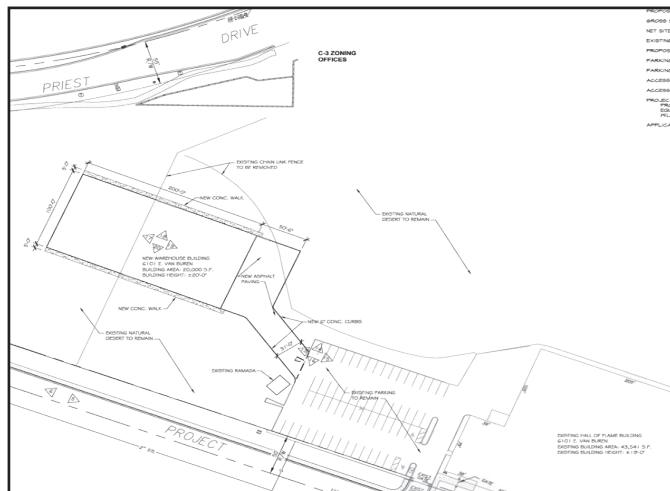


Left: The hose wagon soon after its arrival at the museum. The rear mud guards, lantern bracket, tailgate, parade torches, and foot gong are missing, as is a portion of the brake linkage. Some of the spokes and felloes are in need of replacement. The wagon also needs repainting and striping. It's hub design suggests that it was built prior to 1890.

Right: This photo from the museum archives shows the wagon in about 1900 soon after its purchase by the Phoenix VFD's Pioneer Hose Company 5, which previously used a hand drawn hose cart. The wagon was probably purchased to provide hose for the Department's newly purchased Nott steam fire engine.



Storage Building Plans Near Final Approval



In Our last issue we reported that the plans for the storage building were nearing final approval by the City of Phoenix. We were obviously too optimistic. After several re submissions our contractor estimates that we will hev a building permit by the end of May and construction will begin in June. The 20,000

square foot metal building will be used to store parts of the collection that are not on exhibit, objects awaiting restoration, and smaller shelved objects. It will give us the flexibility to install rotating exhibits and exhibits of loaned objects. It will also give us the space to make judicious additions to the collection.

Hall of Flame’s Endowment Tops \$1,000,000

For the past few years the Hall of Flame’s trustees have recognized the need for an endowment for the museum. They created a dedicated fund in 2004 that generated a promising start, but that totalled far less than the museum’s needs. An endowment is for a museum what a 401(k) plan is for an individual - a nest egg that can be used to pay for day to day operational costs after other revenues have been exhausted. The Hall of Flame’s membership, admissions and store sales generate a considerable amount of revenue, and unrestricted donations and income from museum rentals and birthday parties also help. But interest and dividends from an endowment are critical tools to assure steady cash flows for the museum to pay its bills on time. In 2006 a local corporation donated over one million dollars to the

Hall of Flame’s sponsoring organization, the National Historical Fire Foundation. The trustees plan to allow this donation to grow from interest, dividends and capital gains, with a relatively small amount of earnings being used for operational needs. In no case will the corpus of the endowment be used for any purposes beyond investment. While a million dollars is a very large sum, the trustees are aiming at an endowment of five million dollars as a goal to be reached in the next five years. The Hall of Flame’s new Capital Campaign will be aimed at this as well as several other goals. The Capital Campaign will also seek to increase the building fund and establish a collections fund and a plant fund, all aimed at maintaining the high standard of the Hall of Flame’s operations for the foreseeable future.

Chicago Hose Wagon In Final Restoration Stages

Don Hale was well on his way to completion of the Chicago hose wagon when he was interrupted by knee pain. At the end of March he checked into the Mayo Clinic for a knee replacement. The surgery went well but Don was sidelined for about six weeks. He returned to work in mid-May, and is well on his way to painting all four wheels.

The wagon's restoration proved to be much more difficult than we estimated last year. The wheels all needed to be rebuilt, and about two thirds of the rig's wooden parts had to be replaced. The mud guards were badly dented, as was a large part of the railing. There were also sections of rusted iron that had been primed and covered with paint. Unlike most of his other projects Don received a lot of help from Hall of Flame volunteer George Batsche, who did a lot of the onerous preparation work on the wheels and mud guards. The wagon should be ready for exhibit in June, when Don will take on his next project - a 1924 American La France fire engine.



As these pictures show, Don is in the final stages of the hose wagon restoration. All of the body work, painting and striping is complete. All four wheels have been rebuilt, stripped to bare wood, and primed. Paint and striping will soon follow. The railing has been re plated and will be installed soon.



Museum Volunteer Continues to Catalogue Chicago Newspaper Fire Scene Collection

Museum volunteer Francis Cooper continues to catalogue the museum's large collection of negatives of Chicago fires taken by news photographers over the years 1920-1980. This latest group of about 800 negatives dates from the early 1950s. Francis scans a representative negative from each story, which typically contains from 4 to 12 negatives per story. The

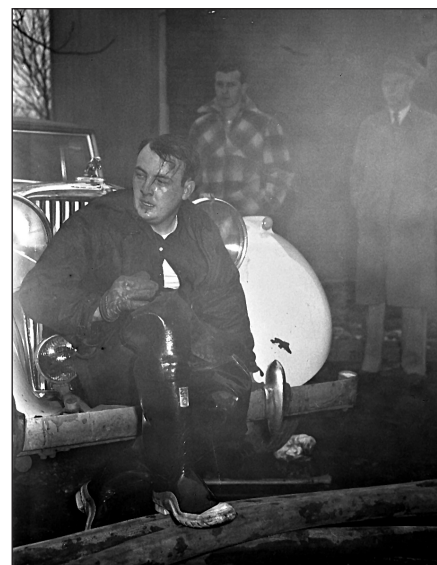
negatives are all 4 x 5 format taken by reporters at the scene. They are of varying quality, but the date of each story along with a brief description accompanies the negatives. To date over 900 stories totalling about 7,000 negatives have been catalogued. The entire collection totals over 50,000 negatives. A few of the negatives are displayed below.



Lt. Thomas Ryan of E111 lights up at fire at 1460 Webster 1/31/1951.



71 year old Charles R. Taft was rescued in his wheelchair by Ladder 26 at 337 W. 42nd St. 6/15/1951.



Firefighter Thomas Caldwell of E20 takes break at a fire at 1231 W. Chicago, 1/16/1951.



Two alarm fire at the Quality Bakery, 2952 S. Wallace, 12/27/1950



Ruins of a waterfront warehouse at 320 North La Salle, 1/12/1951. Firefighters Jack Schuberth, Henry Dyer, John Gleason, and Patrick Milott died when exploding drums of lacquer thinner collapsed a wall of the four story building on them. 25% of the CFD responded to the fire.

New and Renewed Members Since Winter 2006

Associate Members - \$25

Cory Adams	Barbara Mayer
Charles Bachini	Raymond Millar
William Beatty	William Mollitor
George Childs	Brian Moore
Shala Dobson	William Page
Rev. John Doherty	Peter Reed
Andy Fish	Harold Seymour
Leon Gary	Mark Storage
Gilbert Hurley	Keith Taylor
Michael Keppler	Angelo Varenna
Dell Lindstrom	Howard Weaver
John Lugs	Leonard Williams
Peter Makowski	
William Page	

Black Helmet Brigade - \$60

Edmund Allen III	Don Marsh
William Ericson	Tad Robins
Elva Gooch	Jeff Trevas
Jean Hill	Robin Trimble
James Johnson	Samuel Wagnon
Gaye Lloyd - Fischer	

Red Helmet Brigade - \$100

James Ashley	Joe Hinkle
Ray Bowman	F. Richard Leininger
Jennifer Briner	Earnest Milton
Dan Brown	Scott McLean
Michael Dillon	Karen Roddy
Robert Gade	

Life Member - \$3000

Battalion Chief Thad Dahl	Ron Saeger
The Trail of Painted Ponies	

Benefactor - \$1000

Rhett Butler	Richard Landon
Charles Meany	

Contributing - \$500

Mark Haberman

White Helmet Brigade - \$250

Michael Newberger	Bill Whitney
Fred Rice	James Snedden

Family Member - \$35

Kimberley Abbott	Martin Frye	Catherine Richardson
Laurence Appel	Kimberley Gilles	Bill & Wendy Ring
Tiffany Applegate	Thomas Heller	Craig Sanford
Dave Bagnall	Jay Heyman	Lance Scott
Staci Baird	Charles Holbert	Honor Siemann
Heather Bollschweiler	Robert Jacobs	John Sobczak
Wally Broeder	Ellen Kirchman	Dr. Patricia Stapler
James Carter	Jerome Kubinieć	Lawrence Sue
John Cochran	Charles Lucas	Peter Tekampe
Dawn Corley	Elizabeth McCarter	Kelly Terrill
Pascal Covelto	Jack Ogletree	John Van Dyke
William Davidson	Richard Rahn	Floyd Webb
Gordon Fowler	Annie Rea	M. Eleanor Zoellner

Fire Professional Members - \$60

Murray Aldrich	John Grenstreet	Paul Rostan
Jim Baird	Mike Henning	Jeffrey Schoonfield
Joseph Bakas	Steven Howard	Ken Smith
Thomas Bascom	Kyle Ienn	Shawn Smith
Deward Beeler	Juergen Karheiding	Thomas Steely
Richard Bleecker	James Kukulski	Jeff Stephens
Bruce Brower	Scott LaGreca	Gilbert Strawn
William Brown	David Laurie	Ken Toftoy
Steve Buettner	Conrad Marcione	Alfred Wright
Joshua Charry	Charles McConnell	Brian Yox
Patrick Daly	George Moore	
David Dearwester	Sylvester Moore	
William Dickey	Earl Moy	
Clayton Dillahunt	Alan Nielsen Sr.	
Duayne Dougherty	Thomas Parrish	
Thomas Etter	Larry Peterson	
Julian Fleming	Pinewood Firefighters	
Robert Given	Orteg Pitlock	

MUSEUM STAFF

Executive Director	Dr. Peter Molloy
Curator of Education	Mark Moorhead
Restorer	Don Hale
Chief Docent	Mike Lyman
Docent	John McLean
Docent	John Bartlett
Librarian	Lesley Marshall
Administrative Asst.	Jennifer Towers
Volunteer Captain	Ron Deutsch

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Vice President	Bert A. Getz
Vice President	Lynn Getz
Treasurer / Secy.	Michael J. Olsen
Director	Bert A. Getz, Jr.
Director	James L. Johnson
Director	Bernard C. Lowe, Jr.

The Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting is operated by the National Historical Fire Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit institution.

The museum is in the Phoenix Papago Park, across Van Buren Street from the Phoenix Zoo.

The museum is open to the public from Monday through Saturday from 9 to 5, and on Sundays from Noon to 4.

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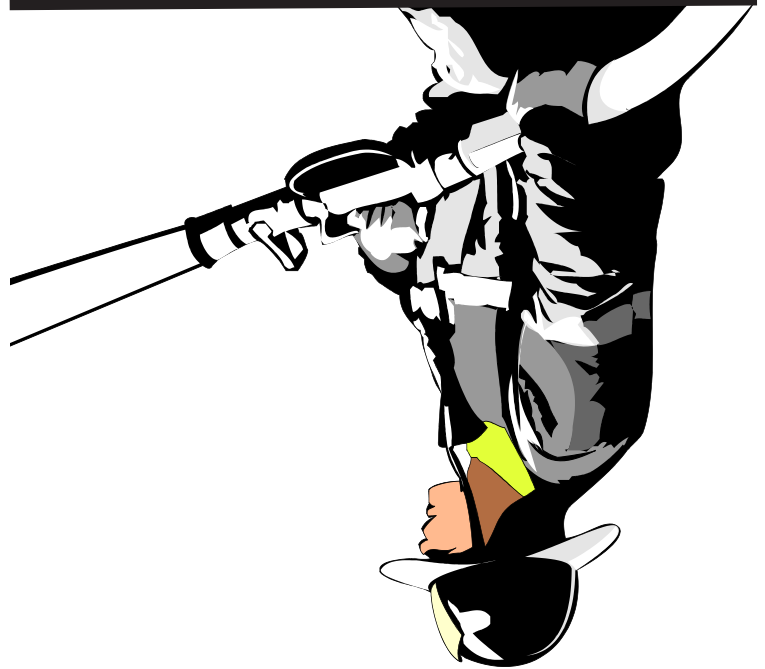
Website: www.hallofflame.org

Contributions to the National Historical Fire Foundation are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

HALL OF FLAME VOLUNTEERS

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Ron Deutsch	Richard Landon	Edward Rostron	Vicki Mellinger
Kerri Deutsch	Peter Mortensen	Dave Scott	
Ralph Glasmann	James Nealand	Richard Stuve	

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