

# Newsletter



Hall of Flame Museum of Firefighting  
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## Restoration of 1958 Ahrens Fox Nears End



Continued health problems have kept Hall of Flame restorer Don Hale from completing his restoration of the museum's 1958 Ahrens Fox / Approved Fire Apparatus fire engine. Don began the project in early 2010. The rig presents a number of other problems that were not apparent when restoration was begun. The body and frame have suffered extensive corrosion that was covered over by layers of paint. Don spent months on these repairs. The truck is now completely repainted after removing all of the old paint and primer. Striping and lettering is now complete. Don's in the final stages of reconnecting and rewiring the lighting fixtures and installing the hand rails, gauges, and operating handles for the engineer panel.



Mr. Bert Hayenga of Paradise Valley, Arizona donated the rig in late 2008. He bought it in 2000 as a parade rig. This photo was taken at Mr. Hayenga's home. The engine was in fundamentally good shape but still needed a lot of work.

At First sight the rig looks like a Mack Model C, but It's a clone of Ahrens Fox's last model, a cab forward design intended to compete with American La France and Crown. When Mack bought some of Ahrens Fox's assets in 1958, they built the model C on the Ahrens Fox design, using a Mack drive train. This photo was also taken at the Hayenga home. From 1970 to 1999 the truck belonged to the Chatham, NY Volunteer Fire Department.



In 1958 The engine was sold to the volunteers of Oceanside, New York, on Long Island. Oceanside used it until about 1970. At some point in the 1960s the rig was in a serious accident that damaged the front end. the damage was well covered by filler and paint and did not become apparent until Don began his restoration. The photo below was taken recently in Don's shop.



The Truck originally used a gasoline Waukesha straight six motor with a Spicer manual transmission and a Hale pump. In 1973 the Chatham Fire Department swapped this power train for a Detroit Diesel straight six and an Allison automatic transmission. Sometime in the 1980s the truck received power steering. It both drives and pumps very well. The photo above was taken in the museum warehouse during disassembly.

## Focus On the Motorized Collection: 1930 Ahrens - Fox Quad Fire Engine

Right: 1930 Ahrens - Fox Quad at sunset, Papago Park. Photo by Tom Story



The Village of River Forest, Illinois donated their 1930 Ahrens Fox Quad to the Hall of Flame in 1961. Museum Founder George F. Getz Jr. regarded the engine as the best piece in the collection. He drove it at parades in several Wisconsin cities when the Hall of Flame was in Kenosha, and drove it in every Fiesta Bowl Parade in Phoenix, carrying the Parade Committee down Central Avenue. Since Mr. Getz' death in 1992 his grandson George has continued the tradition. Don Hale restored the rig to its original condition in 1993. Ahrens Fox built only eight of these quad fire engines. All have survived, and three are restored. It's called a quad because it has four principle capabilities: a large pump; a booster tank with at least 100 gallons of water; the ability to carry at least 1,200 feet of large diameter hose; and at least two hundred linear feet of ground ladders. The idea was to combine the capabilities of a ladder and pumping truck in a single vehicle.



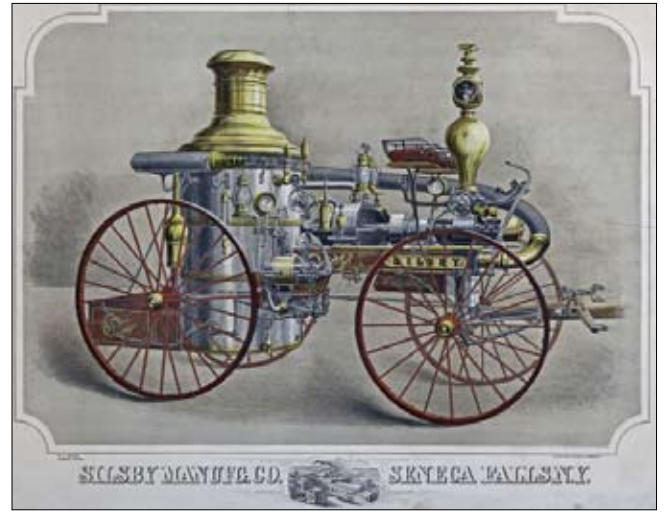
Above: Museum President George F. Getz drives the Fiesta Bowl Committee down the parade route in downtown Phoenix.

For a village like River Forest such a truck worked well, but larger cities found it difficult to make the truck work as both a ladder truck and pumper. The ladder and engine crews rarely agreed on where to spot the truck, and to be properly equipped it needed a crew of ladder men and a crew of engine men - at least ten men. Despite these problems, River Forest used the quad for thirty years. It fought many mutual aid fires in Chicago and its suburbs, where the quad's ultra reliable 1,000 gallon per minute pump was a standout. The Ahrens Fox pump could move water at volume or at high pressure, or as two separate pumps. It could pump to the top of a skyscraper, and it could draft water easily from rivers, lakes, and harbors. Other makers' pumps could do some, but not all of these actions.





This Philadelphia style pumper was owned by Pacific Engine Company 14 of the Brooklyn, New York Volunteer Fire Department. It dates from about 1850. The lithograph was probably commissioned by the members of the Pacific Company



The Silsby Fire Engine Company of Seneca Fall, New York commissioned this lithograph as an advertisement in about 1875. This engine is much more substantial than the earlier model shown in the page to the left. It is heavy enough to be pulled by horses, and has a pumping capacity of about 500 gallons per minute. There is also a lot of brass and nickel plating.

## Museum Enters Five Rigs in 2010 Fiesta Bowl Parade



The Fiesta Bowl Parade featured five Hall of Flame rigs - our most ever. Leading the parade was the Hall's 1938 American La France Type 400 engine, driven by volunteer Ed Rostron with his wife Darcy in the officer's seat. Ed was driving former Cardinals and Rams quarterback Kurt Warner, his wife and his family of seven children. Kurt was this year's Fiesta Bowl Parade Marshal.

# Fiesta Bowl Parade Rigs Leaving Museum - 7:30 AM



Left: 1955 American La France Model 700 Rigid Frame 75 foot Aerial Truck ex Baldwin, New York



Above: 1966 Mack Model C 900 Fire Engine ex Baldwin, New York



Above: 1938 American La France Model 400 Fire Engine ex Burlington, Iowa



Right: 1930 Ahrens Fox Quad Fire Engine ex River Forest, Illinois

# New and Renewed Members

## Associate Members - \$25

Phil Anderson	Charles Bachini	L. Denny Bahm
Timothy Bingham	John Connolly	Allister B. Cooke
Curtis Cunningham	Joseph Dobson	Rev. John Doherty
Andy Fish	Charles Goddard	Peter Greig
Paul Harrington	Michael Holubec Jr.	J. Richard Hunneman Jr.
Daniel Jager	Thomas Kehoe	Karl Klotz
Bill Page	Bob Piasecki	Peter Reed
Joannie Suchan	Marilyn Ticknor	Angelo Varenna
Leonard Williams	Marti Kaplan	Harold Lockhart
Bernard Lund	Howard Weaver	Raymond Millar

## Family Member - \$35

Barbara Lang - Auffret	Laurence Appel	Brian Anderson
John Barton	Richard Batty	James Beavan
Myna Berardinelli	Jaclyn Bielby	Sherry Boas
Eric Brown	Craig Bussiere	Joe Capriotti
Ray Carpena	Dale Clark	Winona Clark
Chris Coffman	Scott Cola	Grant Cole
Wesley Crain	Richard Crandall	Charles Dahlberg
Daniel Dandurant	Kyle Daniel	William Davidson
Nicole De La Rosa	Chris Eberle	Lucy Feuerstein
Linda Francis	Martin Frye	Charles Fullmer
Sarah Gale	Brian Garcia	Kathryn Gates
Fred Guelich	Carol Gurule	Randy Haus
Kerry Henbest	Stephanie Henry	Brabara Henward
Martin Hernandez	Mark Hodge	Michael Keppler
Sondra Kite	Howard Kravetz	Scott Kwiatkowski
James Leber	Brad Ledwith	Dell Lindstrom
Dave Maher	John Mayerhofer	Todd Mayhew
Paula McCall	Michael McCallister	Jennifer McMorran
Denise Millstine	Nancy Nesky	Joy O'Donnell
Leonard Ornstein	Jonathan Ornstein	Christopher Park
Linda Peters	Ed Philpott	Justin Pilkington
Richard Rahn	Teresa Reese	Kent Reinhold
Bill Wing	Craig Sanford	Lance Scott
Kathy Sikes	Aaron Slachter	Renee Slattery
Donald Smith	James Sproul	David Stakebake
Adam Stone	Geraldine Thiele	John Van Dyke
Bethanny Vandercook	Scott Vineberg	Mark Wagner
Floyd Webb		

## Black Helmet Brigade - \$60

Edmund Allen, III	Thomas Elliott	Don Grejczyk
John Kohlman	Lindsay Lytle	Joseph MacInday
Cameron McChesney	Bernard Punte	Tad Robins
Lee Smith	Philip Taska	Norman Trela
Jeff Trevas	Al Canfield	Gordon Fowler

## Red Helmet Brigade - \$100

Steve Cloutier	Michael Dillon	Olaf Drieschner
Diane Eckstein	Robert Gade	Gene Gehrt
R. Thomas Green	Joe Hinkle	Lydia Kolsch
F. Richard Leininger	Conrad Marcione	Michael Mayberry
W.B. McIlvaine	Scott McLean	Fred Mills
Jonathan Nied	Alan Nielsen	Dean Pedrotti
Edwaed Rominger	Marshall Sanford	Douglas Schermerhorn
Col. A. Park Shaw	Richard Sheldon	Michael Stemmler
David Thompson	Gary Thurston	Howard Weaver

## White Helmet Brigade - \$250

David Costello	Michael Newburger
Fred Rice	Thomas Steely

## Contributing - \$500

Peter Molloy

## Benefactor - \$1000

Rhett Butler

## Life Member - \$3000

Battalion Chief Thad Dahl	Ron Saeger
The Trail of Painted Ponies	

## Fire Professional Members - \$60

Murray Aldrich	Norman Arendt	Jim Baird
Joseph Bakas	James Barrett	Thomas Bascom
Robert Baumgarten	James Benson	John Bliven
Steve Buettner	Clayton Dillahunty	Ed Dominello
Thomas Dryfhout	J. M. Ellison	Thomas Etter
Carl Fox	Greg Fuentes	Robert Gibbons
Carolyn Green	William Harvey	Timothy Hellyer
Mike Henning	Dennis Hoffman	Steven Howard
Dan Howard	KIRK HUMBRECHT	Toby Ingram
Jürgen Karheiding	Martin Kennedy	Scott LaGreca
David Laurie	Don Marsh	George Moore
Robert Morgan	Earl Moy	Thomas Parrish
Larry Peterson	Greg Pitlock	Daniel Reilly
Jeremy Roberts	Robert Schoff	Mark Skrainar
Gilbert Strawn	Norm Taylor	Ken Toftoy
Edward Tuffy	Barry Van Trojen	Phil Wagner
Carl Weber	Eric J. Wieser	Roma Wittcoff
Joseph Yemma	Brian Yox	

## MUSEUM STAFF

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

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	George F. Getz
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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Contributions to the National Historical Fire Foundation are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

## HALL OF FLAME VOLUNTEERS

Joseph Bakas	Ken Hess	James Nealand	Rich Mellinger
George Batsche	Joe Hinkle	Bill Norton	Vicki Mellinger
Gary Bohling	Mark Kauffman	Dolores Norton	Larry Taggart
Ron Deutsch	Richard Landon	Larry Peterson	Jeff Trevas
Kerri Deutsch	Peter Mortensen	Edward Rostron	Grace Deutsch
Grace Deutsch	Sherry Nealand	Richard Stuve	Keith Schlarf
Ralph Glasmann	Bob Mc Nulty	Stephanie Schundry	Louise Thornton
Dan Reilly	Karen Ferek	Linda Pike	Don Buck

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